

Re-Dedication of Christ Church, Omeme.

Beautiful Oak Pulpit Presented by the Family of the Late W. Cottingham, Esq., in Loving Memory of their Parents.

Sunday, November 3, 1901, was a red-letter day in the history of Christ Church. The old Church has been removed from the old churchyard to the Rectory lot, a large basement has been built, new windows of Cathedral glass have been put in, the interior of the Church has been entirely renovated and the Church itself has been bricked; all this new work, the result of much labour and self-denial on the part of the congregation, was dedicated by prayers to the service of Almighty God. The Chancel was artistically decorated with flowers and palms; the whole Church had a festive appearance. The singing was hearty and the choir, assisted by Mrs. Morris, of Alliston, acquitted itself creditably indeed. Hymns, Psalms and prayers were all specially selected and prepared for the occasion, and the sermon invited the worshippers to take a retrospect on the past, to trace the good hand of the Lord in all His dealings with them individually and as a congregation.

Rev. E. A. Langfeldt, Rector of St. Lukk's Church, Ashburnham, and former Rector of Omeme and Emily, officiated and preached both morning and evening. As he was instrumental in bringing about the moving and renovating of the Church, the wardens and members of the Church honoured him by asking him to open and re-dedicate the new Church.

The service began with the singing of hymn 264 "O God our help in ages past." The opening sentences were: "Except the Lord build the house their labour is in vain that build it. Our help is in the name of the Lord, who hath made heaven and earth. The glorious Majesty of the Lord our God be upon us. Prosper thou the work of our hand upon us, O prosper thou our handiwork."

Then followed the regular office of morning prayer, the special Psalms were 103, 121, 138, and the special lessons: Joshua XXIII and St. Matthew XVI: 13-28. The choir rendered the anthem, "O give thanks unto the Lord." After the collect for the day, Rev. Mr. Langfeldt said the following dedicatory prayers:

"O most blessed Saviour, Who by Thy gracious presence at the feasts of dedication didst approve and honour these and such like religious services, be pleased so as to possess our souls by Thy presence, that we may be living temples, holy and acceptable unto Thee, and being cleansed from all carnal and corrupt affections may be devoutly given to serve Thee in good works, Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end! Amen."

"O, Most Gracious Lord, we acknowledge that we are not worthy to offer unto Thee anything belonging to us, yet we beseech Thee of Thy great goodness, graciously to accept the dedication of this Church to Thy service and to prosper this our undertaking. Receive the prayers and intercessions of all Thy servants who either now or hereafter entering into this Thine house, shall call upon Thee; and by Thy grace prepare our hearts to serve Thee with reverence and Godly fear. Fill us, we beseech Thee, with a deep sense of our unworthiness, that so approaching to Thy holy sanctuary with lowliness and devotion, and coming before Thee with pure hearts, with bodies undefiled and minds sanctified, we may always render a service acceptable to Thee through Jesus Christ, our Lord! Amen."

"O, God, without Whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy, sanctify and build up these walls to Thy honour and glory. Let the light of Thy holy presence ever shine upon them, and may Thy Holy Church, built upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Cornerstone, fitly framed together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, grow into an holy temple in the Lord! Amen."

Then followed the hymn 285 "The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord." After this Rev. Mr. Langfeldt ascended the pulpit, which is a memorial gift of the children of the Cottingham family, on whose estate both Church and Rectory are built. In dedicating the pulpit the reverend gentleman said the following prayer from the pulpit: "Blessed be Thy Name, O Lord, that it hath pleased Thee to put into the hearts of Thy servants to erect this pulpit in Thy honour and worship and to the memory of two of Thy saints. Bless, O Lord,

them, their families and their substance, and accept this work of their hands. Remember them concerning this, wipe not out this kindness that they have showed for the House of God and the officers thereof; and grant that all who shall enjoy the benefit of this pious work, may show forth their thankfulness by making a right use of the same to the glory of Thy Holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

After the prayer, Mr. Langfeldt preached the following sermon, from Joshua XXIII: 14, "Not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the Lord, your God, spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof."

No one would wish to open the new chapter of the history of this Church, until he had stopped to trace—in one or two of the passages—the way by which he has been led. And my duty is, Joshua-like, to try to help you in the retrospect.

Retrospect, indeed, like self-examination, of which it is a part, should be the exception of man's thoughts; and never be but as an aid to prospect.

But such an event as this, the reopening for divine service of the old Church, entirely renewed and enlarged, is an exceptional one. And God Himself says: "Thou shalt remember all the way by which the Lord thy God hath led thee."

Nevertheless, I know the danger and I speak cautiously. Forgetfulness is to the full as great a gift as memory. There is no attitude of God more kind and dear to us than that He forgets. "I will not remember." And life would be intolerable, if every memory preserved its bitterness! What should we do without the tonings of time—and the mellowings of age—and the oblivions of space?

What shall we say then? Shall we remember our joys and not our sorrows? Our victories and not our battles? God's grace and not our sins? Let all be in proportion,—expecting that the lights will be more than the shadows.

