



TRAVELLING IN EARLY DAYS.

1799 the rector requested leave of absence to go to England, partly on private affairs and partly on account of his wife's ill health, on which occasion he received a highly complimentary address from his people, who were evidently much attached to him.

In 1800 a new rectory was built, and the parishioners completely furnished it for their rector. The church was enlarged and beautified more than once during his incumbency. The tradition preserved of him in Halifax is that he was a gentleman of exceeding courtesy and geniality; very popular in the society of the place, and greatly beloved by his people. He performed his various duties with much tact and judgment, proving himself equally acceptable to Royalty, in the person of the Duke of Kent, who was military Commander-in-Chief during a portion of Dr. Stanser's incumbency, and to the poorest and most humble of his flock. In 1812 he was voted an additional £50 a year to his salary, and no less than 300 persons joined his congregation.

Dr. Stanser was the intimate friend of the many distinguished men who successively filled the office of Lieutenant-Governor. Governor Parr, Sir John Wentworth, Sir George Prevost, Sir James C. Sherbrooke, were all men with whom the Rector of St. Paul's was often an honored guest. He built a house on the west side of Bedford Basin, in which he used to live in the summer, and which was but a short distance from the Prince's Lodge, the residence of the Duke of Kent. He was also a member of the renowned Rockingham Club, which met regularly in a building near the Prince's Lodge, and was composed of the leading gentlemen of Halifax. A man whose conversation and accomplishments were such as to fit him to shine in such courtly society, and who at the same time could so faithfully and thoroughly perform his parochial duties as to claim the highest respect and affection of his flock, must have been possessed of no ordinary mental power.

In the year 1816 the venerable Bishop Inglis passed away in the 82nd year of his age and the 29th of his episcopate. It was natural to suppose that his son, Rev. John Inglis, who had been the support and stay of his father's declining years, whose abilities were unquestioned, and whose knowledge of the Diocese was unsurpassed, would

succeed him in the Bishopric. Accordingly he set sail for England, fully expecting that he would be appointed to the office.

At this time Dr. Stanser was holding the honorable position of Chaplain to the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly. Many of his personal friends, including the Hon. H. H. Cogswell, acting Provincial Secretary, and member of Assembly, were very desirous that he should be advanced to the see. Accordingly a petition was prepared to the Imperial Government, and signed by the Council and Assembly, praying that Dr. Stanser might receive the appointment. Curiously enough the same vessel which bore Rev. John Inglis to the mother country, in full expectation of being made Bishop, also carried the petition from the Legislature in favor of Dr. Stanser. It need hardly be said that such a petition could not be passed over by the Home authorities, who forthwith nominated the Chaplain and Rector of St. Paul's on May 6, 1816. The rectorship of that church falling vacant by the advancement of the Incumbent to a Bishopric, the appointment lapsed to the Crown, who bestowed it upon Mr. Inglis "in consideration of his important services in the active superintendence of the Diocese during the long illness of the late Bishop," giving him at the same time £200 a year additional salary, and £100 for an assistant. Mr. Inglis returned to Halifax with a good grace, and immediately entered on the duties of his parish.

But Dr. Stanser's work was well nigh done. There is but little to record of his episcopal career. In 1815, a year previous to his appointment as Bishop, his beloved wife had died. This heavy affliction, combined with his advancing age, began to undermine his health. He had sought a brief period of rest in England after his wife's death, and was there at the time of his elevation to the episcopate. As soon after his consecration as possible he returned to Halifax, and held a visitation and one ordination. But he was in such a feeble condition that he returned to England, intending to remain for the winter months only. It was God's will that he should never come back. He remained in England in broken health for seven years, each year vainly hoping that he might be able to resume his duties. During this lengthened period Dr. Inglis superintended the Diocese so far as administration was concerned. But the drawbacks of this state of things were many and serious, as may well be imagined. Dr. Stanser again and again offered his resignation to the Crown, but the whole position of the colonial Bishops was then unsettled, and a precedent was feared; and it was not until much time had been spent in negotiations that the resignation was finally effected in 1824.

He had been a laborious and successful servant of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel for more than thirty years, twenty-five of which had been spent as rector of St. Paul's. In his old age and infirmities the society did not neglect him. He was allowed a pension of £250 a year for life.