

their case is already provided for by the rule which provides that the Bishop shall, when he sees fit, dispense with the obligation to make the several collections.

From Rev. C. H. Drinkwater, with further information respecting the church in Eramosa for which he made application for a grant. *Resolved*.—That the sum of \$25 be granted to this church, but, that Mr. Drinkwater be requested to give a statement of the amount collected towards its erection, in the locality.

Application from the Rev. R. Garrett for service-books for St. John's Church, Osunabuck, and for tracts. *Resolved*.—That a set of service-books, *qt.*, plain bound, be granted, and also, tracts to the value of \$5.

Application from the Rev. G. S. J. Hill for a grant of books for Sunday-schools in his mission. Grant not recommended, as one had previously been given to the mission, and the Society had so many calls that it was unable to respond to.

An application was read from Mr. Thomas Beal, for assistance towards the erection of a church at Oakwood, township of Mariposa,—the dimensions, 22ft. wide, by 43 long, including an octagon chancel, and exclusive of an entry or porch on the south side 10ft. square, the ceiling 18ft. from the floor at the sides, and 18ft. from the middle. It is a plain building, covered with shingles, sided with rough, upright boards; the windows are ground, stippled and stained-glass leaded. The church is already plastered, and the pews nearly completed. About \$200 is required to completely finish the church. *Resolved*.—That the sum of \$25 be granted for the above object.

A letter was read from the Rev. H. E. Pless referring to one laid before the Society in the month of May, together with resolution passed at a vestry meeting, at his church, at Easter, requesting the Society to settle upon the Incumbent—out of the Endowment Fund created by the sale of the Ameliasburg Globes for eighteen hundred pounds, payable by instalments—a salary equal to the annual average interest, only providing, that the endowment be not permanently diminished by the transaction. Whereupon it was *Resolved*.—That the Rev. H. E. Pless be allowed the whole of what the equalization of the interest will yield annually; and that J. W. Brent, C. J. Campbell, and H. Mortimer, Esquires, be a committee to ascertain the amount.

A communication was read from the Crown Land Department, stating that it was ordered in Council, that a grant to the amount of \$8000, to be taken from the disposable Crown Lands, be made to the Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto, in trust for the Rector of Markham and his successors in office, in substitution of the glebe, lot No. 19, in the 9th concession of Vaughan. Communication referred to the Land Committee.

Another communication from the same department, states that it was ordered in Council, on the 21st September, on the application of S. S. Peck and others, members of the Church of England, that 10 acres of the S. W. part of lot No. 6, concession A., of the township of Minden, be granted as a site for a church, and that the petitioners be permitted to purchase the remaining 90 acres of the lot at seventy cents per acre, cash, or one dollar per acre, on time. Patent to be issued in trust to the Church Society, Diocese of Toronto, if the petitioners desire it. Whereupon the Secretary was desired to communicate with S. Peck, and other petitioners.

The Rev. S. Houston, of Arthur, was unanimously elected an incorporated member.

The usual prayers were read, and the meeting adjourned.

## HISTORY OF TRINITY CHURCH, AURORA, CANADA WEST.

(Copy of a letter to the Rev. S. F. Ramsay, A.M., Newmarket, C. W., from John Mosley Esq., Bank of Upper Canada.)

Toronto, December 28th, 1860.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,

I now, agreeably to promise, furnish you with a brief account of what took place before you commenced to officiate in Trinity Church, Aurora.

The first Church of England service, held in Aurora, took place on Ascension Sunday, in 1843. The Rev. George Street, then Incumbent of St. Paul's, Newmarket, and Christ's Church, St. Alban's, officiating in the upper room of my house on Yonge Street, in which my brother Robert now dwells. That much respected clergyman, from that Sunday, until within a few weeks of the opening of the present Church, on the 27th of September, 1840, continued to preach there every fortnight, on Sunday evenings, with the exception of a few weeks, when service was read in Mr. Playter's vacant store, the first frame dwelling south of Dr. Geikie's dwelling, from whence the congregation gladly removed to the present church, on the day above named.

That Rev. Gentleman officiated once a fortnight, (on Sunday evenings at 6 o'clock,) until you assumed the charge in August, 1848, upon his being removed to the church at Port Stanley.

In September, 1844, the propriety of erecting a church in Aurora began to be discussed by several of the members of the congregation, (my brother William taking the most prominent part therein.) Those discussions in May, 1845, ripened into a resolve to have a public meeting to decide upon building a church upon a lot mapped out and proffered by me as far back as June, 1836.

