

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1903.

JUBILEE CELEBRATION OF CHRISTCHURCH CATHEDRAL, FREDERICTON.

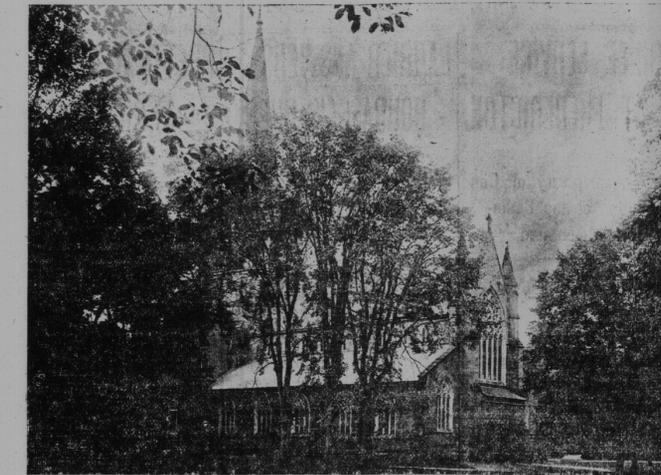
Special Services This Week in Honor of Fiftieth Anniversary—Sketches by Dean Partridge and Dr. W. H. Steeves.



His Lordship Bishop Kingdon.

Fredericton, N. B., Aug. 28.—The 50th anniversary of the consecration of Christ Church Cathedral will be observed next Monday and Tuesday with special services. On Monday there will be evening and on Tuesday the Holy Communion will be celebrated at 8 a. m. Rt. Rev. Bishop Kingdon, being celebrant. At 11 a. m. there will be choral celebration, the celebrant being Very Rev. Dean Partridge. There will be evening at 8 p. m.

Historical Sketch. The following historical sketch of the cathedral, read by Dr. W. H. Steeves before the Fredericton Brotherhood of St. Andrew recently, will be of interest at this time of jubilee. The corner stone of Christ Church Cathedral was laid Oct. 15, 1853, by Lieut. Gov. Sir William Colebroke, and the edifice was finished in 1853. It stands today a monument to the unwavering zeal of that talented and devout man, the late Bishop Medley, metropolitan of Canada. It is the most perfect and complete specimen of the second pointed style of Gothic decorative architecture upon the American continent. The building is 129 feet long, the height of the roof is sixty-two feet and the spire 178 feet. There is a fine chime of eight bells in the tower the weight of which is 2,800 lbs. There are inscriptions in Latin on each bell. The cost of the structure alone was \$22,000. The east window was given by the English church members in the United States. It contains in the centre light the Crucifixion and on the left side St. John, St. James and St. Peter, while on the right side are St. Thomas, St. Philip and St. Andrew. The west window is filled with subjects from the Old and New Testament. The building is entirely of stone with the exception of the spire, which is made of wood covered with metal.



Christchurch Cathedral, Fredericton, N. B.

clergy and a large number of communicants."

SKETCH WRITTEN BY DEAN PARTRIDGE.

The following paragraphs are taken from a sketch written by Very Rev. Dean Partridge for the jubilee:

"The extreme length of the cathedral is 172 feet, and its width, exclusive of the porch, 67 feet. The height of the nave and choir to the ridge of the roof, 62 feet. The tower is 84 feet high to the base of the pinnacles, and the spire about 84 or 178 in all, including the cross; breadth across transept, 60; height of aisle walls, 30; height of clerestory, 43 feet."

"The first impulse was given to the erection of this structure by two old and zealous friends of the bishop, who determined to present him with some memorial of their affection and esteem. This feeling was shared by others, and the sum gathered amounted to \$1,500 sterling, which was presented to his lordship by his former diocesan, who had him farewell in the presence of a large company, and presented him with a cheque for \$1,400 towards a cathedral church, or any other church purposes. Stimulated by this generous offering, the bishop sent down Mr. Willis, then a young draughtsman in an architect's office in Exeter, to take the measurements of a fine church in Norfolk at the village of Snettisham, a small place near the sea coast, which appeared to him to be a suitable model. There can be little doubt that Bishop Medley, being a Devonshire man, and the Vicar of St. Thomas's church, Exeter, was greatly influenced in his choice of the style of architecture for his cathedral by his proximity to and acquaintance with the cathedral in that city. This exquisite specimen of Gothic architecture was practically rebuilt by Bishop Quivil, who died in 1292. His work, and that of his successor Bishop Bilton, who died in 1307, were the Second Pointed, or Decorated style. This model has been followed in our cathedral. Two features mark the cathedral character, first, the triple western porch, which only appears in collegiate and cathedral churches; and secondly, the uniform height of the choir and nave, which is rarely found in English parish churches of this style.

