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Christ Church Cathedral

Victoria, B. C.

A SHORT HISTORY

Published for Private Circulation Only

by

Frederick V. Longstaff

Former Vestry Clerk for 21 Years

1951 — Published by the Author

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MAJOR F. V. LONGSTAFF,
50 KING GEORGE TERRACE,
VICTORIA, B. C.

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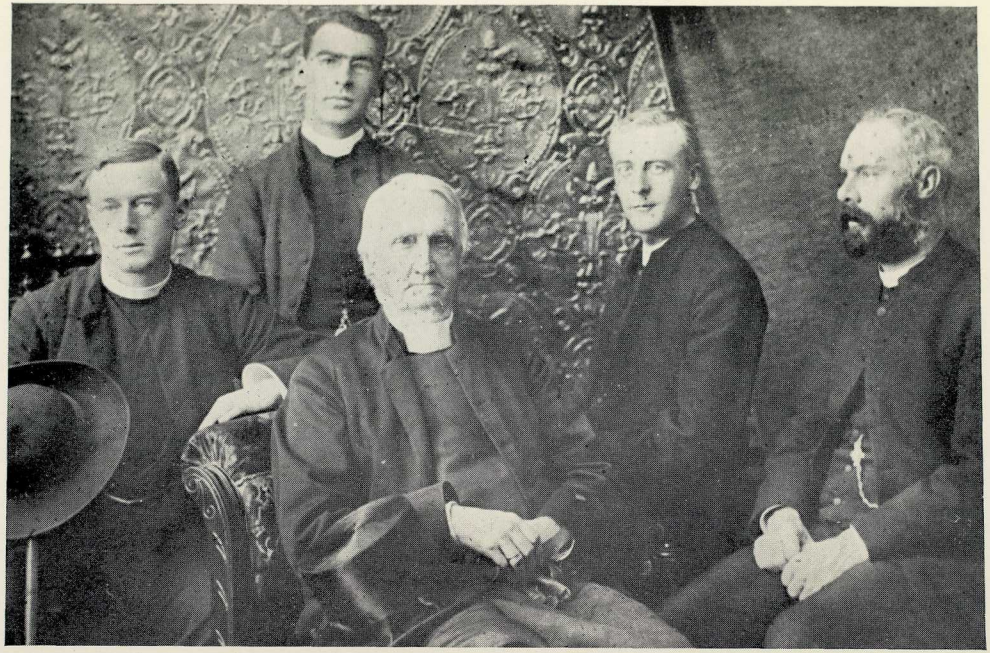
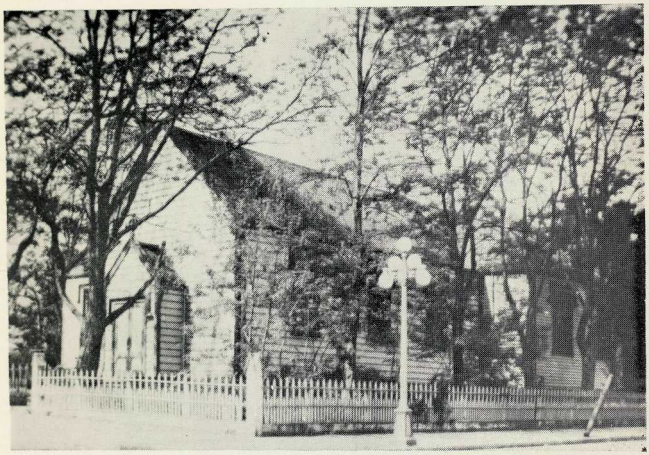


J. B. Hewetson, M.A. Reverend W. H. Arden Bishop Hills Canon Beanlands Archdeacon Scriven

Second Cathedral from North, 1881



Old School Hall, 1883-1938

Bishop Doull, Bishop Schofield, Dean Quainton
About 1924

The Hudson's Bay Company

The beginning of the Cathedral came about through the activity of the Hudson's Bay Company. The Governors of the Company took an interest in Christian matters at an early date. The earliest instructions extant forwarded by the Governor and Committee to the resident Governor of Rupert's Land were in 1680, and began with the paragraph as follows:

"In the first place Wee do strictly enjoy you to have public prayers and reading of the Scriptures or some other religious Books wheresoever you shall be resident, at least upon the Lord's Day. As also to order the several Chiefs in each factory under your command to do the same. That wee who profess to be Christians may not appear more barbarous than the poor Heathens themselves who have not been instructed in the knowledge of the true God. This is what we have formerly directed, and have sent over the proper books for the use of the Factory, to wit, the Common Prayer Book, the Bible, and the Book of Homilies which contains choice and well approved sermons. But wee understand there hath been little or no use made of them heretofore, which neglect wee desire you will reform for the future, that wee may more reasonably expect the blessing of God to attend your endeavours and to prosper ye interest of ye Company."

These instructions were written in 1680, only ten years after the Company received its Charter and were addressed to John Nixon, second Governor of Rupert's Land.

The earliest Anglican congregation north of the Spanish Missions in California, began on the Columbia River at Fort Vancouver, the Pacific Headquarters of the Hudson's Bay Company. The year was 1836, and the chaplain was the Reverend Herbert Beaver, B.A., who had been at Oxford, at Queen's College; he matriculated on 7th February, 1817, aged 16. He took his B.A. in 1821, was ordained Deacon at Lincoln Cathedral 22nd September and Priest at the same Cathedral in September, 1823. He was Curate of Kirkby Mallory, Leicestershire, on 22nd September, 1822. In 1825 he was appointed to St. Lucia, British West Indies, where he was at first both Army Chaplain and Rector of Castries. The records show he was the first resident Anglican Priest in St. Lucia after it became a British Colony. He arrived at Fort Vancouver with his wife on the sailing ship *Columbia*, in May, 1836. The Company had sent out certain books and a silver Communion set with the arms of the Company engraved on them, and three register books bound in vellum, for Births, Marriages and Burials. But the Chief

Factor, John McLoughlin had not troubled to put up any building for a church. The Chaplain and his wife only had a room in the large house inside the Fort, but no privacy at all. The Chaplain began to use the Registers and they are still with us in the Synod vault. The Reverend Beaver could not stand the atmosphere of hostility of McLoughlin, so he resigned and sailed home with his wife in November, 1838, arriving in England in May, 1839. He did not, after all, bring a suit against John McLoughlin for personal assault.