It is a gracious law of our nature, that we forget our sorrows more than our joys. God forbid that we should intrude upon so merciful an enactment!

But Joshua's rule will be always right. Remember much more what God has done to you, than what you have done either for God, or against God. "Not one thing has failed of all the good things which the Lord, your God, spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof."

But here an objection may at once arise. Some will say: "But I have had failures; many failures; and sometimes where I had a right to expect and command successes." And this thought may go further still: "Has God been always faithful to all His promises to me? Have I not asked Him what He has not given? Has He given me all the strength, and all the comfort, and all the peace, and all the good results, that I legitimately looked for at His hands?"

Now, as respects this objection, let me say this much. We are very poor judges of what is a failure,—for a temporal failure may be essential to a spiritual success; and the failure itself may be an actual part of a success, which success would not have been, unless the failure had, by stopping one path, thrown us into another, where that success lay; and the discipline of the disappointment may have been necessary to the safety of the attainment when it came.

Life is a book which can never be understood by reading one of its chapters.

And those who have lived long enough to know, from actual experience and observation, that very few, when they look back upon a long course, ever regret what they once called their failures and their trials; while many regret, bitterly regret, many things which they once called their prosperity. So that they have learned to place failures high up in the list of "the good things which the Lord spake concerning them."

Nor must we forget that, among "the good things" promised, were effort, and energy, and wisdom, and were not these given? And is it not because these were given, and not used, that therefore the failure came? for which failure, therefore, you only are responsible?

And consider yet two more things. It is only with promised things that we have to do. It is the "good things which the Lord our God spake concerning us." "Faith has its province only within the promise. If you go out of a promise you may have a general hope, but it is not faith."

Now, I ask: "Has any one distinctly promised thing not come to you? Have you ever yet once earnestly prayed for any spiritual blessing, then waited for it, and that blessing has not come?"

And once more—if it hath not come, it may be only because its time has not yet arrived. It may be on the road now, for God promises "when."

Having then, thus far, endeavoured to vindicate God, in those things which it might seem, at first sight, some of His truth hath "failed," let us go on to look at a few of those which we all have had in the God's exceeding faithfulness.

All these years—notwithstanding that this earth has teemed with woe, and notwithstanding that the poor so ungrateful to God, notwithstanding the grief for every one here,—notwithstanding the dearest relationships of life have so disjuncted and abused,—notwithstanding our sad divisions and records,—till the morning has succeeded the evening, and the evening succeeded the morning,—the church has never dropped a link; the time and harvest, the cold and the heat, have not ceased; and the high-noon of God's grace has never waned that mirror into which He Himself taught us to look for its reflection, the mountains shall depart, and hills be removed, but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be moved, saith the Lord, that hath mercy on thee."

So it has come to pass. Here we all gathered together, this morning, through God's faithfulness. Not you cut down! Here we are all to count up all our mercies!

Let us look, first, at some of the wider circles! Our national blessings have been very great in the past. After all fears and doubts our land has yielded her increase and with more than her usual abundance. The crops have filled your barns with plenty. Bread is cheap. Wages are high. Work is abundant. A spirit of peace and contentment is felt in all parts of our Dominion. No foe has molested us at home. Commerce is increased. Wealth was never so great. Loyalty has never swerved. Confidence stands firm. So the good hand of our God has been upon our land, and "not one thing has failed of all the good things which the Lord, your God, spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof."

Our Church has been greatly agitated with conflicting opinions; and opposite currents of thought have made the hearts of men to swell with their contending forces. But let us not forget, that this is in the promise: "I come not to send peace, but a sword."

In the midst of many distractions our Church has great tokens for good. We have not separated one from another; and our Church is whole. Every section of it is instinct with life and energy. The number of Churches have grown with unprecedented rapidity over the land. All the means of grace are multiplied. The Clergy are more earnest; the communicants have greatly increased and are increasing. You, by the grace of God have legions, enlarged and extended your Church; you have liberally given towards the accomplishment of a long-cherished wish of many, to have the sacred edifice removed to its present position, where it stands a lasting monument to the enthusiasm and activity of the members of the Church of England, in Omeme. For all these things, we can only adore God's faithfulness, and say: "To us belong shame and confusion of face, as it is this day; to the Lord our God belongeth mercy."

When I pass to things of private and personal interest, I come to subjects no less important, but less suited to this place; and I can only touch them superficially, with a light hand. One characteristic I am sure there has been in the history of God's dealings with everyone of us in the past: we have been always in a system of beautiful balance—the joys and the sorrows, the encouragements and the disappointments, the trials and the strength, the need and the supply have been in a strange equipoise. The whole Government of God has been compensatory.