General Style of Architecture. It is what is technically termed "Middle-Pointed," or "Decorated," with a determination rather towards the Flamboyant than the geometrical in the east and eastern and western windows. It is, in fact, a specimen of that period of ancient art, when what is called Gothic architecture had attained its highest point and had not begun to degenerate into mere frippery of detail. The equilateral triangle will be found to be the leading feature of the design. By and by, in every window without, every gable or nave, transept and choir, every principal rather, obeys this fundamental law, with more or less exactness, and the same principle was intended to be observed in the relation which the height of the spire bears to the length of the building. The old and new windows, eighty feet by fifty-six feet, a central tower standing on four massive arches and piers of cut stone, short transept on either side of the tower, the whole transept being sixty-seven feet across by fifty-seven wide; and a sanctuary eastward thirty-six feet by twenty, and sixty-two feet in height. The whole design and arrangement of the structure is presented at once to the eye on entering the west door. Five lofty arches on either side, thirty-six feet in height, divide the nave from the aisles, and carry the eye onwards to the nave arch, on which is imparted the emblem of man's salvation. Above this stands the massive hammer-beam roof of eleven bays, which, though a little later in style than the windows, yet from its elevation and steepness and the boldness of its mouldings is entirely in harmony with the building. This roof was designed by Mr. Willis, and is greatly superior to the original at Snettisham.

"From the nave we ascend three steps, pass through a low screen of walnut, and find ourselves in the choir, and under the four lofty and very massive arches of the central tower, designed by Mr. Butterfield, of London. Looking upwards the ceiling of the lantern is divided into nine squares (painted and painted in red, blue, gray and gold). This pattern was taken from Malvern Abbey. The organ stands in the north transept, a mellow and rich toned instrument, of which the plan was given to the bishop by Rev. E. Shuttleworth, vicar of Eggesham, Cornwall, and was built by Mr. J. Smith. The tower is heard, even in its softest tones, distinctly through the building, and its pedal pipes cause

every window to vibrate. It is of three manuals, with thirty-two speaking stops and two octaves of pedals. The dispersing of the pedal pipes, which nearly all speak, was tastefully done in blue and gold by Mr. Greig, of Fredericton.

"The bishop's seat is at the east end of the south choir seat, not very elevated nor richly carved, as it was not wished to give it undue prominence. Mounting one more step we reach the rails of the sanctuary, of black walnut. Entering the sanctuary, opposite to which is the bishop's chair, a present from Captain Palairé, and a perfect specimen of English oak. The altar is of black walnut, massive and simple, with a slab of fine Devonshire marble, the gift of Mr. Rowe, of Exeter, surmounted by two candlesticks, as in all English cathedrals. The reredos is a stately and dignified erection of wood, which will serve its turn until a more costly one of stone may be erected at some future time. Among the altar vestments are two of great value, one from Justice Coleridge, the other a present from a lady. There is also a frontal of cloth of gold, which was used in Westminster Abbey at the coronation of His Majesty King William IV, and was given to the bishop by Lord John Thynne, junior canon of Westminster.

"There is a credence in a recess covered by a carved canopy between the sedilia and the rear wall, above which is an exquisitely designed head of the Saviour, which was presented to his lordship by the Rev. R. P. Downer, of the Rev. R. P. Downer. Several chandeliers, patens, etc., for the Holy Communion, by the bishop and the Rev. R. P. Downer. Memorial windows, three by the bishop, one by Mrs. Stone, one by Mr. Fisher, one by Mr. Street, one by R. H. Gilroy, of London, a great benefactor to the diocese. Besides these there were several special donations to the windows by clergymen of the diocese and others.

"The worst work for the lack of the sedilia, by ladies in England. It was a small copy of the Holy Family, by Murillo, which hangs over the south door, by the Rev. R. P. Downer. This picture is a very fine one, and is deserving of a place in the cathedral. The books for the choir, two services books for the altar, two massive candlesticks, and the frontal for the pulpit. "The Bible for the lectern and folio prayer book, by Capt. Locke Lewis, of Exeter, England. "The texts on the western wall by a lady in England. "The encaustic tiles in the chancel, by H. Minton, Stoke-upon-Trent, England. "To these must be added the valuable donation of the cathedral library, to be used by the clergy of the diocese, which is placed in a room projected from the north side of the chancel, and used as a sacristy. Of the valuable books which it contains, a number were contributed by the University of Oxford, Mrs. Hussey of Exeter, Mr. Coleridge, and others; but the great bulk, to the number of 1,700, were the generous gift of the Rev. R. P. Downer, who became the first librarian. The library has been added to from time to time till it now numbers nearly 4,000 volumes. "Mention must now be made of some additions to the cathedral since its consecration. "On August 4, 1880, H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, who was travelling in Canada, paid a visit to the cathedral, where he was received by the bishop. On Sunday, Aug. 5, the prince with his staff attended divine worship at the cathedral, the bishop preaching. As a memento of his visit, his royal highness sent a beautiful and valuable copy of the Holy Bible, inscribed with his autograph. This Bible is preserved in the cathedral, and is used on great occasions. "The lamented death of Bishop Medley, first bishop of Fredericton, whose work in building the cathedral has been delineated above, took place on Sept. 9, 1882, he having been bishop for the extended period of forty-seven years. He died at the age of eighty-seven. The duty of his diocese erected the massive and graceful tomb over his body, which lies at the exterior of the east end of the chancel, in a room selected and consecrated by himself. The Right Reverend Hollingsworth Tully Kingdon, D. D., of Trinity College, Cambridge, had been consecrated bishop coadjutor in 1881, and on the death of Bishop Medley, succeeded him in the see. A movement was begun by Bishop Kingdon for the erection of a recumbent effigy of Bishop Medley within the walls of the cathedral. Sufficient funds having been raised by the church people of the diocese, the order was given to Bacon Bovey, the eminent sculptors, of London, who executed in due time an excellent figure of the bishop, lying upon an altar tomb, after the manner of similar effigies in the ancient cathedrals and churches. He is represented in the episcopal robes, with mitre and crozier. The monument lies at the entrance to the south transept, in front of an elegant decorated screen, designed by Rev. Ernest Geldart, of London,