The silver Communion plate and the three Register books were left behind at the Fort, and were later moved to Fort Victoria. Entries by the naval chaplains are found in the Registers as well as by missionaries on the coast, before the arrival of the Reverend Robert John Staines, B.A., where they gave their services to the servants of the Company and others who asked for it. The Company was anxious to continue the services of a Chaplain at the new Depot, Fort Victoria, and after interviewing many priests, it found one, the Reverend Robert John Staines. He went up to Trinity Hall College, Cambridge, and took his degree in 1845. The new Chaplain arrived in the barque *Columbia* from England at Fort Victoria in 1849 with his wife Emma Frances. The Reverend Staines took over the Company's silver Communion set and the three Register Books. In addition to the work as the Chaplain of the Fort, he taught the children of the Company's servants and staff, for which he was paid £ 200 and £ 300, respectively. He got the Company to prepare to build a Church and the construction began in 1853. It should be remembered that at that time the Company carpenters were few in number at the Fort and lumber was in limited supply. Hence three years were taken to complete even the outside.

17th March 1849

The few free settlers claimed that the Company was obstructing free settlement, and the Reverend Staines joined this party against the Company. He was chosen to travel to England to present the grievances of the settlers directly to the Colonial Office. He sailed after the 25th February, 1854, from Sooke, in the *Duchess of San Lorenzo*, with the intention of transferring to another ship at San Francisco. However, off Cape Flattery the cargo shifted in a gale, the vessel foundered and Reverend Staines perished.

Let us introduce the first Dean, the Reverend Edward Cridge, of St. Peter's College, Cambridge, who took his degree of B.A. in 1848. He was ordained Priest in 1849, and was appointed Curate at North Waltham, Norfolk. He had been a master at Oundle School before ordination. The Directors of the Company in London chose him as Chaplain and, leaving England, he arrived at Fort Victoria on April 1st, 1855, by the sailing

ship *Marquis of Bute*, to serve the Company. He was also in charge of the Colonial School from 1856 to 1874.

In 1856 Governor Douglas issued an Ordinance which gave the two Church Wardens power to hold and administer the property of the Colonial Church and for the Chaplain to conduct services, so that the Reverend Cridge was able to hold the first service in the Colonial Church building on Sunday, August 31st, of that year. Here is a copy of the Ordinance: "An Ordinance establishing regulations for the arrangement of the affairs of the Colonial Church at Victoria." dated 2. aug. 1856

"Whereas it being considered expedient and satisfactory to the public that certain regulations for the due ordering and arrangement of the affairs of the Colonial Church at Victoria be immediately established,

"Be it therefore enacted as follows by the Governor and Council, and by the authority vested in the same:

"1st. That two Church Wardens be appointed, one by the Resident Minister for the time being and the other by the renters of sittings, being adults, the constituents for the election being determined by the Governor and Council.

"2nd. That the Church Wardens be elected annually on the second Wednesday in August for every succeeding year.

"3rd. That the Church Wardens with the Minister for the time being, appoint the sittings to the people according to priority of application and be empowered to order such alterations in the seats as may be desired by applicants for greater convenience, such alterations to be made at the expense of the parties applying and to be in the proportion with the other seats of the Church; providing nevertheless that nothing herein contained will create any property in the sittings or pews. That they also attend to the repairs of the Church; to the arrangements necessary to the decent and orderly conduct of Divine worship, and of the other officers of the Church; and to such other matters as usually fall to this office in the Church of England.

"4th. That fifty of the sittings be free and the remainder be let at an annual rent of five shillings for a single sitting and for children under the age of fifteen, half that sum; and for a single bench fifteen shillings; and that the sum thus obtained go to the repairs of the Church and Church yard, the payment of the sub-officials and other current expenses.

"5th. That four pews at the east end of the Church be specially allotted to the use of the Governor for the time being; the Chief Justice and Members of the Legislative Council and Assembly; and a pew or seats to be allotted to the use of the Colonial Chaplain for the time being.

"6th. That there be fees; namely, for a funeral including the digging of the grave and tolling the bell, one pound sterling; for a marriage, ten shillings; for an extract from any of the Registers, two shillings and sixpence, all these fees to be applied to tne same objects as the pew rents.

"7th. That the receipts and disbursements of these sums to be transacted by the Minister and the Church Wardens for the time being, who shall give an annual statement of their accounts before an assembly of the constituents, but that the application of the Sacrament alms be left to the members of the Church who contribute them."

(Signed) James Douglas, Governor.

2. Aug. 1856.

THE BEGINNING OF THE CATHEDRAL

Eleven days after the above Ordinance was issued the Incumbent held a meeting of renters of sittings and appointed two Church Wardens. 13, Aug. 1856

"In pursuance of Rule 2 a notice was issued by Reverend Edward Cridge, Incumbent, convening a Vestry meeting of Renters of Sittings for the purpose of appointing two Church Wardens.

"On Wednesday, August 13th, 1856, a Vestry meeting was held pursuant to the said Notice. Present: Messrs. Work, Finlayson, A. Pemberton, Doctor Kennedy; Reverend E. Cridge presided. The Chaplain appointed A. Pemberton, Esquire, as his Church Warden and the Vestry elected R. Finlayson, Esquire, as People's Warden."

For five years the work of the Colonial Church was carried on without any Parish Comittee, but simply by the two Wardens. A Vestry meeting of the Pew Holders of Christ Church (Victoria District Church) was held on a Tuesday evening in August, 1861, at the Collegiate School-room. The meeting was numerously attended and was convened for the purpose of electing a Church Comittee in accordance with Resolutions proposed at a united meeting of the Pew Holders of Christ Church and St. John's on June 15th. The Reverend E. Cridge was in the chair. It was proposed by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Pemberton, "That out of the following list twelve be elected to serve as a Church Committee till the annual meeting in August next." A list of twenty names of Pew Holders was then read, and the resolution carried unanimously. The meeting then proceeded to the election, and the following gentlemen were declared duly elected: A. C. Anderson, J. J. Cochrane, J. Coles, H. P. Crease, J. D'Ewes, F. Lester, J. F. McCreight, Q.C., W. J.

McDonald, Captain J. Nagle, W. B. Naylor, J. W. Trutch and B. W. Pearse.

The Diocese of British Columbia was made possible in November, 1859, by an endowment of £25,000 from the Baroness Burdett-Coutts. On the 12th January, 1859, Letters Patent were issued under the Great Seal to erect the Colonies of British Columbia and Vancouver's Island into a Bishop's See to be called the Bishopric of British Columbia, and appointing the Reverend George Hills, D.D., to be Bishop of the said See.

"Whereas the doctrine and discipline of the United Church of England and Ireland are professed and observed by many of Our loving subjects resident within Our Colonies or Territories of British Columbia and Vancouver's Island respectively as each of the same is at present established. And whereas Our said subjects are deprived of some of the Offices prescribed by the Liturgy and usage of the Church aforesaid, by reason that there is not a Bishop residing or exercising jurisdiction and Canonical functions within the same and whereas for remedy of the aforesaid inconveniences We have determined to erect Our said Colonies or Territories of British Columbia and of Vancouver's Island into a Bishop's See or Diocese to be styled 'The Bishoprick of British Columbia'; Now know ye that in pursuance of such Our Royal intention We by these Our Letters Patent under the Great Seal of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland do erect, found, make and ordain and constitute Our said Colony or Territory of British Columbia as at present established and Our said Colony or Territory of Vancouver's Island as at present established, into a Bishop's See or Diocese and do declare and ordain that the same shall be styled 'The Bishoprick of British Columbia.' "

The full Letters Patent are long and contain much repetition of the words "See of British Columbia," etc., so that there is not space enough to print it in full.

