

Historical Sketch

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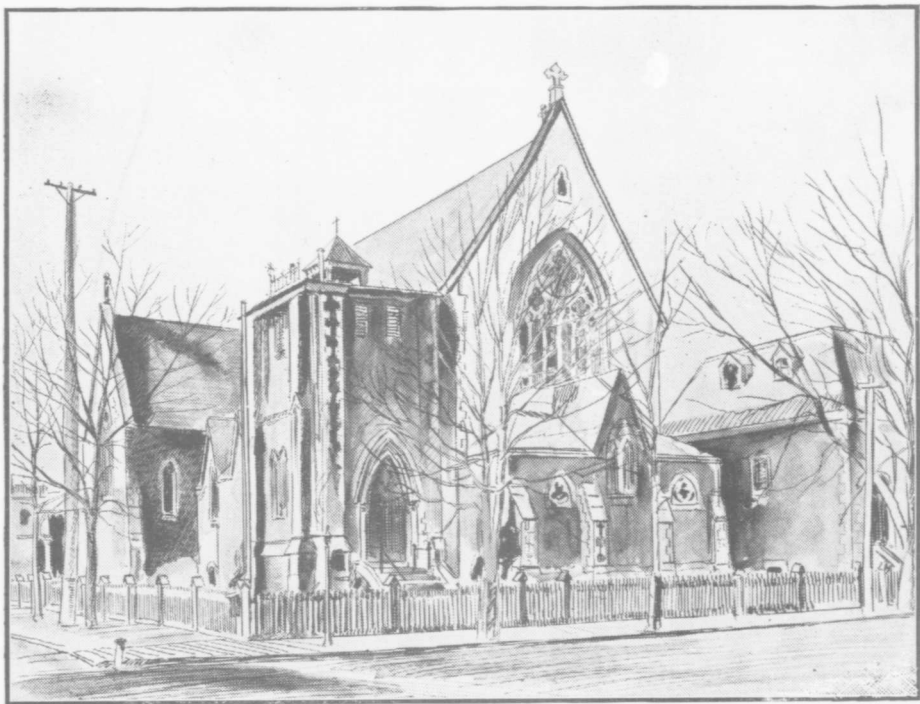
St. Martin's Church

1874-1902.

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Montreal, Canada.

"All one in Christ Jesus."



ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH AND RECTORY



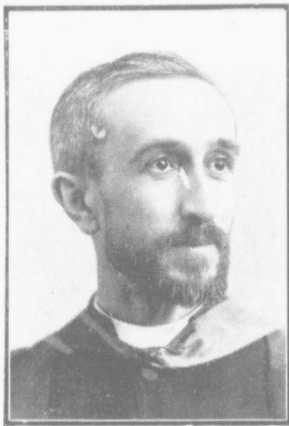
INTERIOR OF ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH.

## ST. MARTIN'S FORWARD MOVEMENT.

St. Martin's, Church of England, situated at the corner of St. Urbain and Prince Arthur streets, was established in 1874. Though not one of the ancient edifices of the city it has had a very interesting and creditable career. Today it stands for a free gospel, a world-wide gospel, a gospel for every man and a gospel of full salvation. The good news is for the poor and needy at home and for the heathen in foreign lands.

boast of its best friends, its most active workers, its most ardent admirers and its staunchest supporters, that it is the people's church. No clergyman in Montreal welcomes a stranger to his church more cordially or can make him feel more at home than can the Rev. G. Osborne Troop, the rector of St. Martin's.

Among the original subscribers to this church, or chapel, as it was called, were Messrs. John Molson, Thomas Cramp, F.



THE REV. G. OSBORNE TROOP,  
Rector of St. Martin's Church.

This broad platform is not the one upon which the church was founded, in a certain sense, but as the needs of the field have increased so the scope of the work and the spirit of the workers have expanded. St. Martin's was opened as a proprietary chapel; now it is the proud

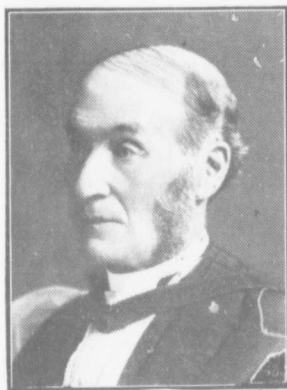
Wolferstan Thomas and C. J. Brydges.

