



THE PRESENT ST. MARK'S CHURCH, NIAGARA.

passing along King street in his canonicals, as just described. I have caused a photographic copy of Westall's picture shown in the illustration accompanying this article to be made by N. C. Shorey, of Toronto, with an inscription appended, "In Memoriam: Robert Addison, Missionary, St. Mark's Church, Niagara, A.D. 1792—A.D. 1829." The costume of the parishioners, male and female, surrounding the pastor in Westall's picture is that which was in vogue among our U. E.'s and other pioneer settlers at the close of the last century. At a later period Mr. Addison built a house for himself, styled by him "Lake Lodge," on some property acquired close to the town of Niagara, wherein, as might be expected from his scholarly instincts, a library soon accumulated around him, a considerable portion of which is still preserved as an heirloom in the parsonage attached to St. Mark's Church. We have in this library a deposit of the solid Divinity common in English parsonages some sixty years since, including works by Warburton, Walter Land, Jeremy Taylor, John Jackson, Leslie, and so forth. Voluminous folio copies of Pool's "Synopsis," Bayle's "Critical Dictionary," and Clarendon's "History of The Great Rebellion," all likewise seem here to be remarkably in place. There is to be noted also a black letter quarto copy of the Geneva Version of the Bible, with the liturgy attached of the time of Charles the First. With great appropriateness, at his decease in 1829, the mortal remains of Mr. Addison were deposited under the chancel of St. Mark's Church.

It is curious to conjecture why the name of St. Mark should have been chosen as the designation of the church at the mouth of the Niagara River; there are not many churches distinguished by that name, but there is a very famous one however, at Venice, of ancient foundation. Every one has heard of San Marco there, and the lion with which it is so conspicuously adorned. Early mediæval sculptors and painters made, as we know, the lion to be an emblem of the Evangelist Saint

Mark. Perhaps this figure, coinciding as it did with a popular emblem of Old England, may have taken the fancy of the loyal and patriotic first missionary here, and so he may have been induced to have attached to his church, when at last it rose from the ground a solid edifice of stone, the name of the saint whose symbol was the lion. Did not a lion holding a key symbolize Gibraltar? And here too was an important military post appertaining to Great Britain, guarding the entrance to a pass leading into the interior, into the very heart of the British possessions on this continent.

A pleasing water-color drawing of the stone St. Mark's Church of Mr. Addison's time (a copy of which also accompanies this article) is in existence. It shows a well-proportioned edifice of moderate size, an apse-shaped chancel with hipped roof over it, the rest of the roof not steep but rather flat. There is a square tower surmounted by a bell turret with a graceful slender spire. On the whole it resembles in many points one of the French churches that one sees along the river in Lower Canada. Below, the broad Niagara is seen flowing placidly into Lake Ontario, and across on the point stands the old French fort, as it was before transformed by modern enlargements. In 1843, when transepts and a new chancel were added to the old St. Mark's, the bell turret and spire were removed, and four pinnacles in their stead were placed at the angles of the square tower. These changes were made during the rectorship of the Rev. Mr. Creen. Since then the whole interior has been re-arranged in accordance with ecclesiastical rules, as now well understood. This change has been made through the instrumentality of the Ven. Archdeacon McMurray, who has also secured the erection of a convenient school-house close by, as well as a handsome and most commodious parsonage house, in spacious grounds immediately adjoining. During his incumbency likewise, St. Mark's was provided with a chime of bells, through the liberality, in 1874, of Walter Hamilton Dickson and John Geale Dickson, of Niagara. The Ven. Archdeacon McMurray, who still survives, is the third rector since the foundation of the mission in 1792, Mr. Addison and Mr. Creen being his only predecessors. Few parishes in Canada can present a history so simple, so happily uninterrupted by vicissitudes, excepting those which are necessarily attendant on progress and improvement.

THE cause of foreign missions must depend upon the piety of the Church and upon that alone. It can appeal to nothing but love for souls and grateful, loyal obedience to our Lord. But to these it does appeal as the wretchedness and guilt of men appealed of old to the love of Heaven.