We now come to the leader who was to erect the two Colonies on the west coast of North America into the See and Diocese of British Columbia with the authority of Letters Patent. This was the Reverend George Hills, who was the son of Admiral Hills, of Clare, Suffolk. He was ordained Deacon on March 8, 1840, and Priest in December of the same year. He attended Durham University, where he took the degree of B.A. with honours 1836, M.A. in 1838. His first parish was at Tynemouth, then St. Mary's, Leeds, in 1846, then Great Yarmouth in 1848, where he was appointed Canon of Norwich Cathedral. In 1859 he was consecrated the first Bishop of British Columbia

by the Archbishop of Canterbury and other Bishops, on 24th February, in Westminster Abbey. He arrived at Esquimalt on 6th January, 1860, where he was met by Reverend R. J. Dundas, M.A., and together they walked knee deep through the mud to Victoria, where he first called on the Governor, and then was shown to his little frame house, which was in fact just a shack. Writing soon after his arrival he says: "The congregation I am preaching to here every Sunday contains a larger proportion of shrewd, thinking, intelligent, educated gentlemen than any in England outside of London. It is a remarkable sight; five-sixths are men, and the church holds 400, and is quite full." He remarks on the number of Clergy required for congregations in the interior of the Colony. Bishop Hills found there were many posts to be filled up, namely: Yale, Lytton, Cayoosh, Alexander, Kamloops. On Vancouver Island there were Nanaimo and Esquimalt. The Reverend Robert J. Dundas, M.A., a Missionary on a special fund, ministered at the Mission Chapel at Esquimalt in the afternoon and held services in the Court House at Victoria in the morning and evening. There were also the Reverend R. Dowson at Craigflower, Reverend John Sheepshanks, M.A., at New Westminster, Reverend W. B. Crickmer at Langley, the Reverend A. B. Pringle at Hope, and Reverend James Gammage at Douglas. All these were being paid by the several Missionary Societies. This gives an idea of what Bishop Hills had to attend to and encourage in the pioneer Church work in those early days. It is interesting to note that the Reverend John Sheepshanks was consecrated Bishop of Norwich in 1893.

7th Dec.

At last in 1865 the deeds of the land where the Colonial Church had been built were completed and in the hands of Bishop Hills, so that he was able to consecrate the building, and this service took place on December 7th, as recorded in the See Act Book. Among the congregation were Governor Kennedy, Captain Lord Gilford, R.N., and Captain T. P. Coode, R.N. After the service the Bishop appointed the Reverend Edward Cridge to be Dean, who then was inducted and took the oath. On the same day the Bishop appointed the Church to be the Cathedral of the Diocese until further notice. The Colonial Church was not the first to be consecrated on the Island, as St. John's Iron Church was consecrated on 13th September, 1860, and St. Paul's Church at Nanaimo was consecrated on 27th August, 1865. After the Cathedral came the consecration of St. Paul's Church at Esquimalt Naval Dockyard on December 12th, 1866. The first Cathedral was burnt in September, 1869, and after a great effort enough money was raised to build a new Church, although regretfully wood and not stone was the material used, and it was consecrated on December 5th, 1872.

About thirty years later additions were made to enlarge the Cathedral, a north aisle was added and later the whole west end was enlarged. There is constant mention in the Minute Book of money being spent on repair and alterations to the heating furnace.

According to "The Manuscript See Book" there were three Registrars before a Chancellor was first appointed in 1912. The first was Mr. Edward Graham Alston, B.A., the Colonial Government Registrar, who was appointed Diocesan Registrar in 1866, on December 11th. His last signature in the book was on April 13th, 1869, when Bishop Hills appointed a Standing Committee for managing temporal affairs during his absence from the Diocese.

In "Crockford's Clerical Directory" of 1896 Judge M. W. Tyrwhitt Drake is shown as Chancellor, but there is no record of this in the Books. His first signature in the Book was on 18th April, 1872, and every signature is marked as "Registrar." The last signature of Judge Drake was on 21st December, 1889. The appointment of Lindley Crease, Esquire, as Registrar was dated July 6th, 1891, while his first signature was on October 20th, 1890. Here are the words of the appointment: "George of Divine Permission, Bishop of British Columbia, to our well beloved Lindley Crease greetings . . . Do hereby appoint you to be Registrar within our Diocese of British Columbia and do invest you with all and singular the rights, members, privileges and appurtenances thereunto belonging to have and to hold the said office and premises during our will and pleasure." Lindley Crease was appointed Chancellor by Bishop J. C. Roper in 1912, on February 24th.

The appointment of Edward Ernest Wootton, Esquire, to the office of Registrar (the third) was on October 29th, 1908. He died on 27th August, 1944, and was succeeded by his son, Robert Alexander Wootton, as fourth Registrar, who was appointed on March 15th, 1945.

Chancellor Lindley Crease, K.C., died on February 15th, 1940, his funeral taking place on Saturday, 17th, in the Cathedral. Bishop Sexton officiated, assisted by the Right Reverend Bishop G. E. Lloyd, D.D. Arthur Douglas Crease, K.C., his brother, was appointed to succeed him on May 30th, 1940.

1871. Mr. William C. Ward, banker, who managed the Bank of British Columbia from 1866, at the age of 25, was appointed Rector's Warden in 1871, during the raising of the funds for the rebuilding of the Cathedral after the fire. He regretted the funds were not enough to be able to build it of stone. He was People's Warden in 1877, 1882, 1883 and 1884. In 1891 he became Auditor to the Synod, and from 1893 to 1896

was Treasurer. Before his retirement and departure from Victoria he had been of great help to Bishops Hills and Perrin. His death occurred in California during 1922, upon his return from England.

1872. In May Lieutenant-Governor Trutch laid the foundation stone of the second Cathedral.

1874. Dean Cridge refusing orders of Bishop Hills, the latter felt compelled to revoke the Licence he had granted him to preach in the Diocese, whereupon the Reverend Cridge, his Wardens, many of the Committee and the Congregation left the Cathedral. New Wardens were appointed and a new Committee elected, and the Bishop appointing himself to the office of Dean, giving much of his time to Parish work. This was serious for the Diocese, which then consisted of the whole of what is now the Province of British Columbia, yet relief was coming, for in 1879 a great change was made. Under the authority of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the authorities of the Church of England in British Columbia, the original Diocese was divided into three Dioceses, namely:

British Columbia—Bishop George Hills, D.D.

