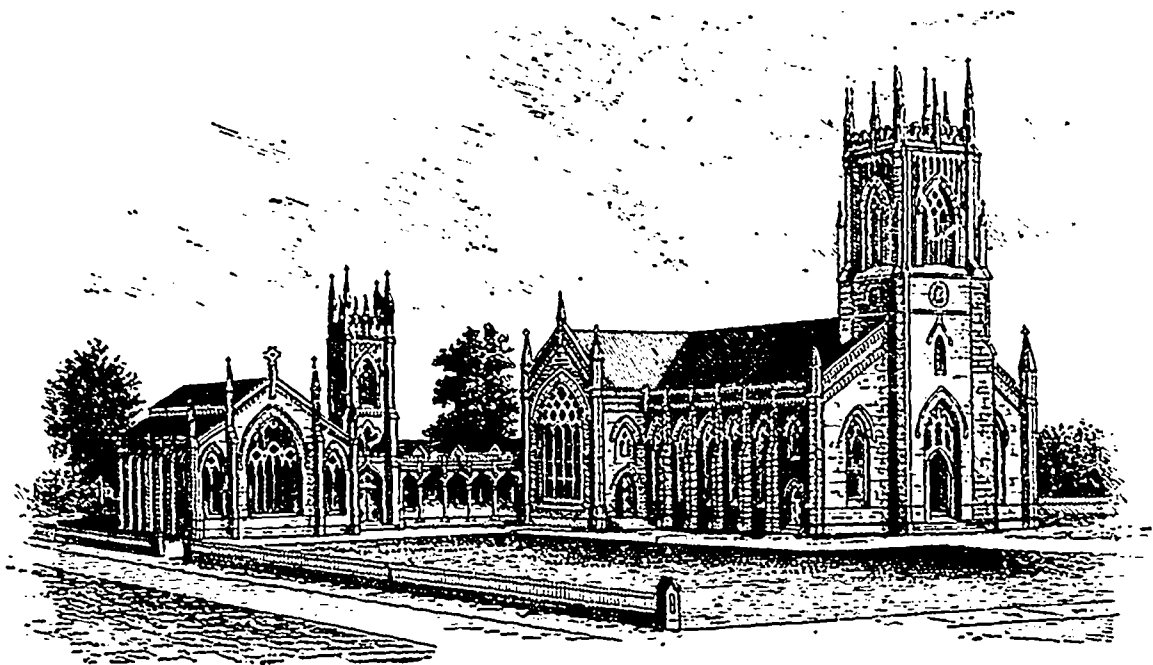




ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, LONDON, WITH ADDITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

gress, and helped still more to keep back all settlement and immigration.

From a book published in 1836, we learn that the Township of London was settled in 1818, and the town was laid out in 1826 by the Crown. The first house was built in the fall of 1827.

Turning now to that which most deeply interests us on the present occasion, the history of our own church, I may say that the first clergyman who ever ministered to the members of the Church of England in this locality was the Rev. E. N. Boswell, who as far back as 1829 was residing here and serving the few and scattered members of the flock. The remains of his widow are buried in St. Paul's churchyard.

In November, 1832, the Rev. Benjamin Cronyn arrived on his way to Adelaide, to which he had been appointed by the then Governor. After holding a service here on the Sunday, a deputation from the congregation waited on him, begging him to remain with them as their clergyman, as they were utterly without any spiritual guide at the time. Consenting to this, he first conducted service in an old frame schoolhouse upon the Court House Square.

In 1835 it was found necessary to erect a more commodious building, and upon the site of the present church a frame church was erected, facing towards the south. It is thus described in a book published in 1836: "The Episcopal church, if we except the spire, which is disproportioned to the size of the tower, is one of the finest, and certainly one of the neat-

est, churches in the province." It was destroyed by fire on Ash Wednesday, 1844.

In 1836 this parish and that of St. John's, London Township, were created rectories, and Mr. Cronyn was appointed by a patent from the Crown rector of them both. St. John's, London Township, he resigned in 1842, and that of St. Paul's in 1860.

The foundation stone of this present building was laid with great ceremony—the military turning out in force, and the artillery firing a salute of twenty guns—by the Right Rev. John Strachan, Bishop of Toronto, on St. John the Baptist's day, June 24th, 1845. The architect employed was Mr. Thomas, of Toronto. The material, that is, the brick, was made and burnt on the ground where the old frame church had stood. The edifice was completed and opened for divine service in 1846.

On the 8th of July, 1857, in this church, the first Episcopal election in Canada took place, when Dr. Cronyn was elected Bishop of Huron, and proceeded to England for consecration by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and received the Queen's patent, creating the Diocese of Huron, and appointing him the bishop thereof, probably the last patent ever issued directly by the Crown of Great Britain to a colony possessing responsible government.

On the resignation of the rectory of St. Paul's by the bishop in 1866, the Very Rev. Dean Hellmuth was appointed to the vacant position. During his administration the old chancel was pulled down and a new one built, the organ was removed from the galleries and