Mr. Brydges was an influential railway man and on account of the church being an independent, proprietary one, some wits of the period nicknamed it 'the Pullman car to heaven.' The souls of the founders of the church were not so con-

tracted and exclusive as this term might indicate, however, and as the leaven began to work and the meal to increase the cause grew till, in 1879, the chapel was constituted a parish church.

The chapel was opened, the basement, at least, on Nov. 1, 1874, with the Rev. John P. Dumoulin, M.A., as incumbent. Mr. C. J. Brydges was the first rector's warden, and Mr. John Molson, people's warden, and both held office until 1879, when the chapel became a parish church. In 1880 Mr. R. Pownall was appointed rector's warden and Mr. J. F. D. Black,

In 1879, when the church was made a parish church, the debt on the property was \$37,000. In 1886, when the present rector assumed charge, the debt had been reduced to \$26,873. When the books were audited at the close of 1901 the debt was only \$10,750, and it is being reduced at the average rate of about one thousand dollars a year. This includes the indebtedness of both the church and the rectory. Besides making this splendid reduction in the floating debt, and paying all the running expenses, salaries, etc., the church expends annually about one



THE RT. REV. JOHN P. DUMOULIN,  
Bishop of Niagara, first rector of St.  
Martin's.



REV. DR. JAMES S. STONE,  
Second Rector of St. Martin's Church.

people's warden. In 1881 Mr. Strachan, Bethune, K.C., was appointed rector's warden, which position he held until 1900, when the present rector's warden, Mr. C. D. Hanson, was appointed. In 1887 Mr. William Tatley succeeded Mr. Black as people's warden; in 1888 Mr. R. Wilson-Smith succeeded Mr. Tatley. From Easter, 1892 to 1893 Mr. E. E. Rutliwell held the office; at Easter, 1893, Mr. Wilson-Smith was re-elected, and in 1900 Mr. J. R. Mecker, who still retains the position, was elected. The first vestry meeting of this church was held in the basement on Nov. 16, 1874.

thousand dollars for missionary and philanthropic work.

Last year, for instance, \$125 was sent to Madras, India; \$128 to the Canadian North-West missions; \$271 to the Diocesan mission fund, and about three hundred dollars went to city missionary and philanthropic enterprises, while several other smaller amounts were devoted to quite as worthy objects. The church has, for years, been sending a large portion of their foreign missionary givings to Khammamett, in the Diocese of Madras, South India, where it is devoted to native evangelistic extension work. In

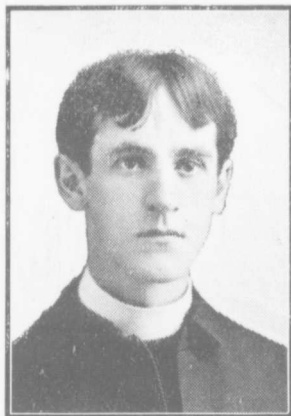
addition to this, the Sunday-school contributes 825 annually towards the support of Dr. Minnie Gomery, of Kashmir, India. Miss Gomery is a daughter of the Rev. H. Gomery, of this city. She was formerly a member of St. Martin's and graduated as gold medalist from Bishop's College.

Much of the home mission and charitable work of the church is done by the King's Daughters, of whom Mrs. J. R. Meeker is Leader.

St. Monica's Guild is a useful sister society, composed of about twenty ladies of the church under the presidency of Mrs. Troop. It was founded during the

among the children is beautifully manifested by the fact that they saved during Lent, just passed, about \$180 for the church debt and other purposes. Their offering included about 3,000 copers.

There is a young men's Bible class and also a Young Men's Christian Association in connection with the church. These were both organized by Mr. Duncan M. Stewart, the general manager of the Sovereign Bank of Canada. Prof. H. F. Armstrong, of McGill, has had charge of these during the past winter. There is also a chapter of the Brother-



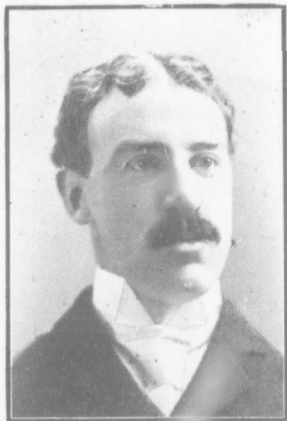
THE REV. W. W. CRAIG.