New Westminster—Bishop Windeyer Sillitoe, D.D.

Caledonia—Bishop William Ridley, D.D.

Both Bishops Sillitoe and Ridley were appointed by Queen Victoria by Royal Licence. The first was consecrated at St. John's Parish Church at Croydon on 1st November, 1879, and the latter at St. Paul's Cathedral on July 25th, 1879. The first was a Cambridge graduate, where he took his M.A. in 1866, and the latter a graduate of the Church Missionary College at Islington.

1875. Bishop Hills constituted the parishes of Christ Church and St. John's on September 30th, detailing the bounds of the same. 'instituted June

1878. Bishop Hills left the Diocese in ~~May~~ for a year's trip to England and ~~appointed~~ the Reverend George Mason, ~~B.A.~~ M.A. Oxford, the Rector of Nanaimo, to be the ~~acting Rector~~ of the Cathedral during his absence. + DEAN.

1884. The first Archdeacon, according to the See Act Book of Vancouver Island, in the person of Reverend Augustine Scriven, was appointed by Bishop Hills on November 14th. He had attended St. Mary Hall, Oxford, received B.A. in 1875, and M.A. in 1885, being ordained Deacon in 1875 and Priest in 1876. Had sole charge of Kirkham 1875-78. Frindsbury Kent 1878-80, Martinhoe Devonshire 1880-81, St. Peter Rochester 1882-84. The Reverend Arthur Beanlands was appointed Curate at the Cathedral on October 9th, and Rector in 1892.

+ 6. June 1878 – 26 June 1880

1884

There were Archdeacons before Scriven but records have not all been found. E.V.L.

MASON TO DEAN.

and Canon in 1891. He attended Durham University and rereived B.A. in 1876, and M.A. in 1891; was ordained Deacon in 1881, Priest in 1883. He was rector of Chieveley, Berkshire, 1882-83, and of Aylesbury 1883-86. Hon. Chaplain to the Governor-General 1895-1909. Chaplain to the Bishop 1884-1909.

1892. Bishop Hills, after having ruled his See for 32 years, felt the time had come for him to resign and retire, so he dated his resignation to the authority who had consecrated him, namely, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the 15th November, 1892, and his last recorded act was the consecration of Ross Bay Cemetery on October 3rd of the same year. He left Victoria on November the 3rd.

1893. Bishop William Willcox Perrin was consecrated in Westminster Abbey by the Archbishop of Canterbury on March 25th of that year. He obtained his B.A. at Oxford in 1870, and M.A. in 1873. Fellow of Kings College, London, 1901; sole charge of St. Mary at Southampton, 1871-81; Vicar of St. Luke's, Southampton, 1881-1893. He arrived in the steamship *Islander* on May 18th, 1893, with his sister, and conducted a service in the Cathedral on the same day.

1893. There was a great change this year in the consecration of Canadian Bishops, for the Most Reverend Robert Machray, D.D., Lord Archbishop of Rupert's Land 1893-1904, and Metropolitan of Rupert's Land 1875-1904, was elected Primate of All Canada by the House of Bishops of the General Synod of the Church of England in Canada on September 19th.

1897. An outstanding layman who gave many years of hard and faithful service to the Parish, the Cathedral and the Diocese was the late Mr. Alphonsus John Dallain, a Dominion Civil Servant. He was elected to the Parish Committee in 1897, serving until 1930, and was for many years on the Synod and its Executive and Warden for a few years. He died on December 27th, 1942.

1909. The first paid Lay Secretary to the Synod was Mr. F. W. Blankenbach, who became a parishioner at St. Luke's, Cedar Hill, in 1900, coming from the Prairies. He was elected a Lay Delegate to Synod in 1905, then Lay Secretary. In 1910 one room was rented in the Pemberton Building as the Synod Office, and a strong box in the basement was used for storage of documents.

1910. The ~~second~~ third Dean of the Cathedral was the Reverend Alexander John Doull, M.A. He was instituted Dean on June 15th. He was at Oriel College, Oxford, B.A. in modern history in 1894, M.A. in 1898. Was at Cuddesdon College in 1895, ordained Deacon in 1896, Priest in 1898. Sole charge

of Leeds 1896-99, Rector of the Church of the Advent in Montreal 1901. The Dean helped to introduce the use of duplex envelopes, and 126 subscribers brought in a total of $3,911 in the first year, and thus his stipend was raised. In those days the pews were paid for, but this did not raise enough income for the increased expense.

1912. The Reverend John Charles Roper, Keble College Oxford (B.A. 1881), Denyer and Johnson School 1882, M.A. 1884, Ellerton Essay 1885. At General Seminary, New York, D.D. 1898. Ordained Deacon 1882, Priest 1883, Parish of Hurstmonceux in Sussex 1882-84. Keble Professor of Divinity, Trinity College, Toronto, 1886-89, at St. Thomas's, Toronto, 1889-97, Professor of General Theology in the Seminary, New York, 1897-1912. As Canada now had her own Primate, no Canadian Bishop could be consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Hence Bishop Roper was consecrated by Archbishop Robert Machray, D.D., in Christ Church Cathedral on 24th February, assisted by the Bishops of Caledonia, New Westminster, Qu'Appelle, Olympia, Oregon, Eastern Oregon and Alaska. Bishop Roper was elected to the See of Ottawa on 23rd February, 1915.

1915. The Archdeacon of Vancouver Island, Reverend Augustine Scriven, M.A., of Oxford, 1888, was, on the translation of Bishop Roper to Ottawa, elected by the Synod to be Bishop of British Columbia. He was consecrated on the 24th August by Archibishop Du Vernet, D.D., the Metropolitan of British Columbia, at Christ Church Cathedral, assisted by other Bishops. In 1884, after being appointed Archdeacon, he was for ten years Rector of St. James' Parish in James Bay. When the duties of Archdeacon became heavy he resigned the Parish to Archdeacon J. H. S. Sweet, M.A., and devoted his time entirely to the inspecting of Churches and Rectories and Halls. In the early days he frequently was called upon to preach four times on a Sunday, having to make many of the journeys on foot.

On the death of Bishop Scriven on Monday, 19th June, 1916, at Sandwick, Dean Schofield was elected Bishop and consecrated in Christ Church Cathedral on 30th November, 1916, by Archbishop F. H. Du Vernet, D.D., the Metropolitan of British Columbia, and other Bishops.

1917. The Reverend Cecil Samuel Quainton (M.A. Cambridge 1906) was chosen as the new Dean and instituted in the Cathedral on 20th February, 1917. He attended Queen's College, Cambridge, ordained Deacon 1894, Priest 1895. Rector of Holmfirth, Diocese of Wakefield, in 1900, Great Yarmouth 1894-99, St. Matthew at Brandon 1909-1917. He retired on 21st September, 1937, and died on 25th February, 1938, at St.

