

to his sense of humor. "They acknowledged Mr. Scovil," he says, "to be a most worthy young man, but alleged that he was too diffident and modest." The Bishop asked if they would have an impudent fellow? They said no, but wished their missionary might have some share of confidence in his own talents. The Bishop replied that diffidence was generally a mark of merit and that time would cure Mr. Scovil if he had too much of it. The Bishop stated that the young man had passed a strict examination with much credit and that he had sanguine expectations of his usefulness. After his ordination as a deacon, Mr. Scovil took charge of the church at Fredericton for a while in the absence of the rector, Rev. Geo. Pidgeon, and gave the greatest satisfaction. He returned to Kingston in June, 1803, as his father's assistant and was ordained priest on the 18th of September in this year. It was agreed that he should officiate one-half of his time in Kingston, the remainder to be given to Hampton and Springfield. Thus the second Scovil entered upon his life work in Kingston, like Goldsmith's Village Parson, "passing rich on forty pounds a year."

A memorable service was held in the church on Sunday, July 29, 1809, when the Rev. Elias Scovil presented to Bishop Charles Inglis for confirmation, two hundred and fifty-seven candidates. This was in all probability the largest class ever confirmed in New Brunswick at one time. The candidates were of all ages, from grandsires down to boys and girls in their teens. No opportunity had been hitherto afforded them for confirmation. Bishops' visits were rare in those days. The next was that of the Right Rev. John