We all have had our dark passages in the history of our Church—and our individual life: our mysteries; our gnawing grief—known only to ourselves, and the heavy discipline of a Father's hand. We could not quote Joshua's words if we had not. All those to whom those words were spoken had experienced, most painfully, the trials of life. They had wandered in a desert for forty years. Not one of those who stood there had either of his parents living. They had lost many who were dear to them. They had been led in paths which they knew not. Great had been their plagues, their punishments, their battles, their hard treatments, their defeats; but the presence of Jehovah had never left them: the manna and the water never ceased, again and again they had been foisted, and the strange ways all came right.

And now what was the end of it all? Two things: Humiliation and Canaan. "Forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee and to prove thee," and "to do thee good in thy latter end." So with us. Among "the good things which the Lord our God spake concerning us," afflictions are a very large part. See how He has bound them up with our best mercies: "Now the God of grace who hath called us unto His eternal glory by Jesus Christ, after that we have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you." And they have come.

Few of us have passed their years without some sorrow! To some—it has come crushingly and desolatingly, in the awful chaos of bereavement. To some—it has been the continual wear of some hidden grief, which could tell itself to no one! To some—it has been an anxiety, which never slept. To some—the daily friction of little

cares and worries. Some have been wounded by man! Some have been stricken by God's hand alone. Long and weary waitings have been the lot of some!

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These Skirts are made of plain and broadcloth black goods—well lined—The cloth and linings are worth \$2.25 to say nothing of the making. Our favorable purchase enables us to sell them at \$1.49.

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Ladies Semi fitting Box Coat, made of Imported Frieze, in Dark Gray and Black, high storm collars, double-breasted, finished with pearl buttons and ONLY \$4.75. This Coat is made of heavy Boucle Cloth, double-breasted, high collar; bias pockets, lined throughout. EXTRA VALUE AT \$5.00.

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For Fall, 1901.

For Ladies

All departments well stocked with the latest and best, Tweed Dress Suits, Black and Colored Seres, with trimmings to suit. Wrappettes—a large assortment in new and handsome designs. Our stock is fully assorted in Coats, dresses, dark Prints, Flannels and all Wool Finishes, a low stock of lace, embroideries and small wares.

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The largest and best stock of Clothing ever shown by us. Tweed suits, warranted suits, splendid goods and fine fitting Overcoats, also a case of Boy's Clothing, sizes from 24 to 35. Shirts and Drawers, Starfield's underwear made from pure wool, and warranted not to shrink in washing.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Both in Ladies' and Men's goods, principally Marsh's goods, no better goods made in Canada. Also American makes in Ladies' Hats. Our Import order of hats has just come to hand, for strength and flavor is unsurpassed. PAINTS—no need to say more than that we sell the Sherwin-Williams. HARDWARE—A car load of bar and hand iron, horse-shoes, horse nails, cut and wire nails, tarred sheeting, dry, plain sheeting, roofing felt, glass, putty, gate and barn door hinges, strap and T, hinges, bolts, locks and knobs, and everything to be found in a first-class Hardware Store, at as low prices as anywhere. We sell Rifles, Revolvers, Shot Guns and Ammunition and re-loading tools at right prices. When you want Lanterns, Cattle Chains or Horse Blankets give us a call. We solicit a continuance of your patronage.

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one might be found missing when the Lord would make up his jewels.

Mr. Langfeldt, also, on behalf of the Incoming Rector, Rev. J. H. Teney, and the wardens and members of the congregation, and personally thanked most heartily the pastor and members of the Presbyterian Church who so very kindly had permitted them to use their House of God for their services. He assured them that the already existing bands of brotherly respect and esteem would be strengthened between the two congregations by this christian act. He wished also to thank all and everyone who by their presence had expressed their interest in and sympathy with the members of the Church of England and he could assure them, that the Church of England in Omeme is and would be in hearty co-operation with anything designed to glorify God.

After the sermon Mrs. Morris, who was born on the spot where the Rectory now stands, a daughter of the late Squire Cottingham, sang a sacred solo: "Father in Heaven."

After the offertory, the congregation was dismissed with prayer and the Blessing. The offertories of the day amounted to about \$160. The members of the Church of England are indeed to be congratulated upon this auspicious occasion, and we wish them most heartily God's richest blessing upon their progress and prosperity.

A Bad Breath

A bad breath means a bad stomach, a bad digestion, a bad liver. Ayer's Pills are liver pills. They cure constipation, biliousness, dyspepsia, sick headache. 25c. All druggists.



ANNOUNCEMENT.—Having purchased the Drug Business formerly carried on under the firm name of ORMOND & WALSH, I will continue it under the same name. It will be my care to maintain the high reputation so long held by the business for reliable goods and for accuracy in the preparation of medicines and prescriptions. The stock will be mainly aimed at a high standard of excellence, inviting a continuance of patronage, very respectfully, DICKSON DAVIDSON.—3m.

Corporation of the County of Victoria.

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the Corporation of the County of Victoria will meet in the Council Chamber, in the

Court House, Lindsay Tuesday, Nov. 19th, 1901, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

J. R. McNEILLIE, COUNTY CLERK. County Clerk's Office, Lindsay, Nov. 7th, 1901.