



graphic description of this journey and of the appearance of the "capital" at this time is given in his "Memoir of Bishop Strachan." At that time, or at least in 1820, there were only sixteen parochial clergymen in the whole of "Upper Canada," (Ontario). These were stationed, beginning in the East, at Cornwall, Williamsburg, Perth, Brockville, Kingston, Bath, Belleville, Cavan, Cobourg, York, Niagara, Chippawa, Grimsby, Ancaster, Amherstburg and Sandwich.

Mr. Bethune was ordained deacon in 1823 and priest in 1824 by Dr. Jacob Mountain, the first Bishop of Quebec; and in 1826 we find him doing duty as Incumbent of Grimsby. Here he married Jane Eliza, eldest daughter of the Hon. James Crooks, of West Flamboro'. In that year Dr. Strachan, the Archdeacon of York, paid him a visit on his way to the old country to take preparatory steps for founding a University for Upper Canada and left in his charge his second son George.

About this time and for many years afterwards a constant agitation was kept up in this country, then but an infant colony, about the "Clergy Reserves" (land set apart by the Crown for the maintenance of a Protestant clergy, this vague term forming the groundwork of all the trouble, complaints being made by Presbyterians and others against the exclusive right of the clergy of the Church of England to this designation and to the privileges belonging to it) and about the University question, in which also strenuous opposition was offered to any dominant position on the part of the Church of England. In both of these questions the subject of the present sketch was involved, being throughout a strenuous upholder of Dr. Strachan in all his great measures. In 1831 he was appointed to accompany the Hon. and Rt. Rev. Dr. Stewart, second Bishop of Quebec, to England to give to the authorities of that land all necessary information and explanations regarding Colonial Church matters, and by their influence as good terms were obtained for the Church as perhaps could well be secured.

In 1826 Dr. Bethune was appointed rector of Cobourg, a post which he retained for forty years. In 1836, a year marked by the establishment of the "Fifty-seven Rectories" by Sir John Colborne, as he was about to retire from his position as Governor-General, the endowment, however, of only 44 being completed, a meeting of the clergy of Upper Canada was held, at which some discussion took place regarding the introduction into the country of some kind of Synodical action, but no definite steps in the matter were taken. It was, however, resolved that if possible a good church newspaper

should be established which it was hoped would prove a source of strength to the Church. Other attempts in this direction had been made but had failed. The *Christian Sentinel*, a monthly publication conducted at Montreal, was the first Church periodical undertaken in Canada. On the failure of this a weekly under the same name was tried, but died within a year. A new attempt, therefore in this direction was looked upon by some as hazardous, but the undertaking was entrusted to Mr. Bethune, who, in May, 1837, brought out a specimen number of "The Church," to be continued if a sufficient number of paying subscribers could be secured. The publication took well and was enlarged after the completion of the first year, and again on the commencement of its third volume. In 1841 the editorial management was assumed by Mr. John Kent, but came back again to Dr. Bethune in 1843, who continued it for four years longer. Under various managers it was published till the year 1856, when it ceased to exist.

Dr. Bethune thus speaks of this journal:—

"On the whole, we look back with refreshment and even an excusable pride upon what, with all its drawbacks and defects, was really a useful and influential journal; one that provoked our own members to zeal and unanimity in the promotion of Church enterprises, and which caused those outside us to understand better our motives and principles, and gain for them consideration and respect."

In 1839 Upper Canada was set off as a separate diocese, Archdeacon Strachan being appointed and consecrated its first bishop, upon which Dr. Bethune was appointed one of the bishop's chaplains, and in 1841, when it was found necessary to establish a Theological College, he was chosen Professor of Theology and conducted the necessary instructions in connection with his parochial work in Cobourg. Under the Archdeacon's prudent and scholarly guidance this became a most useful seminary for the Church in this country and formed a good nucleus for the theological department of Trinity College, when that institution was founded and set apart as a Church of England University in 1852. During its existence the average attendance of students was fifteen, the whole number of members from its opening to its close being forty-five, all of whom, with few exceptions, proved themselves hard working and successful clergymen. Several of them afterwards took their University degrees in Trinity college, their time spent with Dr. Bethune being allowed to count for that purpose.

In 1846, a sufficient stipend being secured for the Bishop of Toronto, his Lordship resigned the Archdeaconry of York and the Rectory of Toronto, and appointed Dr. Bethune to the Archdeaconry, the Rev. H. J. Grassett receiving the Rectory. Thus it was that the former preceptor and pupil maintained a relative position of advancement and preferment in every degree suitable to the older