Formerly Curate of St. Martin's Church.

Rev. Dr. Stone's rectorship. Their work consists largely in making up articles of clothing, etc., for the North-West missions and the needy at home.

The Sunday-school, which formerly was considered large, with an attendance of three hundred scholars, has recently increased greatly, so that last Sunday there were 411 scholars and teachers present, besides the two Bible classes, which, combined, make between fifty and sixty more. Mr. Fred. Hughes is the superintendent.

That an unselfish spirit is prevalent



THE REV. W. W. GARTH.

Formerly curate of St. Martin's Church.

hood of St. Andrew connected with the church.

#### ST. MARTIN'S CLERGY.

The list of clergymen of St. Martin's Church is a short one.

The Rev. John Philip Dumoulin, the present Bishop of Niagara, was the first rector, having been called to minister to the first congregation in 1874, and remaining until 1882. The Right Rev. John Philip Dumoulin, M.A., D.C.L., was born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1836, and educated at Trinity College. Com-

ing to Canada he was made a deacon in 1862 and priest in 1863. He was first appointed curate to the late Archdeacon Brough, rector of St. John's, London Township, Ont.; later he went to Gait, and in 1866 to Trinity Church, Montreal, where he was assistant to Dr. Bancroft, the rector. In 1870 he was transferred to the Church of St. James the Apostle as assistant minister to the Rev. Canon Ellegood, and in 1871 was called to the rectorship of St. Thomas's Church, Hamilton. In 1874 he was chosen first rector of St. Martin's. He preached his valedictory sermon on Sept. 27, 1882.

able service from 1884 until about 1890, when he went to Winnipeg, and resided with his son until his death a few years later.

#### THE PRESENT RECTOR.

The Rev. George Osborne Troop was selected to succeed the Rev. Dr. Stone as rector of St. Martin's and was inducted on Dec. 12, 1886. Mr. Troop was born at Bridgetown, N. S., and is a son of the late Mr. W. H. Troop, barrister, solicitor, etc., his mother being a daughter of the late Archdeacon Coster, of Fredericton, N.B.

Mr. Troop was educated at King's



DR. MINNIE GOMERY,

C. M. S. Missionary, Kashmir, India.

Dr. Dumoulin was succeeded at St. Martin's by the Rev. James S. Stone, B.D., who was inducted as rector on Nov. 26, 1882. Dr. Stone remained as rector until 1886, holding his last service on Nov. 18, previous to going to Grace Church, Philadelphia. In 1890 Dr. Stone accepted a call to St. James Church, Chicago, of which he is still rector.

Dr. Stone had associated with him as honorary assistant, the Rev. J. A. Mulock, Canon of Kingston Cathedral. He was superannuated and rendered valu-

able service from 1884 until about 1890, when he went to Winnipeg, and resided with his son until his death a few years later.

College, Windsor, N. S., graduating with the B.A. degree in 1877, and M.A. in 1882. He was ordained a deacon by the late Rev. Hilbert Binney, D.D., Bishop of Nova Scotia, in February, 1877, and priest on St. Patrick's Day, 1878, and has consequently completed a quarter of a century in the ministry. His first appointment in holy orders was as curate of St. Paul's Church, Halifax, in 1877, the Rev. G. W. Hill, D.C.L., being the rector. In 1878 Mr. Troop married the rector's daughter, Miss Suzette Lawe Hill. They have five children.

After a successful and pleasant term at St. Paul's, Mr. Troop was appointed chaplain of Hellmuth Ladies' College, London, Ont., in 1881. In 1882 he was appointed curate of the Church of the Ascension in Hamilton, Ont., of which Dean Carmichael, now bishop-coadjutor of Montreal, was the rector. Before the year was out he received and accepted the call to the rectorship of St. James Church, St. John, N. B., where he remained until 1886, when he came to Montreal.

Mr. Troop and his new congregation were entire strangers to each other be-

patience and the greatest degree of unity and harmony of method and purpose have ensued.

