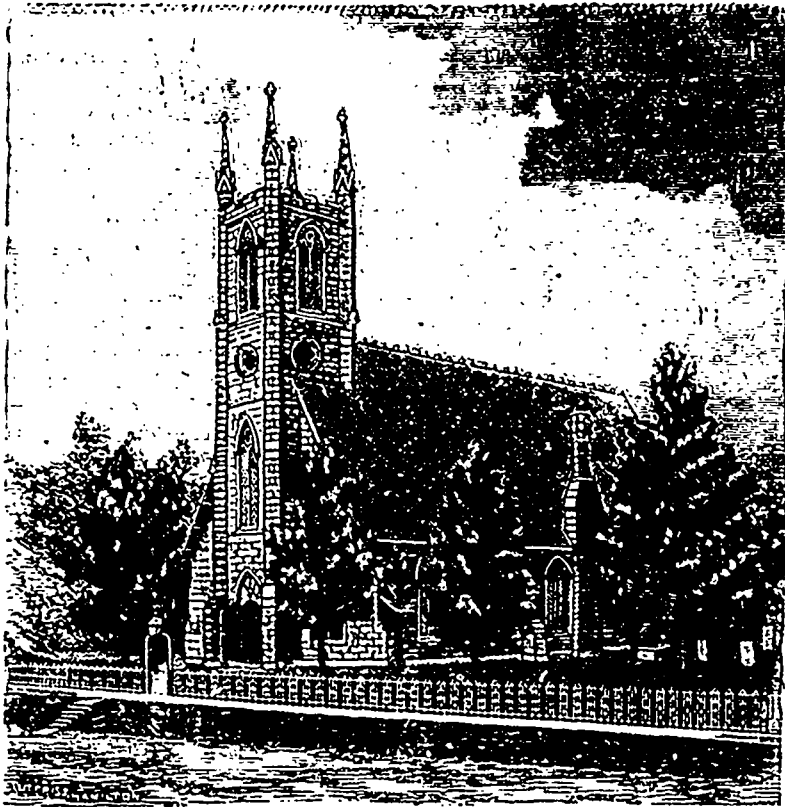




ANCASTER CHURCH.

Governor of Upper Canada, and into it the Rev. John Miller, M. A., was immediately inducted its first Rector by Archdeacon Strachan.

In August, 1838, the Rev. Wm. McMurray (now Archdeacon of Niagara) was appointed Incumbent, and in 1842 was inducted Rector of Ancaster, *cum* Dundas, which he held till 1857, when the Rev. F. L. Osler, M. A., of St. Catherine's College, Cambridge, succeeded to the living, which he still holds. In the winter of 1868 the old church was destroyed by fire.

On the 9th of May, 1869, the present handsome structure, shown in our engraving, was opened for divine service, and on the 1st of May, 1873, it was consecrated. The cost of the building was \$8,200. In May, 1870, the Rector set apart St. John's Church as a separate charge, so far as he could without resigning the Rectory. In the same year the Rev. T. S. Cartwright (late editor of the *Church Press*, New York) was appointed Incumbent.

England. The population of the village, owing to its situation, has been reduced to about 600. The parish, however, is one of the strongest of our rural parishes, and responds generously to the various calls made on behalf of missions.

The first clergyman of the parish was the Rev. Ralph Leeming, a graduate of St. Bee's College, Cumberland, who was sent out in 1818 by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. Mr. Leeming included with his mission Ancaster, Hamilton, Dundas and a portion of the Grand River Reserve. For six years the services of the Church were held in the village school house at Ancaster. In 1824 the late George Rousseaux donated a piece of land, on which a frame building was erected, in which Presbyterians, Methodists and the Church of England held services.

In 1830 the Church secured the property for her exclusive use, and in the autumn of the same year old St. John's Church was consecrated by the then Bishop of Quebec. In the same year the missionary was obliged to resign on account of ill-health, and the Rev. John Miller, M. A., Trinity College, Dublin, was appointed to succeed him. For about five years Mr. Miller had charge of Ancaster, Barton, Hamilton and Dundas, holding a fortnightly service at each place. Ancaster was one of the fifty-seven Rectories established in the year 1836 by Sir John Colborne, the Lieutenant-

cumbent. During his incumbency a fine stone Rectory was built at a cost, including the land, of nearly \$7,000. In May, 1875, the Rev. W. Belt, M. A. (now Rector of Burlington) was appointed Incumbent. He succeeded in removing \$700 of the debt incurred in building the Rectory. He was followed in March, 1879, by the present Incumbent, the Rev. W. R. Clark, M. A., who has been able to wipe off the balance of the mortgage (\$2,300). A neat Sunday school room has also been provided, and since the 1st of January last a handsome pipe organ has been erected in the church. The debt of the parish does not now exceed \$100.

The parish has now an endowment of nearly \$10,000. The beauty of the church is increased by the effect of its elevated position and the fine trees which surround it. It is enriched by nine stained glass windows, erected for the most part as "memorials," and by several costly pieces of furniture, and appropriate hangings and altar cloths, which are admired for their beauty and richness.

ONE of the German papers states that "at Vienna last year no less than 363 Jews became Christians," and another paper tells us that "at no period since the first century have conversions from Judaism to Christianity been so frequent as they are at present."