

The church was opened for public worship September 17th, 1865. The dedicatory sermon was preached in the morning by the Most Rev. Francis Fulford, D. D., Lord Bishop of Montreal and Metropolitan. The Right Rev. J. Travers Lewis, D. D., LL. D., D. C. L., Lord Bishop of Ontario, preached in the afternoon, and the Right Rev. Benjamin Cronyn, D. D., Lord Bishop of Huron, at the evening service.

Numerous instances of generous donations towards the completion of the church are recorded. The two upper storeys of the tower and the spire of the church were completed in 1866, through the munificence of Mrs. William Molson, who gave ten thousand dollars for that object.

A tablet in the vestibule of the church bears an inscription commemorative of her generosity. *The Font, Lectern, Reading Desk and Pulpit were gifts from military officers then in England, who had attended the old church when they were stationed in Montreal.* The Chancel windows were also gifts. The centre one was presented by Mr. Charles Garth, in memory of the Rev. M. Willoughby. *One on the left side of the Chancel was given by Colonel Moffatt;* another by Mr. J. G. Mackenzie, in memory of his wife; on the right is one in memory of Charles C. Brydges, from his father, and another from Mr. Henry Rogers, of Wolverhampton, England.

The following are the dimensions of the church: Length outside, 173 feet; width outside, 78 feet; height of church to top of ceiling inside, 52 feet 6 inches; height of spire, 200 feet; tower outside, including buttresses, 32 feet square. The ground floor will comfortably seat 850 persons, the gallery 400, while 1,500 can be accommodated, if required. The basement is 113 feet by 65 feet, and is used for Lecture Hall and School Room purposes. The building is of the early English Gothic style of architecture.

But the church, which had such an auspicious beginning, was destined to pass through a season of trial and financial straits. The original plan was to build a church to cost \$50,000 and accommodate a thousand persons. This plan was altered so as to afford accommodation for 1,500 persons, and the cost was increased in proportion. The burden of debt was so great that, in 1882, the mortgage was foreclosed, and the Trust & Loan Company, to secure themselves, bought the property at sheriff's sale. The Company, however, granted the Congregation permission to use the building for Divine Service.

During the Rectorship of the Rev. Dr. Bancroft, the assistant ministers were the Rev. W. B. Curran, who resigned in March, 1864; Rev. Douglas Borthwick, who officiated from November, 1865, to May, 1866. The Right Rev. J. P. Dumoulin, M. A., Bishop of Niagara, who followed, first officiated as assistant minister on May 20th, 1866. His earnest eloquence will never be forgotten by the generation to whom he ministered. He resigned in September, 1870. The Rev. O. Fortin, B. A., acted as assistant minister from November, 1872, to September, 1875; he left to accept the charge of Trinity Church, Winnipeg, of which he is still the Rector, as well as being Archdeacon of Rupert's land. The Rev. Canon Empson, M. A., assisted from April to October, 1872, and the Rev. R. W. B. Webster from March to November, 1876.

On the resignation of Dr. Bancroft, the Rev. G. Baylis took charge of the work for about six months, at the end of which time, September, 1877, the Rev. W. Craig was appointed Rector. After two years in that position he resigned, and was succeeded by the Rev. John Walters, who assumed the charge in April, 1880, and remained during the troublous times until the closing of the church in 1882.

Through the exertions of His Lordship, then Bishop Bond, and the Rev. Archdeacon Evans, and the liberality of Mr. A. F. Gault, Mr. Charles Garth and other friends, a sufficient sum was raised to recover the property and thus save it to the Congregation.