

In the Spring of 1897, the Canada Atlantic Railway having been completed to Depot Harbor, the Company began to build docks and elevator, and by the spring of 1898 Depot Harbor had become a busy little village. In September of the same year Rev. Mr. Evans Incubent of Parry Sound began to hold Church Services in the C. A. R. Hotel dining room on Sunday afternoons. There were very few church people here then, but chief among them were Dr. C. O'Gorman, Messrs. J. F. Drewitt, Sutherland, A. W. Davis and J. Allan.

While the Hotel was being renovated services had to be held for a time in a shack called "The Black Diamond" until the Hall was built by Mr. J. R. Booth. But the Presbyterians having secured the Hall for morning and evening meetings and for S. S. in the afternoon, it was scarcely possible to get a Sunday Service in. Services were held, however, late in the afternoon, but this arrangement was found to be a very poor one. But the faithful few persevered, and in Jan. 1901, the people petitioned the Bishop to send them a resident student or catechist. In May of the same year Mr. McKittrick (student) was sent to the mission. During the following summer things became almost intolerable in the Hall so the people decided to build a church. At a meeting held to consider the advisability of building a church \$115.00 was subscribed. Mr. McKittrick was removed in Dec. 1901 and was succeeded by Mr. A. W. Behrends.

By March 1902 there were \$700.00 on hand for the church building.

The C. A. R. Co. gave two lots for Church and Parsonage sites. During the following summer the construction of a church building was begun.

The following donations were received; 2000 ft of rough lumber from the Parry Sound Lumber Co. and \$40.00 of shingles from Mr. J. R. Booth of Ottawa.

In Oct. 1902 Mr. Behrends was removed and the Services were kept up till Dec. by Rev. T. E. Chilcott Rector of Parry Sound, and his lay-reader Mr. James.

By January 1903 the Church building was completed having cost \$1137.00, not counting seats or furniture, and was opened for Divine Service by Bishop Thorneloe on Jan. 4th. Rev. Rural Dean Gilmour of Rosseau, and Rev. J. Pardoe of Novar were present also. There were sixty people present at morning service, and 20 communicants, 75 present at Evening service.

The Church had been furnished with most of the necessary furnishings. The following are some of the donations received; Mr. J. W. Smith of Orrawa two brass vases, Mr. C. J. Smith colored glass for windows, Alderman Rosenthal of Ottawa a silver offertory plate. Mr. Mountain, Mr.

Donaldson and other C. A. R. Officials, two Rochester lamps complete, three bracket lamps and fourteen yards of cocoa matting. Mr. Ogilvie two large station lamps, Parry Sound W. A. Lectern and Prayer Desk, Mr. Ireland of Parry Sound made the Altar and presented it to the Church. A box was received from England containing 12 prayer books for the choir, one hymn book for the organ, 15 hymns A. Ni., 1 large Bible, Altar books a brass alms dish, 2 brass vases, a silver communion service, communion linen, 2 altar cloths, hanging for lectern and prayer desk, a floral cross, 1 suplice and two hassocks.

The Organ was bought in November 1902 and was paid for by the choir.

The Services were continued by the Incumbent of Parry Sound till May 1903 when Mr. Peck (Catechist) arrived and conducted services till Feb. 1904.

From that date till following July no services were held. In July Rev. Rural Dean Allman of Emsdale opened the church again and assisted by Mr. Clarke (student) continued the services till September, when the Church was closed again till Oct. 12th when Mr. F. W. Major (student) arrived to take up the work. There was a small debt on the church still, which by the kindness of Mr. J. F. Pratt was cancelled.

On Feb. 12th, 1905 the Church was consecrated by the Bishop and at the same time the first confirmation service was held, when six persons received the holy rite.

The Rev. A. G. E. Westmacott Colonizing to the Diocese of Toronto on leave, took charge as Locum Tenens on May 6th, 1906. A Memorial Brass Altar Cross was presented by Miss Dunn in memory of her Sister, 1906.

During the spring and summer of 1907 money for the purchase of a Bell was raised by Subscriptions from friends in Depot Harbour and others outside, which together with the proceeds of 4 entertainments sufficient money was raised by the beginning of September to enable us to send for the Bell.

The Bell arrived in December. A small temporary Bell cover was erected over the Porch, it was placed in position on Dec. 21st. After a short dedication service on Xmas Day it was rung for the first time for Service at 11 A. M. Xmas Day 1907. The Bell weighs without mounting 402 lbs, with mounting 660 lbs. The Bell is in the key of E. It was cast by the Menorby Co of Water---, N. Y. in addition to the name of Foundry it has cast on it I was given by friends in Depot Harbour, Diocese of Algoma 1907. "When I do ring God's praises sing. When I do toll pray heart and soul." The cost of the Bell delivered was \$185.00 paid for building small turret \$15.00.

1908 on Easter Day at the morning service a Brass Altar Desk was presented by the members of the congregation, it was dedicated with an appropriate Service.

On Xmas Day 1909 just before the 10.30 A. M. service a very handsome Font of Red Sandstone was dedicated by the Missionary in charge, the Rev. A. G. E. Westmacott missionary in charge Locum Tenens of the Diocese of Toronto. The Font stands on a stone step 6 inches high, and projects 12 inches all round, with a square base in centre of step on the four corners are carved bases with octogon shafts with carved capitals carved out of the solid bowl. The bowl is pierced through the shaft so as to carry off the water which is carried by a pipe underneath the floor through the wall to outside of building. The Font was the gift of St. Margaret's Church Toronto on their amalgamating with St. George's Congregation. On a brass plate is engraved -erected to the Glory of God, and in loving memory of Anna Naomi Battis by the Chancel Guild of St. Margaret's. On the step "To the Glory of God and in the loving memory of Anna Naomi Battis, died Nov. 6th, 1891".

During the summer of 1911 funds were solicited for placing a furnace underneath the Church which was done before the beginning of the winter. The furnace cost \$144.00 and labour connected with its erection \$145.00, a window and door underneath the church was paid for by the A. Y. P. S. At Xmas, 1911 a brass water pail for the Font water was given. At Easter 1910 a handsome Altar Frontal in white was given and two white hangings for prayer desk and lectern were also given.

On June 30th 1912 Rev. A. G. E. Westmacott resigned owing to ill health and was succeeded temporarily by Mr. Wells student. The Rev. Charles E. Emerson was appointed to succeed Rev. Westmacott and left Sept. 20th 1914. On 23rd October 1914 the Rev. Alfred Percy Bands, (L. Th. Trinity College Toronto) a priest of this Diocese returned from leave in England, took temporary charge. He was subsequently appointed by the Bishop and inducted as Priest in charge on Sexagesima Sunday, 7th February 1915. On St. George's Day 1915, a new Chalice and Paten, with cruets and wafer-box was received as a gift from the Girls' Auxiliary of St. Stephen's Church, Toronto. On Whitsunday 1915, a new Altar of oak was given by Messes. P. J. Nolan and A. F. Butterworth in commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the consecration of the Church, and dedicated at the 11 A.M. Eucharist. On Christmas Day 1915 there were also dedicated a pair of brass candlesticks given by the W. A. of Byng Inlet on condition that they are used; and a new red velvet superfrontal the gift of the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine Toronto - Also a fair linen cloth given by the Algoma Association.