

Services were also occasionally held in the brick cottage, which is part of the Western Home estate. It was occupied by Mrs. Stevenson, a zealous Catholic lady, who with her daughters, promoted the interests of religion materially by teaching Sunday School and instructing the children in the knowledge of their belief. Mrs. Richards of Pembroke (nee Allinson) is her granddaughter. No record can be found as to the number of Catholics in Niagara in 1830 when Father Campion was removed, but as near as can be ascertained, there were about three dozen families represented at the services, exclusive of soldiers. Father Campion recorded 64 Baptisms, 6 profession of faith 17 marriages and 6 burials during his pastorate of three years, some of the children baptized however were brought here from New York State.

The priest appointed to succeed Father Campion was Father Cullen, who, noting the great need the Catholics had for a church here, and concluding there was a sufficient number to warrant the undertaking, he therefore on the 3rd of April, 1831, called a meeting whereat it was resolved to open a subscription list for the purpose of erecting a church. The following is a copy of the minutes of said meeting.

NIAGARA.

“At a meeting of the Catholic inhabitants of Niagara held on Easter Sunday, the 3rd day of April, 1831, Daniel MacDougal, Esquire, was called to the chair and George Macan was requested to act as secretary, after which the following resolutions were unanimously agreed on.

1st Resolution—That the Glory of God, the honor of religion and the wants of the Catholics of this place require that a Catholic Church be erected in this town.

2nd Resolution—That the Rev. John Cullin, our pastor, Daniel McDougal and George Macan are hereby nominated and appointed to procure the subscription of every well disposed person, who is willing to contribute towards the erecting of a Catholic Church in Niagara.

3rd Resolution—That John Harris, H. McNally, J. B. Coothey and Andrew Boylan are hereby appointed collectors of subscriptions for the Catholic Church of Niagara

4th Resolution—That Daniel McDougal is hereby nominated Treasurer, and George Macan, Secretary, to the Roman Catholics of Niagara, and the collectors above named in the 3rd resolution are required to pay in the monies collected by them to the treasurer and he is to give his receipt for the different sums received, which receipts the said collectors are to place in the