

THE CHURCH OBSERVER

in S. John had been so far effectual, that he left his successor in possession of a decent, well-furnished church, with a very respectable and well-behaved congregation."

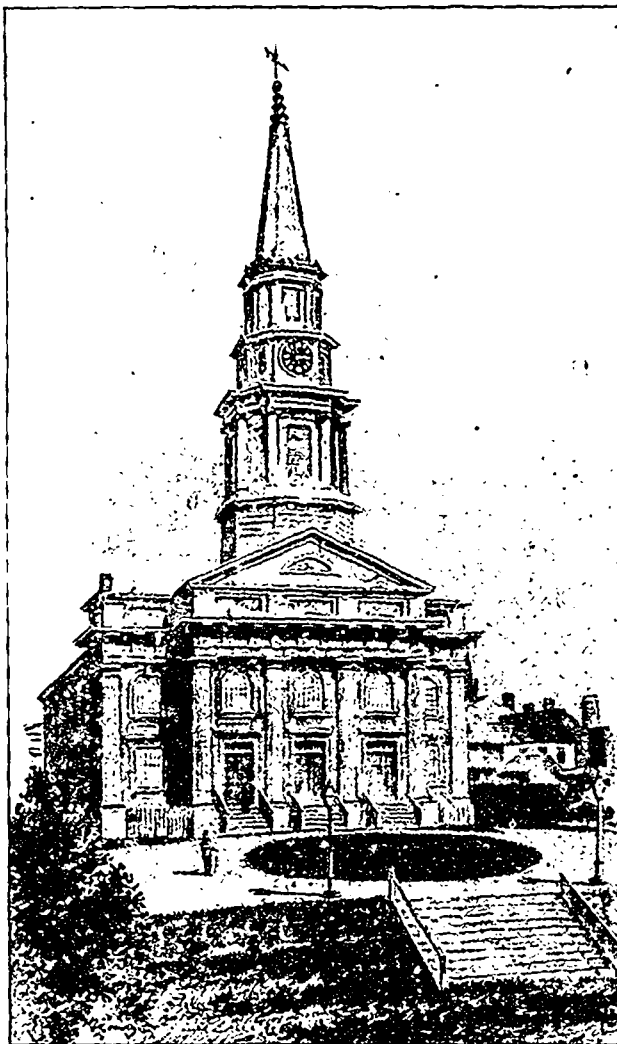
He was immediately succeeded by the Rev. George Bisset, of Trinity Church, Newport, Rhode Island, who came to S. John, July 25th, 1786, and was the first Rector of the Parish. His first care also was to provide more accommodation for the congregation, which had outgrown the building. For that purpose he raised money in England and elsewhere, and steps were taken to build what was known as 'Old Trinity' Church. Mr. Bisset was not permitted to see his labours completed, as he died on March 3rd, 1788. After an interval of more than a year, the Rev. Mather Byles, D. D., was appointed to the vacant rectorship; the nomination of the Bishop of Nova Scotia. The work of building the church had been pushed continuously forward. A noble site, consisting of two lots on Germain St., and two on Charlotte St., was generously given, and the corner-stone was laid on Wednesday, August 20th, 1788, by the Right Reverend Charles Inglis, D. D., the first Bishop of Nova Scotia, and first colonial

prudent economy of the congregation than to lack of taste or architectural skill. It was first used for Divine Service on Christmas Day, 1791, and was subsequently consecrated by Bishop Inglis, and given the name of "Trinity Church."

is well said, any other warmth in the church but their wrappers and their zeal. It is worthy of record that for twenty years the congregation endured the severe cold in church without murmuring; and so the Church people of those days

set a noble example to those in our day, who are wont to find excuse for their absence because the heat of the church is not as high as that of their houses. To the church as it was now built, many additions and gifts were made. In 1792 a bell was given, and hung in the tower. In 1810, a cupola and tower were added as a finish to the West end.

An organ, the freight on which from England was one hundred guineas, was erected in the church. In 1812, a clock was placed in the tower—it was the workmanship of the famous firm Messrs Barrand of Cornhill, London, and cost £221 s19. 10d. Twice this church was enlarged: once by adding to its length in 1811-12; again, in 1857, when a new tower and spire were built on to the Westend. Of all the objects of interest in the church, mention must be made of one, which has a history of its own, namely, the "Royal Arms", the emblem of British sovereignty. They were brought by the British troops from Boston



TRINITY CHURCH, WEST FRONT, 1877.

bishop of the Church of England. It was built of wood, and consisted only of a nave and North and South aisles. As such it could not have presented much beauty, but its want in that respect may have been owing more to the

It is difficult to imagine the scene presented by the congregation on that, to them especially eventful Christmas Day, as they wended their way to Church. We know that no chime of bells rang out from the tower, nor was there, as it

when they evacuated that city in 1776, and were taken to Halifax and subsequently brought to St. John. They were first set up in the temporary church in Germain Street, and were removed by order of the Vestry, passed Dec. 8 1791