Martin's, Ruislip, Middlesex. His ashes and those of his wife are now laid next to the Cathedral Foundation stone. Let Mrs. Schofield speak: "Then there was our Dean, as different as chalk is from cheese from either Bishop or Archdeacon. His contribution was the gift of tongue coupled with an enthusiasm and the vigour that was like a stream of hot lava sweeping all before him, though not quite so demolishing. Not persuasion or cajolry but a kind of high-power hydraulic pump and dynamo combined he was, and he forced us to listen; he stirred our imaginations. He chafed at the business detail of many meetings but he never played truant. 'I am completely worn out,' he cheerfully remarked after one long session, 'but that Bishop of ours is still brisk as a bee; it will be slow death by exhaustion for the rest of us.' And then he would back up his Bishop more vigorously than ever."

1917. The Parish Roll of Parishioners on war service, compiled by Miss Phyllis Wollaston and Miss Maud Lettice, was framed and hung in the Cathedral. Miss Wollaston did all the illumination around the sheet.

1918. Mr. Walter S. Miles, at the Vestry meeting, was first elected as chief sidesman on 21st January. At that time the names of the sidesmen were written in the Minutes. These have since been copied into a special book for future use.

First on Committee MILES and LONGSTAFF Vestry 10. Jan. 1921.

THE COMING OF THE NEW CATHEDRAL

1891. Shortly before Bishop Hills' resignation another effort was made to raise a fund towards the cost of building a stone Cathedral, and a few thousand dollars were raised. A design had been secured when Mr. J. C. M. Keith won the competition.

In 1913, under the guidance of Bishop Roper, the Cathedral Building Committee was formed but not incorporated. During 1919 the first challenge of Bishop Schofield was made urging a Memorial Hall as a peace thankoffering, and a Diocesan Jubilee celebration was organized. The sum of $250,000 was raised towards the erection of the Cathedral and a building campaign authorized.

In 1920, the Cathedral parishioners authorized the transfer of the Bishop from the old iron house on the old site to the new one, the house of Doctor I. W. Powell, thus clearing the way for the foundations of the new Cathedral. During 1921, the Synod authorized the re-appointment of the Christ Church Cathedral Buildings Limited and empowered it to place before the Diocese a comprehensive scheme for the new buildings. The Christ Church Cathedral Buildings Limited was registered as a company by the Provincial Government on September 29th, 1921.

8.11.1928. Dean Quainton appointed F.W. Longstaff to office of Vestry Clerk until further notice canon XII. para 6.

The first ordinary general meeting of the directors was held at Room 224, Pemberton Building, on Thursday, July 13th, 1922. Present: The Bishop, the Dean, Lindley Crease, K.C., W. O. Cockett, John Harvey, R. Ross Sutherland, F. W. Jones, A. R. Merrix and F. W. Blankenbach. During 1922 the new building scheme was submitted and consisted of: (a) New Bishop's Close; (b) Memorial Hall, Diocesan and Cathedral Parish Building; (c) Cathedral; (d) Deanery; all to be of stone. The great question came up at the Vestry meeting of January, 1921, whether the Memorial Hall or the Cathedral be built first, and it was decided to build the Memorial Hall first.

1923. The foundations of the Memorial Hall were put in during the summer, and on October 1st the foundation stone was laid by Lieutenant-Governor W. C. Nichol in the presence of the Bishops of British Columbia, Huron, Fredericton, Montreal, Ottawa, and Ontario. In 1924, on the 4th September, the Memorial Hall was dedicated and opened and the Synod records and furniture were transferred from the Pemberton Building.

1923. A faithful member of the Church Committee for many years, in the person of Mr. T. E. Elkington, died during the summer. He had been a sidesman, a member of the Parish Committee and the Secretary of the same for eight years. Miss M. Chrow joined the Synod Office staff in this year, giving half a day to the Synod work and half a day to the Cathedral Fund campaign under Mr. A. R. Merrix. She had also taught in the old School Hall. Miss Madge Wolfenden taught in the Sunday School for many years, but all of it was in the old School Hall. The site of the old Cathedral was sold to the Provincial Government in 1937, and the old School Hall which had been built in 1883 was pulled down in 1938.

In 1924 the Bishop brought a gifted priest, the Reverend Edward Penard Laycock, A.K.C., to the staff of the Diocese and appointed him Archdeacon of British Columbia. Bishop Schofield announced at the Synod on February 29th that he had appointed a new Archdeacon, whose principal duty would be to advise in the construction and the furnishing of the new Cathedral, as well as to inspect all churches and rectories, and see that they were kept in good repair. This made a team of three who directed the erection and furnishing of the Cathedral. There was the Bishop, Architect and Archdeacon. The latter was an artist and ecclesiastical architect, he knew the Diocese and its churches, and the Bishop prayed that every parish and mission and many families in the Diocese would have a definite share in the building of the Cathedral, and thus the building of the mother church of the Diocese would be the result of a large number of contributors, which would strengthen the spiritual

life of the Cathedral. To return to the new Archdeacon. He was ordained Deacon in 1908, and Priest in 1911, attended to Mission work in this Diocese from 1908-1910; Curate of St. Peter, Holloway, 1910-1913; Priest in charge at Sandwick, 1913-1916; Rector of Vernon, 1916-1920; St. Luke's, Finchley, 1921-1922. After leaving this Diocese in 1933 he went to St. Paul's Parish Church at Beckenham, Diocese of Rochester, in 1937. He is still Commissary for the Bishop of British Columbia.

The Spring of 1926 saw the turning of the first sods of the foundation of the Cathedral by three laymen, a member of the Synod, and Parishioners. Then came the laying of the thick concrete foundations for the nave. On the 9th September a vast congregation filled the many chairs which had been placed on the flat surface of concrete foundations. The Bishop of London, Right Reverend A. F. Winnington-Ingram, came specially from England to Victoria for this service. Besides his Lordship the following Canadian Bishops were present: British Columbia, Cariboo, Kootenay, Ottawa, and the Yukon; from the United States, Oregon, Eastern Oregon, Sacramento and Spokane.

Here is an extract from the beautiful printed Form of Service: "The Bishop of London lays the foundation stone (from the former Cathedral). Then the Bishop (Schofield), surrounded by the Metropolitan, the Bishop of London, and the other Bishops, each with a hand upon the stone, shall say: In the faith of Jesus Christ we place this foundation-stone in the name of the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, Who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth one God world without end. Amen.

"Later, the Bishop shall say:

"HERE shall mortal eyes behold the building which we now only see by faith.

"HERE eyes of faith perceive the unseen towers which as Jacob's ladder reach unto the heavens.

