



Souvenir.....

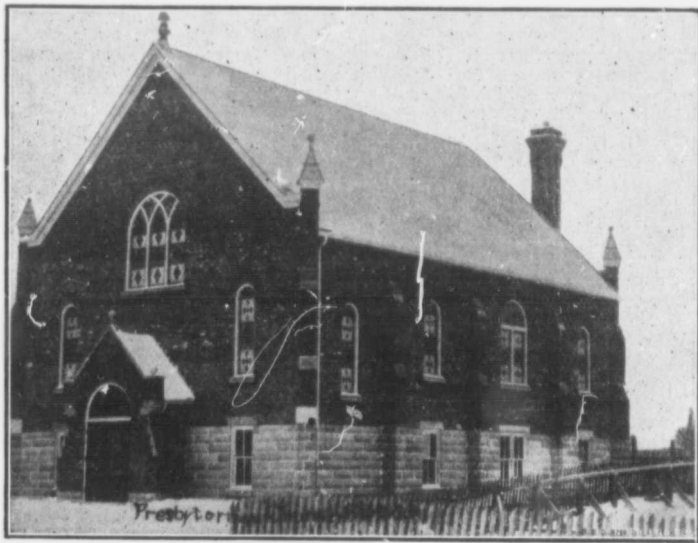


of.....

Knox Church, Bluevale

With a brief history of Presbyterianism
in Bluevale, from its inception.....

Issued in connection with the Jubilee Services, December 6 and 7, 1908.



KNOX CHURCH, BLUEVALE.

FUTURE MOTTO :

"Watch and pray."—Matt. 26 : 41.

"Search the Scriptures."—John 5 : 39.

"Hold fast that which is good."—1 Thess. 5 : 21. "Be not weary in well-doing."—11 Thess. III : 13.

"Forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forth unto the things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."—Phillipians III : 13, 14.

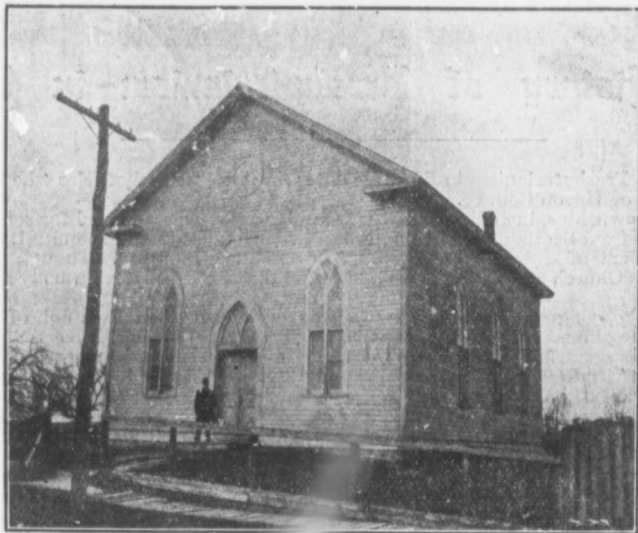
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Early History of Presbyterianism in Bluevale.

The history of Presbyterianism in Bluevale dates back to the early fifties when the Rev. Mr. Barber itinerated in this part of Huron County.

In 1854, four Townships, including Turnberry and Morris, were opened for settlement, when many staunch Presbyterians from Scotland and Ireland made their homes in and around Bluevale, among whom were Wm. Duncan, Richard Miller, Robert Moffatt, Christopher Hamilton. Though there were advocates of the Auld Kirk, Free Church and U. P. Church, all united in one Presbyterian body and asked for services to be held at Bluevale.

Early in 1856 the congregation of Bluevale was organized when Rev. John Rennie came and conducted services in the log houses for a few Sabbaths, the first Elders being Robert Moffatt, Richard Miller and Christopher Hamilton. The following summer, services were held in the house of Christopher Hamilton at Morrisbank. In 1857 application was made to the U. P. Presbytery of London for supply. On the 8th of July of that year the Rev. J. A. Proudfoot, Clerk of London Presbytery, wrote, stating that the Rev. Joseph Scott would be present for two Sabbaths in August to preach, to be followed at intervals by others. Early in 1858 application was made for leave to call a minister and on the 13th of April the Rev. Matthew Barr, of Harpurhey wrote, stating that on the 28th of April he was authorized to preach and preside in the moderation of a call which took place in conjunction with Morrisbank, Wroxeter and Ainleyville (now Brussels) in favor of Rev. W. C. Young, who was ordained and inducted in the fall of that year and whose first Communion in the Bluevale congregation was held in the house of Mr. R. Duncan, when thirteen persons partook of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, all of whom have passed to the great majority. Services were conducted for a time in the school house, but in 1863 steps were taken to erect a church for the worship of God. Considering the limited means of the people they did well, for in the fall of that year the frame church, removed a year ago, was dedicated by the Rev. Matthew Barr, of Harpurhey. For some time previous to this time, the congregation worshipped in a building used for Public School and Church purposes and now occupied as a dwelling in the village. The present edifice, costing in the neighborhood of \$8,000, was erected in 1907. It was opened and dedicated by the Rev. W. A. J. Martin, of Zion Church, Brantford.



