

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, LONDON, ONT.

St. Andrew's Church building celebrates its Jubilee, this year, by gathering the General Assembly within its walls. For it was just fifty years ago this Spring that the corner stone of the present edifice was laid.

The history of the congregation covers a much longer period. The first meeting for Divine Service was held as early as the year 1833. Here and there, in school room or public hall, the people gathered until finally, in the year 1841 they were organized as a Mission Station under the care of Rev. Donald MacKenzie, of Zorra.

The very next year the corner stone of the first church building was laid. It was on the present site with a manse nearer the corner, and was formally opened in September, 1843.

Seven years later the congregation called their first pastor, Rev. John Scott. For twenty-five years Dr. Scott led his people in a steady advance until a new building became a necessity, and the present edifice, with a seating capacity of 1,500, was erected. The manse followed in the next year.

In 1875 Dr. Scott resigned and the Rev. J. Allister Murray, of Lindsay, became pastor. At his death in 1894 the membership of the congregation numbered over seven hundred, and the church property was almost free from debt.

He was succeeded by the Rev. Dr. Johnston, new of the American Presbyterian Church, Montreal, who ably filled the pulpit until 1903. Rev. James Ross, D.D., of McGill University, was his successor, the strong tie between him and his people being suddenly broken by his tragic death in 1913.

The Rev. Hugh McFarlane, B. A., who had been acting as Dr. Ross's assistant, carried on the work alone until October, 1914, when the Rev. D. C. MacGregor, B.A., of Toronto, became pastor of the congregation.



REV. D. C. MacGREGOR, B. A., Pastor