"HERE our Cathedral Church shall rise to manifest the wide flung aspirations by which the spirit of reverence moves the human heart this twentieth century of grace."

There was a full programme for the day: Communion at 7 and 8 a.m., the main service at 3.20 p.m., afterwards a garden party in Bishop's Close, and in the evening a meeting in the Royal Victoria Theatre, where the Bishop of London was the main speaker.

The accommodation for the Sunday School in the new Memorial Hall was a great improvement on that provided in the first School Hall built in 1883. Before 1883 one of the halls

of the old Collegiate School, which in the 60's was under the control of the Reverend C. T. Woods, M.A., who started the school in 1860, was used by the Cathedral for Sunday School and other Parish meetings. This was burnt down in 1882, on the 17th June. The Parish Committee at a meeting in the Vestry on 20th June recommended the following scheme: The erection of a building near the Cathedral for the Sunday School and other purposes. The building should comprise at least three rooms: (1) a lecture hall, (2) a library or small lecture room, (3) a committee or class room. These would accommodate the Sunday School and provide facilities for meetings of teachers, Bible, Confirmation and Communicant classes, devotional meetings and Sunday School festival. The Bishop printed a leaflet on the subject of a Sunday School Hall, a copy of which is in the Minute Book. The estimated cost of the building was $2,500, and for fencing the cost was $1,000. As there was a prize-giving in the hall in July, 1883, it might be assumed that the building was finished by then and in use.

Hardly any records of the teachers of those early years have been preserved, but details of one of the earliest superintendents, Mr. Albert Hatheley Ridgman, has been discovered in the "Colonist." Senior members of the Parish can still remember Mr. Ridgman and his gold-headed Malacca cane. He was born in Bude, Cornwall, England, on 28th February, 1864, and was educated at the Public School. He became a teacher for five years, and was an assistant master at All Saints' Boys' School at Babbacombe, near Torquay, for two years. In 1885 Mr. Ridgman came to Victoria and was employed by the Hudson's Bay Company for seven years. In 1892 he joined the Federal Civil Service, and in 1923 was appointed Port Accountant, retiring on April 1st, 1931. He was well-known in local musical circles. He taught in various Sunday Schools and sang in the choir of the Cathedral before 1900. In 1888, when the Reverend W. W. Bolton was Rector at St. Paul's Church, Esquimalt, he started a mission in Victoria West, where Mr. Ridgman also acted as the organist. The Mission was the beginning of St. Saviour's Parish. In 1891 Mr. Ridgman helped the Reverend G. W. Taylor with his Sunday School at St. Barnabas' Church. In 1894 the Reverend W. W. Arden, who built St. Mark's Church on Boleskine Road, needed an organist and asked Mr. Ridgman to take the job, which he did for nearly a year. In 1895 Mr. Ridgman returned to the Cathedral at the request of Canon Beanlands and became Superintendent of the Sunday School. For many years he was also a sidesman in the Cathedral. He died in 1936. His home was at 941 Balmoral Road.

To-day there are still teachers and pupils who attended the old School Hall, which was pulled down in 1938, soon after the

Deanery and old Cathedral site had been sold to the Provincial Government. All the planning for the new Cathedral and all the Synods had been held in the old School Hall. Mrs. George Miles remembers going to teach in the old School Hall from 1905 onwards with Mrs. C. Wrigglesworth, Mrs. W. Harlock and Mrs. J. W. Robinson.

A great deal of information can be gathered from the present form of the Cathedral Leaflet, which is now in its 28th year. In 1923, at the Vestry meeting, Mr. Walter S. Miles proposed that the Leaflet be enlarged for publicity purposes, and he undertook to obtain advertisements for the same. The first of the enlarged new sheet was issued on 2nd September. Ever since that date, at the end of each 52 numbers a volume has been bound into a book for that year, and three copies are bound, one for the Synod Office, one for the Dean, and one for Major Longstaff.

1924. The Memorial Hall was completed, furnished and opened for Sunday School, Teacher-training classes and other Parish activities on Thursday, September 4th. Miss Chrow had taught Sunday School in the old School for one year already, and she was among the first teachers to start in the new school, and only retired from the work in 1950, a great record. The late Mr. John H. Hinton, from China, who served the Parish and the Synod for 24 years, was first elected People's Warden and a lay delegate to Synod in the same year. He ceased being People's Warden in 1933, but remained on the Parish Committee until 1943, when he retired, although remaining on the Synod until his death on 25th January, 1949.

1926. In the Leaflet of 26th September the names of all the Parish Committee were printed in full for the first time. The size of the old Leaflet was 4½ x 6 inches, while the new one is 6 x 9 inches.

1927. On Sunday, 31st July, Captain A. M. Lecky, R.N., commanding H.M. Light Cruiser *Colombo*, then calling at Esquimalt, presented on behalf of the Admiralty a war service White Ensign worn by H.M. Cruiser *Bristol* during the Great War, 1914-1918, in an engagement near the Falkland Islands. This was a reminder from the Admiralty of the many occasions from 1856 to 1903 upon which the Commander-in-Chiefs of Her Majesty's ships on the Pacific Ocean attended service in the Cathedral. One of the Wardens received the Ensign and then handed it to Bishop Schofield, who blessed it and received it for safe custody in the Cathedral. It was hung up in the Old Cathedral and transferred to the new Cathedral later.

In the same year the first Harvest Home for many years was held by order of the Parish Committee on October 5th. It was

1927, On May 22. Dean to England return 1st Sunday in Sept. Rev. H. B. Ragg, Winnipeg in charge of Cath.

organized with the help of the Secretaries of the various Parish organizations, under the direction of Major Longstaff, and refreshments were provided by a caterer. The number attending was large, to the surprise of Dean Quainton. This event was continued for many years with great success.

1929. A lay reader who has done long and faithful service in the Parish, the Diocese and the Synod in the person of Mr. H. H. Smith, was first elected to the Synod and to the Parish Committee the following year, where he remained, with the exception of the years 1935 and 1936. He was elected Secretary of the Parish Committee in February, 1949, and has also been Vestry Clerk since June, 1950. For many years he has taken services in relief in many parishes in the Diocese, and has been on the staff of the "Challenge" for many years, and is still a senior Sidesman.

The last service was held in the Old Cathedral on Sunday

Page 18. Ch.Church Cath .Vict.

The Bishop of Winchester took Holy Communion on Thursday 26th September at 8.a.m.in the chapel of the Memorial Hall. His signature was Theodore Winton . He was the official representative of the Church of England, and the bearer of a special message of congratulations and good wishes from His Majesty King George V at the service of consecration on Saturday 28th September at 2.30.p.m.He died on 27th February 1932. His brother Edward Sydney Woods, has since 1937 been Bishop of Lichfird. The brother is also chairman of the B.C. and Yukon Chur Church Aid Society. He has three sons in Holy Orders.