THE OLD CHURCH.

"O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home."

"G O D I S O U R R E F U G E."



Rev. W. C. Young—1858-1865.

Rev. W. C. Young was the first settled pastor of Bluevale congregation. He was a faithful and untiring servant of the Master. He belonged to the old school and was a strict Sabbatarian. His ministry was characterized by a very faithful expounding of the word. He was born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, and laid the foundation of Presbyterianism in Wroxeter, Brussels and Bluevale.



Rev. James Hastie—1866-1871

The Rev. James Hastie was a native of Scotland and was educated at Toronto University and Knox College, where he was an apt student. During his ministry the church was well attended. Mr. Hastie was beloved by all, a devoted pastor and friend to those in trial and affliction. He is now pastor at Monkland, Ont., where he is held in high esteem by his congregation.



Rev. James Pritchard—1872-1878

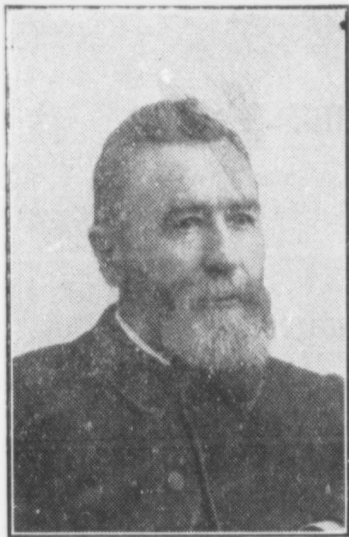
Rev. James Pritchard was born in Scotland, and received his education in Edinburgh and Toronto Universities, and Knox College. He was a faithful preacher of the word, and was highly esteemed by all who knew him. Mr. Pritchard continued as pastor of Bluevale, Eadie's and Wingham until 1876, when Wingham desired to stand alone, and Mr. Pritchard continued as pastor of Bluevale and Eadie's until 1878. He was called to his reward about four years ago.



Rev. D. G. McKay—1879-1881

Rev. D. G. McKay was of Highland Scotch blood and was born in Zorra, Oxford County, being educated at Toronto University and Knox College. He was called to the pastorate of Bluevale and Eadie's in 1879, and during the two years of his ministry endeared himself to many of the people. He now resides at Park River, North Dakota.

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Rev. A. Y. Hartley, M. A.—1882-1896.

The Rev. A. Y. Hartley was a native of Canada, and was educated for the Methodist ministry at Victoria University. After some years service in the Methodist Church he was received into the Presbyterian Church of Canada and was called in 1882 to the pastorate of Bluevale and Eadies where he continued in faithful service for fourteen years. Mr. Hartley was a faithful expounder of the Word and a widely read man. He was much beloved by the people and passed away peacefully in 1904.



Rev. W. J. West, M. A.—1897—

Rev. W. J. West was born in Durham County, Ontario. He was educated at Toronto University, Knox College and Edinburgh, where he enjoyed the privilege of taking lectures from Principal Dods, Professor Flint, Dr. Orr and Professor Davidson. On his return from Scotland he was called to the pastorate of Bluevale and Eadies, this being his first charge. Under his ministry Knox Church is prospering, both materially and spiritually. In 1904 a large barn was built for the accommodation of horses and in 1907 the present church edifice was erected, in which he took a great interest. He is much beloved by his people.

Session, 1908.

Rev. W. J. West, M. A., Moderator.

Robert Maxwell
James Elliott

John Burgess

Milton McVetty

Joseph Smith

George McDonald
Archibald Messer

Board of Managers.

Robert Black, Chairman.

