

From 1812 to 1816 there are no records. No doubt, the war scattered the people and broke up the congregation. Here again St. Mark's had a great advantage, a resident clergyman and a stone church not entirely destroyed; for, heavy as were the timbers of St. Andrew's, they only fed the flames more fiercely.

In 1818 agreement with Rev. Chas. Jas. Cook. Then in 1820 a petition to Earl of Dalhousie for a sum of money to build a church in town and give title to land on which former church did stand. A collection at Divine service to repair windows and building as far as necessary for comfort of congregation (supposed to be school house). In the *Gleaner* lying before me for 1818, published in Niagara, is an advertisement of "annual meeting of Presbyterian Church, to be held in school house. The accounts of moneys received and expended in building school house will be produced."

In 1820 a letter asking for services of Rev. Thos. Green, who had preached for them a few weeks and with whom they were pleased. At a meeting in school house, held 1821, "Resolved to put themselves under the Presbytery." Here follow signatures and sums promised, sadly diminished from those before the war. In 1821, Rev. Mr. Smart of Brockville, who was present, was appointed their Commissioner, and on 21st Dec. elders were nominated, Rev. John Burns presiding. Scarcely any records for 1822-23, but in 1824 is presented the former account of £176 8s. 6d., with interest for twenty years, making the whole sum almost the amount, £400 allowed by Government for loss of church. £100 had been received and paid on this account. Some interesting items occur. Paid for deed of church, £6 14s. 6d.; passage to York and back, £1; detention there two days, 10s. There seems to have been no settlement of this account till 1833 when follows in small clear writing almost like copper-plate of W. D. Miller, "amount due the two persons named, £203; interest for 9y. 4 2-3m. from 1804 till the church was burnt, the commissioners not allowing interest after the church was burnt." This is signed by James Muirhead, Robert Dickson, Wm. Clarke, perhaps as arbitrators, or who state this to be the decision of the majority of the trustees.

The wheels of state must have moved slowly, as this sum £400 demanded in 1820 from the Government, awarded in 1824, was not paid for several years and then only in instalments of 10%, 25%, etc. In 1828, Rev. Mr. Fraser was engaged for two years and in 1829 a call was sent to the Presbytery of Glasgow offering £150, and the Rev. Robt. McGill was sent out. Now come various interesting items bearing on the vexed questions of Clergy Reserves, status of Presbyterian ministers, &c