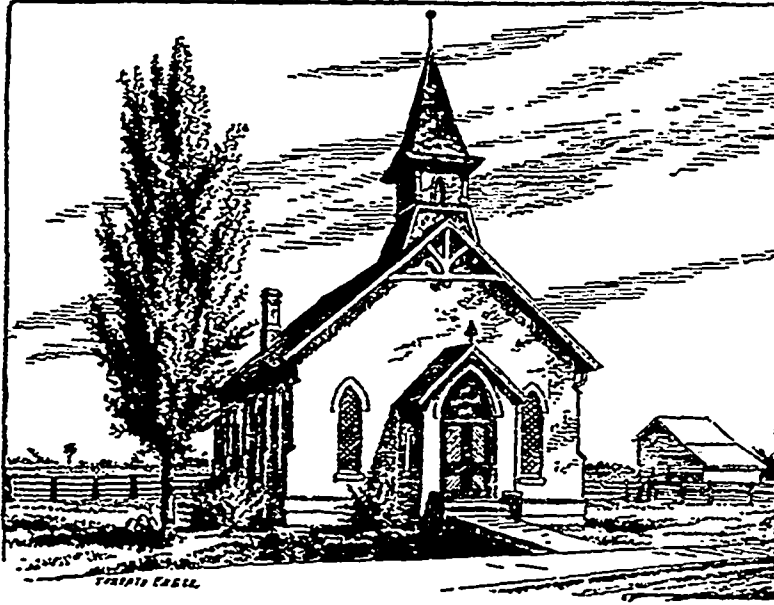




ST. JAMES' CHURCH, WANSTEAD, ONT.

established and contained within itself all the means of extending and developing the Faith.

The enterprise of Felix in East Anglia set the example for a similar mission to another of the Heptarchic kingdoms.

CONVERSION OF WESSEX.

Birinus, a monk of Gaul, obtained from Pope Honorius permission to labor in any parts of Britain where the Augustinian Mission had not made an attempt. He received his consecration as a Missionary Bishop from Asterius, Bishop of Genoa, and landed on the south west coast of England in 634. Amongst the wild West Saxons he labored till he won his way to the favor of the King Cynegils. At this time Oswald, the Christian King of Northumbria (of whom more anon) came on a visit to the court, to wed the daughter of Cynegils. He joined his persuasions to those of the Gallican Bishops, and between them they succeeded in converting the West Saxon King. A double ceremony took place; and at Dorchester in Oxford, at the junction of the Thames and Isis, in 635, Oswald became father-in God and son-in-law to Cynegils.

Both kings gave lands to Birinus for the support of his Bishopric of Dorchester, and nobles and people followed the example.

There does not seem to have been any kind of communication between this Church of Wessex and that of Kent.

In 643, Cynegils was succeeded by Cenwalch, who being married to the sister of Penda, was not at first very kindly disposed towards the Christian religion. Having for some cause put away his wife, Penda in offence, marched against him. Cenwalch, defeated, fled into East Anglia. Here Anna was king, and the insight which Cenwalch

gained into the improvements which Christianity had wrought in the condition of the people, so changed his views on the subject, that on being restored to his kingdom, he became an ardent supporter of the Faith.

Birinus had now been succeeded in the See of Dorchester by Agilbert. But as this foreign bishop was not able to speak in the vernacular, Cenwalch founded an additional see at Winchester, and appointed to it a Saxon, Wini, who went to Gaul for consecration. Agilbert objected to the establishment of a second bishopric in the same kingdom and retired to France, where he became Archbishop of Paris.

The Church was now finally established in Wessex, and we reach the extent of the conversion of England that was due to Roman effort and influence—namely, Kent, East Anglia and Wessex.

THE CELTIC MISSIONS.

Henceforth a new missionary centre, from which were to issue the Evangelistic forces that should complete the conquest of England for Christ comes within the range of our story.

It is necessary to go back for a rapid sketch of the origin of that truly Apostolic and deeply interesting fraternity—so worthy to be held in affectionate and reverent esteem by English Churchmen to the end of time—the cradle of the Celtic Missions,—the monastery of Iona.

(To be continued.)

OUR PARISHES AND CHURCHES.

No. 35—ST. JAMES' CHURCH, WANSTEAD.



ST. JAMES' Church in Wanstead, Diocese of Huron, was opened for the first service on January 9th, 1887. The Rt. Rev. Dr. Baldwin, Bishop of the Diocese, preached the first sermon from the text, Samuel ii. 14, to the end. There were present of the clergy on that occasion Rev. T. E. Sanders and the Incumbent, Rev. J. M. Gunne. The church was begun and completed under the ministry of the Incumbent, who began his services in Wanstead in Orange Hall. The Churchmen of the little village gave the stone and sand, and drew the brick a distance of twelve miles. The work of erecting the church edifice was begun June 1st, 1886, and finished December 15th, of the same year. The