

## St. Mark's Early History

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It has been said that "oftimes things come to those who wait" and again that "we find what we are looking for" and what follows may be taken as an illustration of this as for many years diligent search had been made with regard to St. Mark's.

Various dates have been given for the building of the beautiful old church with its ivy covered walls. It has been believed by many that the church dates from 1792 the year when Rev. Robert Addison came out as the Missionary to this region sent by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, but from consulting the Dominion Archives and different works of travel the present writer had stated that the church could not have been built previous to 1804 but now from information sent by Mr. Cyril de M. Rudolf the matter is definitely settled by extracts carefully made from the yearly reports of the S. P. G. We are much indebted to this gentleman for kindness and courtesy shown and the judicious selection he has made. Mr. Rudolf paid a visit to Niagara in 1906 and becoming interested in the Historical Society of which he is now a member has sent us this valuable information in many type written pages. The information gleaned previously had been thus arranged.

In Mrs. Simcoe's diary 29th July, 1792 "There is no church here but a room has been built for a Masonic Hall. Met for service in Free Mason's Lodge where divine service is performed on Sunday."

1795 the Duke Rochefoncault de Liancourt says: "No church has yet been built in Newark."

1797 From Russell to the Duke of Portland: "The Protestant Church at Kingston is the only regular one belonging to the church of England in the Province, Asks leave to have churches built at Newark, York, Cornwall."

1797, July 31st, "Mr. Addison is appointed to Newark" proposes to give £100 to build a church when they are disposed to raise subscriptions.

1798, Feb. 20th. "No part of the money granted for building churches in 1788 has yet been applied for as sites have not yet been chosen, £500 to York, £500 between Newark, Cornwall and Sandwich. Recommends that subscriptions be raised by inhabitants; treasurer and church wardens to be appointed.