

In December 1880 one of the children of old St. James' Church, namely St. George's of New Hamburg, became unruly and allowing ambition to mock her useful toil, desired to separate from the rest of the Parish and launch out for herself. To those who are only familiar with the cordial relations which now subsist between the two congregations, it is hard to believe that they were ever otherwise, but the tie that bound them then appears to have been like the tie that binds some married couples and accounting for their faithfulness by the fact that neither of them could get away.

It was found however that acceding to the request of St. George's Church, would so disarrange the Parish that Bishop Alford refused his consent.

In January 1881 a special Parish meeting was called for the purpose of considering the building of a new rectory (the present one). St. George's Church was not represented at the meeting and took no part in the undertaking, although an effort was later made in March to have the rectory located in New Hamburg, but the work had become so far advanced that it was impossible to change the plans.

The January meeting resolved to build at Haysville and thirteen hundred and ninety dollars was subscribed at once for the purpose.

A building committee was appointed consisting of H. M. Johnson, Robt. B. Puddicombe, Thomas Walker, Robt. N. Kerr and Rev. Freeman Harding to carry on the work and the present commodious rectory stands as a monument to their labours.

Another important change took place in 1884, when the Parish resigned its claims to help from the Mission Fund and the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and became a self-sustaining Parish or Synodical Rectory, as it is called.

In 1885 leaded stained glass windows were placed in the Church at a cost of four hundred and fifty dollars, the rector, Mr. Harding, donating those in the chancel.

In 1887, on account of ill health, the Rev. Freeman Harding severed his connection with the Parish after a very successful pastorate of seven years.

Among the items of interest in the Parish Register of