R. N. Duff

Wm. Maxwell
F. Scott

James Moffatt

A. MacEwen
P. Fowler

John Burgess, Secretary-Treasurer

John McNaughton

J. Spence

Arch. Messer

J. C. Anderson

F. Anderson

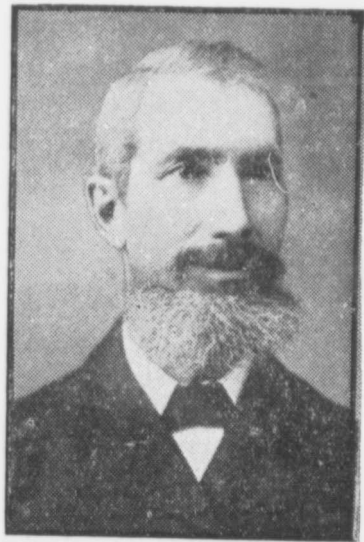
Trustees :

Wm. Maxwell, James Elliot, Phillip Thomas

Auditors :

R. N. Duff, A. MacEwen

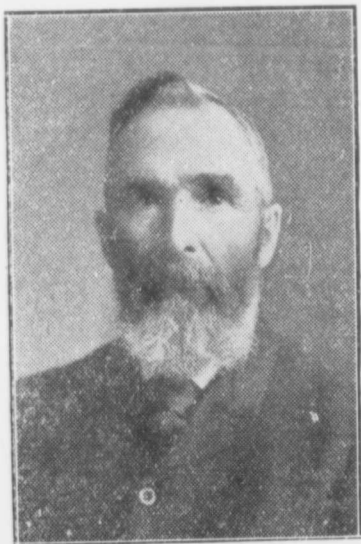
Elders, Bluevale Presbyterian Church



Robert Maxwell
Ordained and inducted, 27th December, 1866.



John Burgess
Ordained and inducted, 5th September, 1897.



James Elliott

Ordained and inducted, 5th September, 1897.



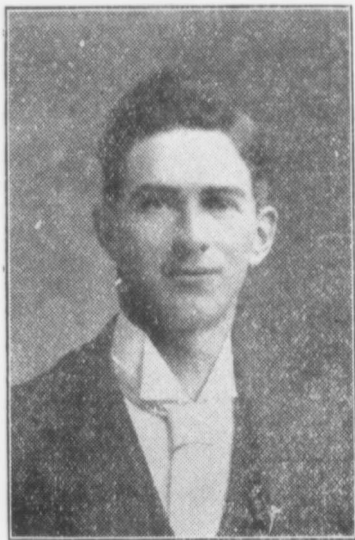
George McDonald

Ordained and inducted, 5th September, 1897.



Joseph Smith

Ordained at Dungannon, August 12th, 1881.
Inducted at Bluevale, 22nd May, 1904.

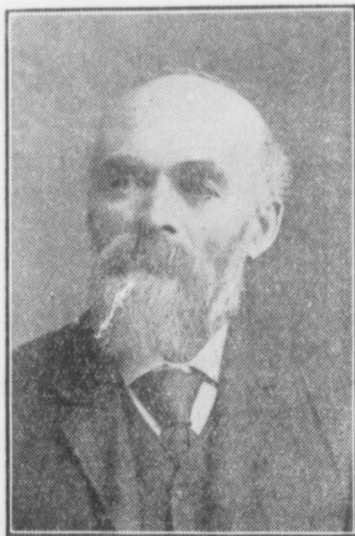


Archibald Messer

Ordained and inducted, 5th June, 1908.



Milton McVetty
Ordained and inducted, 5th June, 1908.



Wm. Isbister
For many years Precentor.

Sabbath School

R. N. Duff, Superintendent
Miss Agnes Aitcheson, Organist
TEACHERS—Rev. W. J. West
Miss M. Black, Secretary
Lyle McKinney, Librarian
Miss M. Anderson
Miss M. Aitcheson
Miss M. Collie
Miss M. Scott

Westminster Guild

Rev. W. J. West, Honorary President
Miss Nellie Burgess, Treasurer
Miss M. Duff, President
Miss Olive Scott, Secretary

Ladies' Aid Society

Miss Mary Collie, President
Mrs. Philip Thomas, Treasurer
Mrs. George McDonald, Secretary

Missionary Society

Mrs. (Rev) W. J. West, President
Mrs. Peter D. King, Treasurer
Miss M. Black, Secretary

Jubilee Services.

Sunday, December 6th.

Morning and Evening : Rev. J. B. Mullen, Fergus

Afternoon : Rev. D. B. McRae, Cranbrook

Monday, December 7th.

Tea from 6 to 8 p. m.

Entertainment after tea

The following speakers will give reminiscent and congratulatory addresses :—Revs. L. Perrin, Wroxeter ; J. Burnett, Molesworth ; D. B. McRae, Cranbrook ; Rev. Mr. Andrews, Bluevale ; Robt Maxwell, Turnberry ; and Rev. J. B. Mullen will give his popular address on “ Rambles through Great Britain.”