



OLD ST. MARK'S CHURCH, NIAGARA.

mitted periodically by him to the "Society at home," would be, if collected and reprinted here, a most interesting historical record, and a valuable boon to the Canadian public. I have in my own possession a short autograph letter addressed by Mr. Addison to a young soldier of fortune named Chiniquy, from Lower Canada, breaking away from the narrow traditions in which he had been brought up and desiring to obtain employment among the more enterprising people of the west, with whom he seems to have met with some success. In this note Mr. Addison appears in the pleasing light of a fatherly adviser to a young stranger who by some means had been brought into friendly relations with him. The letter is dated from Chippawa. While the headquarters of Mr. Addison were at Niagara, there were innumerable stations in other directions visited professionally by him. The Indians of the Grand River were familiar with his presence, and the Mohawk Chief Brant is said to have acted as his interpreter there. Mr. Addison's letter to Chiniquy is addressed to him at York and reads as follows:—

CHIPPAWA, 8th Oct., 1806.

DEAR SIR,—I have only a few minutes allowed me to tell you how very much I am pleased to hear from Mr. Jackson that you are very useful and agreeable to him. Suffer me to press this consideration upon you, that active industry, aided by frugality, is the parent of wealth. I do not expect you to be an hermit, and as I find you are doing well I will finish this dull advice by expressing my sincere wish that you may continue to do so. We elderly men are sad correspondents. By endeavouring to be so we sometimes run the hazard of offending by our grave admonitions. You know we have had the honour of His Excellency on this side of the water and every one seems highly pleased with his affability and politeness. He

was waited upon by the magistrates and principal inhabitants of Niagara, with an address in which was a high compliment to General Hunter, and let me tell you that his answer was still more complimentary to that departed worthy. You will see both the address and answer in your paper and will then prize them for yourself. You will find that the sentiments concerning the late administration on the Niagara side are very different to what they are on yours. Our assize has been unusually long; I think it lasted ten days, and all, I observed, was conducted well.

The grand Judge gave general satisfaction and is a gentleman of great and finished abilities. I hope to find you in good health and spirits at the session,

And am most truly,

Your obedient, very humble servant,

ROBERT ADDISON.

The Mr. Jackson here named had probably patronized Chiniquy\* in some way, and he may also have had a word of encouragement from General Hunter, whose loss is here regretted. The new Governor must have been Gore, and the "grand Judge" was no doubt Judge Thorpe, who, strange to say, was a "Reformer," and whilst retaining his judicial character became a member of the House of Assembly. It is amusing to read of the difference of sentiment prevailing "on this side of the water," that is the Niagara side of Lake Ontario, and that prevailing on "yours," that is the York side, where the feeling was perhaps less "liberal."

I myself remember Mr. Addison very well. When a boy I have heard him repeatedly officiate in St. James' Church, at York. His oval, intellectual countenance and finished style of reading made a strong impression. In addition I particularly remember observing him as he walked arrayed in his academic gown, bands and clerical hat from the church after the service, down King street to the Quetton St. George mansion, still standing entire on that street, and now occupied by the Canada Company. He was there often entertained as a guest during his visits to York from Niagara, by Mr. John Spread Baldwin. Mr. Addison was chaplain to the House of Assembly, and used to come over to York and remain there during the annual Session of Parliament. A formerly well known picture by Westall, entitled "Going to Church," exhibits the figure of a clergyman which, to my mind, always recalls the comely form of the first missionary at Niagara, as seen

\* This, of course, is not the well known "Father Chiniquy."—[Ed.]