

THE NEW CHURCH

This brings our history down to the time when the building of the present stately home of the congregation began to engage the attention of those who saw that the westward and northward growth of the English-speaking population of Montreal would ultimately compel the removal of St. George's in the same direction. At a meeting of the congregation, Rev. Mr. Sullivan stated that the bulk of the members lived north of Craig and Bonaventure Streets, and it was decided to secure a site in the then western part of the city. Eventually what was known as the Watson lot—the site of the present church—was selected. It was situated on what were then St. Francois de Sales and St. Janvier Streets—now Osborne and Windsor Streets. The price paid for the lot was thirty-seven and a half cents per foot. In November, 1868, the churchwardens, Messrs. G. Moffatt and A. A. Budden, were authorized to raise a sum not exceeding \$25,000 on the St. Joseph Street property. A Building Committee was subsequently appointed, and the record of its proceedings makes interesting reading now, fifty years afterwards, when we are celebrating the Jubilee of the Church. The estimated cost of the building was \$40,000, exclusive of heating and lighting apparatus, but the committee decided to exceed this, if necessary, by 7½%. Competitive plans were asked for and finally those submitted by Mr. W. T. Thomas were adopted, the chief reasons given for the choice being that a good view of the officiating clergyman could be had from all parts of the Church, that the organ space did not unduly encroach on the main part of the Church, and that the tower was separate from the main building. These were certainly practical reasons, but when one considers the expressive ecclesiastical architecture of the exterior, or the beauties of the interior, there is cause for wonder that stress was not laid on these features. The successful architects were given small bonuses, Cyrus Thomas \$200, Nelson & Ballard \$150, and three others \$100 each. That architects could ruffle the feelings of a church committee was evidenced by Mr. George Moffatt expressing his disapproval of a letter received from Nelson & Ballard. The building was to seat 1,000 men, 500 women and 250 in the gallery—the pews in the latter to be free. A proposition to provide for adding side galleries in the future was voted down. In January, 1869, it was reported that \$23,660 had been subscribed to the building fund. On March 3, 1868, estimates were received totalling \$45,850. Of this sum \$10,000 was for stone work. The total must have been largely increased, for the stone work alone cost \$880, and there were various other extras, in addition to the heating and lighting plant. An adjoining lot, probably that on which the organ stands, was bought at forty cents per foot. The rectory cost \$10,000. A Parish Hall was built subsequently. Among the tenderers for the interior of the Church were firms whose names are still familiar, as that of the firm for the heating plant. Reed for the roofing, and Chanteloupe for the lighting. The first stone was laid on May 15, 1869, and the Church opened for service on October 9, 1870. In 1872 the sum of \$12,000 was borrowed from members of the congregation on bonds payable in five years. There were some forty purchasers and it is reported by one historian that all of the bonds were generously cancelled by the holders.

THE CLERGY IN LATER YEARS

In 1878, after thirty years' service with St. George's, Dean Bond, as he then was, was elected Bishop of Montreal, which office he held until his death on