

the fact that before long two separate projects were under way, one in the interest of the "Knox" and the other in the interest of the "Free Church."

The "Free Church" was organized by a deputation from the Presbytery of Hamilton consisting of Revs. Donald McRuar and Andrew McLean on September 10th, 1857, and took the name of Knox Church. It is believed that the "Kirk" Presbytery of Hamilton organized St. Andrews Church about the same time, though no official records seem to be available. The first pastor settled was Rev. Donald McLean, who was inducted in Knox in June 1859. The Rev. John Hay was inducted in St. Andrews Church in February 1861. Each congregation had built for itself a temporary home, Knox, near the site of the present Westminster Church, and St. Andrews on the corner of King and Fergus Streets.

The first elders in St. Andrews Church were Thomas Swan, Samuel Wallace, John Jack and Wm. Williamson. Thos. Swan was the first Sabbath School Superintendent. The first elders of Knox Church, so far as can be ascertained, were John Martin, William Jamieson, Neil MacMillan and James Scott. Mr. James Scott was the first Sabbath School Superintendent.

The work in both congregations made such rapid progress that in a short time a preaching station was organized at Woodland in connection with St. Andrews, and a Gaelic station at North Arthur was associated with Knox, the first elders in the latter being Duncan McLellan and Alexander McKenzie.

Those first pastors were hard working pioneers. The nature of their work can be best understood by a single illustration. Rev. John Hay travelled on foot over corduroy roads and through the woods 69 miles to Kincardine to dispense the Lord's Supper.

Mr. McLean was succeeded by Rev. John MacMillan in 1865, and Rev. J. A. Murray became successor to Mr. Hay in 1867.

Knox Church grew so as to require this building which was erected in 1873, and conditions arose that gave North Arthur the status of a separate charge under the pastorate of Rev. William Matheson.

In St. Andrew's, Mr. Murray was succeeded by Rev. Donald McNeil and he in turn by Rev. Donald Fraser.

Early in 1884 negotiations were entered into by Knox and St. An-