Accordingly the evening of the 26th May was fixed for the meeting; at that meeting unexpectedly and fortunately we were favoured with the presence of the Rev. Mr. Leach, of St. George's Church, and Professor of Magill's College Montreal, who (on private business) arrived from thence that day, and attended the meeting of his own accord, and by request presided over the meeting.

At this small meeting \$120 was subscribed towards the erection of the church, and by the fall of the year, the different subscriptions, including \$200 raised by myself in Toronto, amounted to about \$600, which sum, however, proved inadequate to erect and furnish the church at once; so that the erection of the old part of the present building was done by piecemeal; the timber for the beams, rafters, and boards, being cut down and hauled from the woods by means of "a bee"; the frame was erected by the late James Rosanko; the roofing done by Mr. Shrigly and two or three volunteers, and the further enclosing and plastering of the same, and the erection of the steeple being done by Mr. Thomas Harris, of Yonge Street, in which state, without pews, reading desk, or pulpit, (a common deal desk covered with baize, rough benches, and some boards serving as a substitute for these) the church was opened on the day already mentioned, and the building was in that state when you commenced to officiate.

Up to this date August, 1848, the church cost about \$1600; about \$700 of which was raised by Mr. A. Playter and myself, and subsequently that portion raised by Mr. A. Playter was assumed by myself, together with a large amount of premium costs, interests, &c.; altogether, from first to last, I have paid over \$1200, but I do not wish to make any claim to be reimbursed; on the contrary, I thank God that I have been enabled out of my slender means to do so much for the church of

my choice, and my best wishes go with your Reverence, and all others, who have, are, and may hereafter be connected with Trinity Church, Aurora.

On the opening of the church, the Rev. W. C. Cochrane, then of Red River Settlement, presided, both in the morning and afternoon; the Rev. Mr. Street said the prayers.

The Rev. Mr. Street preached gratuitously; during the whole course of his ministrations, embracing a period of over five years, he enjoyed the good will and esteem of every individual of the congregation.

I am, Rev. and dear Sir,  
Yours very truly,  
J. MOSLEY.

Statement furnished to Rev. William Stewart by Rev. S. F. Ramsay, dated Dec., 1860.

Rev. S. F. Ramsay commenced his ministrations at Trinity Church, Aurora, August, 1848.

1. There was neither pulpit, reading desk, communion table, nor pews; the congregation subscribed £18, and Mr. Ramsay obtained £80 from his private friends, London, England, which enabled him to complete the interior of the church.

2. He also accomplished the enlargement of said church, at a cost of £200, about £125 of which he obtained from his own friends at home and in Canada.

3. Mr. Ramsay found a very heavy debt upon the church of towards £200. He succeeded in obtaining a handsome donation of £80 from the Bishop; a small contribution of his own; £50 from Mr. J. Mosley, also some valuable village lots from the same liberal gentlemen, which contributions entirely paid off the debt.

4. The Bishop directed the incumbent to hold divine service in an evening, every alternate Sunday. During the whole period of Mr. Ramsay's incumbency, there was service once every Lord's day.

5. *Stipend*. Mr. Ramsay received no remuneration during the first three years, the following three years he received £7, and the remaining five years, from £20 to £25 per annum.

6. The handsome fittings of the Church were provided through the kind exertions of the ladies of the congregation.

7. Mr. Ramsay always met with great kindness and much liberality from the congregation, during the whole period of his ministration, which lasted over eleven years.

In December, 1859, the Rev. H. W. Stewart, A.M., was appointed Missionary to Oakridges, Aurora, and King. He commenced his ministrations in Aurora, in the beginning of 1860.

In July, 1861, the Rev. H. W. Stewart, A.M. retired from the mission of Aurora, Oakridges, and King, and the Rev. J. H. McCollum, A.B., Trinity College, Dublin, succeeded, being licensed to it by the Lord Bishop of Toronto, on the 19th of July, 1861.

## ST. CATHARINES GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

A special meeting of the Grammar School Board was held at the office of Thos. Burns, Esq., on Wednesday morning last, for the purpose of electing a gentleman to fill the Principalship of the St. Catharines Grammar School, left vacant by the withdrawal of the Rev. T. D. Phillips. There were about forty candidates for the vacancy, and after a minute and protracted examination of the claims of the various applicants, the Rev. Wm. E. Cooper, of Holland Landing, was finally elected. Mr. Cooper is a Master of Arts of Trinity College, Toronto.