1951. Afternoon Armistice Service in Cathedral. The first service of this kind was held on November 8th at 3 p.m., after official invitations had been sent out by the Vestry Clerk on the order of the Parish Committee, with the request to send the reply to Mr. Walter S. Miles, the Chief Sidesman, who looked after reserving as few pews as possible, so that Ex-Service men could come with their families and find seats. The Army,

Navy and Air Force Veterans, and the Canadian Legion sent their Colours with an escort, and these were laid in the Sanctuary during the service, while the escort took their seats in the Choir.

1932. The Leaflet. The name and address of the Secretary of the Parish Committee was first printed in the Leaflet on February 28th. In fact, the directory page, as it then became, of the Leaflet has been and still is growing all the time, so as to suit the changing conditions.

1933. The King's Colour of the First Battlion of the Canadian Scottish Regiment, of the first Great War, was deposited in the Cathedral for safe keeping under the Dean and Chapter. Lieutenant-Colonel Brooke Stephenson was in command of the Battalion and the escort in the Cathedral. It was afterwards hung above the pulpit under the supervision of the Vestry Clerk, who has looked after all the flags and their history in the Cathedral.

A Training College for Women Church Workers was organized by Miss B. M. Carlisle (graduate of the College at Blackheath, Kent), under the name of St. Christopher's College, on Vancouver Street, and was opened by Bishop Schofield in October, 1933. It was extra-parochial, but some of the Sunday School classes were used by the students for demonstration purposes.

On December 6th, 1933, a Memorial Service was held for General Sir Arthur Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., who had commanded the Canadian Corps in the Great War; he was a Victoria man and had lived there until 1914.

1935. The Right Reverend Harold Eustace Sexton was consecrated Bishop-Coadjutor on June 29th, by Bishop Schofield, assisted by Bishops of Kootenay, Cariboo, Olympia, Spokane, and Bishop Lloyd. He was at the Australian College of Theology 1911, was made Deacon in 1911, Priest in 1912, Chaplain in Australian Expeditionary Force 1916-1919, at Keble College 1919, Trinity College Toronto B.D. in 1920, Curate of St. Margaret's Westminster 1925-1927, Vicar of All Saints' Upper Norwood 1927-1935. On the 6th January the front page of the Leaflet was for the first time divided into two columns for the addresses of Parish Officials. World-wide gifts from Canterbury Cathedral. At the Cathedral Church of Christ in the City of Canterbury, on Saturday, 15th June, bronze replicas of the "Canterbury Cross," each on a slab of stone from the old building, were dedicated as gifts to Cathedrals within the Empire and in the United States of America. The Archbishop of Canterbury led a large assembly of Bishops, Clergy, Mayors of Kent and high officers of Kent who attended the inspiring service, the music being provided by the band of the

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The last service was held in the Old Cathedral on Sunday, September 22nd, the preacher being Bishop Roper, and Bishop Schofield unconsecrated the Old Cathedral and led the clergy and choir in procession out of it. The first service and consecration of the New Cathedral took place on Saturday, September 28th, in the presence of the Primate of all Canada, the Most Reverend Archbishop Matheson. Much of the service took place outside the great west door. After the reading of prayers Bishop Schofield knocked for admission and was admitted. Following the consecration, in which the following Bishops took part: Mackenzie River, Calgary, Algoma, Niagara, Nova Scotia, Brandon, Saskatchewan, Keewatin, Quebec, Edmonton, Athabaska, Ottawa, Qu'Appelle, Moosonee, Toronto, Montreal, Fredericton, Caledonia, Cariboo, Kootenay, Spokane, Alaska and Winchester, Bishop Schofield proceeded to several points inside and outside the Building where a cross had been carved on the stone, and a prayer of consecration was said at each. Tickets for seats had to be drawn for, as there were far more people who wanted to attend than there were seats. The collection taken up, the first in the new Cathedral, was over $700. On Sunday, September 29th, the sermon was preached by Archbishop Matheson. The Statutes of the Cathedral Chapter were drawn up this year and made legal, and the first meeting was held on September 20th.

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Royal Engineers. The printed form of service is a work of art and most inspiring. The small "Canterbury Cross" dates from eighth century and was discovered some seventy years ago beneath one of the city streets. The Vestry Clerk represented Christ Church Cathedral, Victoria, and brought the cross and stone back to Victoria, and it now rests on the pillar above the foundation stone.

1936. On Sunday, June 28th, Bishop Schofield died at his home in Oak Bay in the late afternoon. He had celebrated Communion at Matins. The funeral was held on Tuesday, 30th, at 3.30 p.m. in the Cathedral, the coffin having stood in the choir for many hours and the clergy and laymen taking turns in watching and praying. The Archbishop of New Westminster was present. The pall bearers were chosen from the clergy of the Diocese. The coffin went to Vancouver for cremation. On the 5th July the ashes were deposited in a cavity in the huge north-east pillar of the nave, by the foundation stone.

On the 15th July, Bishop H. E. Sexton was enthroned as the Bishop of the Diocese in the Cathedral at 8 p.m., in an impressive service and a large congregation. On the 30th August, the Leaflet for the first time gives the names of the senior teachers and the Superintendents of the Sunday School, and the Reverend E. O. Robathan was the chief Superintendent. On Sunday, 12th July, Bishop Sexton dedicated the peal of eight bells, which are duplicates of those in Westminster Abbey, made by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, Whitechapel. The head ringer and organizer was Mr. E. W. Izard, who is still the leader.

1936. In the Spring of this year Captain C. D. Neroutsos, manager of the British Columbia Coast Steamship Service, presented a new house flag of the Company to the Cathedral. In order to have this new flag qualified to rest in the Cathedral it was flown for some weeks on the *"Princess Marguerite."* It was then cleaned and hung up on the organ casing by the Vestry Clerk with special fittings. On the 29th November, the house flag of the old Canadian Pacific Navigation Company (the predecessors of the C.P.R. 1883 to 1901) was deposited in the Cathedral by the side of the C.P.R. house flag. With difficulty a flag-maker was found who had the design, in the person of Fred Jeune, who had made all the house flags 50 years ago. It was carried by three retired seafaring officers who had served in the old Company: Captain Alexander MacDonald, bearer, escorted by Captain D. J. Butler and Chief Engineer J. A. Heritage.

H.M. King George V died on 20th January, and a service was held in the Cathedral on Tuesday, 28th. The two memorial services on the same day were fully attended.

1937. The farewell meeting for Dean and Mrs. Quainton was held by the parishioners. Bishop Sexton acted as Dean during the interregnum. On May 12th three services were held in celebration of the Coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth.

In the Leaflet, on 20th June, the School staff was first shown all together.

