

After a successful ministry of 14 years, at a vestry meeting held on the 23rd May, 1867, Rev. Mr. Taylor announced his intention of retiring and returning home. Evidently some difficulty was experienced in securing a successor, for not until November, 1868, does the name of the Rev. Cyprian Pinkham, the present Lord Bishop of Calgary, appear on the Vestry Records.

Improvements and Growth

At a vestry meeting held on Monday, 30th October, 1871, it was resolved: "That in the opinion of the Vestry, the Parish Church of St. James is not in a fit condition to hold service in, as it appears to be gradually coming down and that it is beyond repair." The outcome of this resolution, the first that speaks of the Old Church becoming dilapidated, is not recorded, for the next notice on the records reads "The Minutes of several meetings not entered in this book at the time at which they were held have been mislaid." Something possibly may have been done to improve the building, for no further mention of repairs is made, till Tuesday Evening, 3rd October, 1876, when "The consideration of making some necessary repairs on the Church, in order to add to its warmth and providing the materials therefor," was under discussion, and then it was resolved: "That a new floor be laid in the nave of the Church, and that tar paper be laid between the present and proposed new floor, also that the cracks and crevices in and about the base, windows and plates, be filled with mortar, or other suitable material, and that the Church be thoroughly banked up, all of which it is thought will add much to its warmth and comfort." Again on 18th