When the Rev. Mr. Troop came to St. Martin's there was one thing that he did not approve of. The pews were allotted and rented. Coming from a free church and with very decided views on this question; and, moreover, feeling that there was a very important principle involved, Mr. Troop was not long in bringing the matter before the officials of the church. He proceeded to educate his people up to the idea of making the sittings absolutely free.



MR. J. M. WALKLEY,  
Organist, St. Martin's Church.

fore he arrived here to take charge of the parish. They did not know much about each other's ideals, history or work. There were recommendations, but no introduction or long courtship, but the union has proved a satisfactory one to both parties. Fifteen years of wedded life, as it were, have resulted in a thorough acquaintanceship and understanding between pastor and people. There have been little differences of opinion on some points, but these have been straightened out with prayer and

In his Lenten letter of 1890 the rector proposed that the system of pew rents should be abandoned, and formulated a plan to be tried for one year. This plan suggested that all members of the congregation should continue to occupy, by common consent, their accustomed sittings; that no member of the congregation should have the right to object, should he find his own usual seat occupied by a stranger; that the envelope system, so-called, should be adopted to meet the financial loss of the pew rents,



etc. At a largely attended meeting of the parishioners held in February, 1900, a resolution was unanimously adopted to the effect, 'That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable to adopt the voluntary system in lieu of rent of pews and sittings, etc.'

Details were arranged and the new scheme was found to work very successfully. About two years ago a further step was taken in the direction of the rector's ideal in the matter of church government and the sittings were made absolutely free and unappropriated. The voluntary system of giving has proved a success, the people have responded admirably to the confidence placed in their loyalty and generosity, so that while changes have taken place in the membership such as are incidental to all city congregations, the revenue of the church and its varied undertakings has been in no way lessened or impaired. The rector greatly prefers the system of faith to that of cold business in church financing and when it comes down to the foundation it is the same thing so far as the supporters are concerned. The spirituality of the people, the rector believes, has improved under the new order of things. Giving is more a source of blessing and less an obligation than before. Mr. Troop considers that the large attendance of young men found in St. Martin's every Sunday is due in no small measure to the fact that they have as good a right to occupy any vacant seat in the church when they arrive there as anyone else. The steady average of the offerings shows, he believes, that they are not after free sittings but that they approve of the system and principle of unappropriated pews and voluntary contributions.

The church will comfortably seat five hundred people. It is calculated that there are about that number of communicants and twice that number of adherents who call this church their spiritual home. There are certainly hundreds who consider Mr. Troop their spiritual father and adviser, and if they all tried to get into St. Martin's Church at one time they would face a physical impossibility.

The church is a neat and compact structure, of Gothic design and built on the cruciform plan. It is about a hundred and twenty feet long, including the chancel, and the transcripts are about ninety feet across. The large basement includes a lecture hall and Sunday-school class rooms. The windows are ornamented with stained glass and there is one memorial window just to the right of the pulpit, erected by the congregation in 'grateful memory of Mr. Alexander Gowley, who died in May, 1888.' He was a very active and devoted member of the church. The communion table was presented to the church by Mr. J. P. Cleghorn, in memory of his son, James Herbert Cleghorn, who died May 22, 1897.

The choir is composed of adult singers of both sexes and this is one of the few churches in Canada having surpliced ladies in the choir. This feature was adopted about two years ago and has been well received. Mr. John M. Walkley, is organist and choir master.

Two young men have gone out from St. Martin's Church to preach the gospel. One is the Rev. W. H. Garth, B.A., son of Mr. H. W. Garth, of this city. Mr. Garth is a graduate of McGill, and was from May, 1892, to October, 1894, curate of St. Martin's. In 1894 he was called to be curate to the Rev. Dr. Rainsford, at St. George's Church, New York. From there he became rector at Wakefield, R. I., and he is at present rector of Naugatuck, Conn.

The other is the Rev. W. W. Craig, son of Mr. Alexander Craig, of Montreal. Mr. Craig was curate of St. Martin's from June, 1897, to November, 1899, when he accepted the curacy of Trinity Church, St. John, N. B. Mr. Craig recently accepted the invitation to become rector of St. Luke's Church, Montreal, and is expected to assume his new charge in May.

During the incumbency of the present rector no fewer than 508 persons have been presented for confirmation and added to the communion roll of the church.