ray of rich hues, illuminating the whole roof. "The eighteen clerestory windows are of simple dispersed pattern, giving their radiance upon the floor. The aisle windows have a totally distinct character, their object being to let in light and yet avoid a painful glare. This is accomplished by the designs here adopted. The windows are a series, and are almost all memorial. Those at the west end of the aisle are considered by many to be the finest in the building. They were given by Bishop Medley subsequently to the consecration to replace others in memory of two very dear friends. They were made by Clayton & Bell, and are greatly admired. Taken as a whole, both in design and execution, it may safely be said that the windows in the cathedral are unrivalled on this continent. They admit the dim yet cheerful religious light; they have depth, richness, brilliancy and intensity, with nothing garish or ostentatious, and nothing gloomy to depress the worshippers. "A word must be said about the bells. They were the gift of friends in England, and will sound forth their invitation to the sanctuary, when the names of the donors are forgotten. They are eight in number, selected about five tons, the tenor, or largest bell, being 2,800 pounds, in the key of E flat, and were cast by the celebrated firm of Warner, of London. They are full and mellow in tone.

Gifts to the Cathedral. "The following are the principal gifts which have been bestowed upon the cathedral not already mentioned:—"Several chandeliers, patens, etc., for the Holy Communion, by the bishop and the Rev. R. P. Downer. "Memorial windows, three by the bishop, one by Mrs. Stone, one by Mr. Fisher, one by Mr. Street, one by R. H. Gilroy, of London, a great benefactor to the diocese. Besides these there were several special donations to the windows by clergymen of the diocese and others.

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The Story of the Cathedral Told and the Handsome Edifice Described—Memories of Bishop Medley—The Present Head of the Diocese.



Very Rev. Dean Partridge.

and made by J. Howe, of St. John. The whole erection will repay the closest study, being fully equal, both in design and execution, to examples of the kind anywhere in the world. A similar screen to that which forms a background for the effigy, has been also extended across the east end of the north aisle, in front of the organ.

Clergy, Organists, and Vergers. "The following are the names of the clergy who have served the cathedral:—"The Rev. J. B. Medley, M. A., to June, 1861. "The Rev. C. S. Medley, B. A., to April, 1864. "The Rev. E. S. Medley, B. A. "The Rev. John Pearson, sub-dean, May, 1864, to Oct., 1870. "The Rev. Rowland Alexander, sub-dean, Nov. 5, 1870-1883. "The Rev. Clarence W. McCully, M. A. Vicar, 1892-1894. "The Rev. H. F. E. Whalley, Nov., 1894, sub-dean to Dec., 1899. "The Very Rev. Francis Partridge, D. D., April, 1899, Dean June 11, 1903. "The Rev. H. H. Gilroy, B. A. Curate June, 1900-June, 1901. "The Rev. F. M. C. Bedell, Curate June, 1901-Nov., 1902. "The Rev. Thos. W. Street, M. A. Sub-dean Dec., 1902. "The following is a list of the organists of the cathedral during the last fifty years:—"The Rev. E. S. Medley, B. A., George Wol. Bristow, F. H. Blair, E. C. Gilson, Herbert Newton, Mus. Bac., W. D. Saunders, A. R. C. O., F. R. Powell. "The vergers during the same period were:—"A. Welch, G. Bowles, W. Cadwallader, J. Coombes, T. Wandless."

Tarje Joins the Conservatives. Montreal, Aug. 30.—(Special)—Mr. Tarje was the principal speaker at a Conservative demonstration held at Berthier in Berthier county today, and the exhibition of public works came out strongly against the government principally on the fiscal question. This is the first time that Mr. Tarje has spoken from a Conservative platform since he joined forces with Sir Wilfrid Laurier in 1887 and it shows that he will be with the Conservatives in the coming elections. Mr. Tarje declared that Sir Wilfrid Laurier was not hostile to tariff revision but the majority of the cabinet were free traders and would not have it. He claimed

Convention of Deaf Mutes in Maine. Belfast, Me., Aug. 29.—The annual convention of the deaf-mutes' mission of Maine was held here today with about 100 present. These officers were elected: President, A. F. Carlisle, Bangor; secretary, Mrs. Anna A. Brown, Bangor; treasurer, George W. Wakefield, Bangor. The next meeting will be held in Rockland. A sermon will be preached tomorrow in the Congregational church by Prof. John E. Crane, of Hartford (Conn.).

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