1938. The new Dean, the Reverend Spencer Hayward Elliott, M.A., was instituted and inducted on Sunday, 1st May, by Bishop Sexton. He attended Victoria University of Manchester, B.A. 1904, M.A. in 1906, Ripon Theological College and Deacon 1906, Priest 1907, Curate of St. Simon at Leeds 1906-10, Diocesan Missioner Manchester 1911-15, Mission of Help to India 1922-23, Vicar of St. Paul and Diocesan Missioner Sheffield 1916-27, Vicar and Rural Dean of Mansfield 1927-30, Vicar of Bolton 1930-33, Rector of Warrington 1933-38.

Death of the Reverend C. S. Quainton on 25th February at Ruislip, Middlesex. His ashes were later deposited on the left of the foundation stone in the Cathedral.

1939. Niagara Street Sunday School, built of red brick, was dedicated by Bishop Sexton on September 6th. It was provided by an anonymous donor, a parishioner, as a branch of the Memorial Hall Sunday School, and not as a church. On Sunday, 10th September, Canada declared war against Germany. The male Sunday School teachers who were fit left to join the fighting services, so more women teachers had to be recruited.

1940. August saw the closing of St. Christopher's College for Women Teachers. It had been managed and financed by Miss B. M. Carlisle. It was opened by Bishop Schofield in October, 1933, but was not under the Parish, though the pupils were allowed to take on teaching in some of the Sunday School classes.

On February 15th occurred the death of Chancellor Lindley Crease, K.C. The funeral was held in the Cathedral on the 17th, and over 600 people were in the congregation, Bishop Sexton officiating.

1943. The late Mr. W. O. Cockett died in the Jubilee Hospital on 5th November. He had served on the Parish Committee from 1920 to 1923, and was the People's Warden in 1922 and 1923, and lay delegate to Synod. His great work was teaching a large and successful Bible Class of young men, several of whom went to the Theological College and were then ordained.

1940. A memorial service for the Right Honourable Baron Tweedsmuir of Elsfield, P.C., G.C.M.G., C.H., Governor-General of Canada 1935-1940, was held on Wednesday, 14th

February, the Lieutenant-Governor being present. The funeral of Lieutenant-General Sir Percy Lake, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., was held in the Cathedral on Tuesday, 19th November. A gun-carriage attended to carry the coffin.

1943. ROLL OF SERVICE. The Parish Committee instructed Major Longstaff to collect material and compile a Roll of Service and Honour. A printed sheet for additions was issued in the Leaflet on 3rd November, 1944. The list was closed in 1947 and it was decided to engross only the names of those who gave their lives, and this was done by Mr. H. L. Hooper, of the Provincial Geographical Department, on the illuminated form issued from Ottawa. It was mounted in a gold frame and hung, with the sanction of the Chapter, in December, 1950, in the Chapel Aisle next to the Roll for the War of 1914-18. An alphabetical list has been made of both lists in two books for record purposes.

1945. News of Victory in Europe arrived at 6.15 a.m. The Leaflet said on 13th May: "Communicants immediately came to the Cathedral for 8 a.m. service and more at 11 a.m., and others at the same hours on Tuesday. At 8 p.m. on Monday the congregation completely filled all the available space in every part of the Cathedral for the Thanksgiving Service, compiled and conducted by the Lord Bishop." On Sunday, 13th May, His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada and Her Royal Highness Princess Alice attended the Cathedral at Matins.

1948. Dean S. H. Elliott, D.D., left the Cathedral to become a professor at St. John's College at Winnipeg. His last Sunday in the Cathedral was 5th September. In the interregnum Bishop Sexton once more acted as the Dean and Rector.

1949. The new Dean, Venerable George Reginald Calvert, B.A., D.D., came from St. Matthew's Church at Winnipeg. He was instituted and inducted on the 6th January by Bishop Sexton. He attended the University of Toronto at Wycliff College, B.A. 1925, Deacon 1924, Priest 1925, Curate of Snowflake 1924-26, Rector of Holland, Brandon, 1926-28, Killarney 1928-32, Rural Dean of Turtle Mountain 1929-32, Rector of St. Anne's, West Kildonan, 1933, St. Matthew's, Winnipeg, from 1933, Hon. Canon 1940, and Archdeacon of Winnipeg 1945.

1949. September 25th, Sunday, Reverend Jocelyn Perkins, C.V.O., M.A., D.C.L., F.S.A., Sacrist of Westminster Abbey, Secretary of the British Columbia and Yukon Church Aid Society, preached at Evensong. On October 2nd, Sunday Evensong, Most Reverend and Right Hon. Cyril Foster Garbett, Lord Archbishop of York, Primate of England and Metropolitan, preached the sermon.

October 23rd, the Most Reverend George Frederick Kingston, Lord Archbishop of Nova Scotia and Primate of all Canada, preached the sermon.

The Diocesan Lay Secretary and Accountant, Mr. W. G. Hamilton, started in the Synod Office in February, 1941, and was an observer for three months. Then he joined forces with Mr. Blankenbach, and in February, 1943, he was elected Lay Secretary to Synod and appointed Accountant.

1935. For many years the Sunday School Teachers met together monthly to direct the work of the schools, having a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. The Minute Book of this period is still in existence, the first entry being dated 13th May, 1935. In 1937 a Constitution was drawn up and passed. The name adopted was "The Cathedral Teachers' Association." One of the objects was to get every teacher to join in the discussion and so increase their interest in the work.

The work of the Chancel Guild and the leadership of Miss Maud Lettice should not be forgotten, for she was a link with the same work in the old Cathedral. The Guild has for a great many years added to the beauty of the Sanctuary.

Since 1937 Major Longstaff has been the School Registrar and kept the attendance records of the pupils and the particulars of the teachers in one large Register for historical reference. In 1950 he gave up the duties of Vestry Clerk, which he had held for 21 years, so that he only had the duties of School Registrar.

ADDENDA

Schofield, Charles de Veber, K.C.W.N.S., B.A. 1895, M.A. 1900. Leeds Clergy School 1895. Deacon 1896, Southampton; Priest 1898. Dean of Fredericton 1908. Sole charge of Portsea 1896-99. Rector of Hampton, N.B., 1899-1904. Christ Church, Sydney, N.S., 1904-07. Victoria, Dean, 20th May, 1915; Bishop, 30th November, 1916; died 28th June, 1936.

NOTE.—The compilation of these historical notes has only been possible with the help of many of the senior members of the congregation. The author has had access to the early manuscript register books of the Synod and Cathedral Parish. He has tried to skim over the history and to put on record facts which have been difficult to find.

Short History of Ch.Ch.Cathedral.P.18.
Insert after line 38.

A powerful tie with the mother church in the old country is exemplified by 12 ancient carved stones underneath the granite foundation stone in the present cathedral. These twelve stones were presente presented by the then Dean of Canterbury, th the Veru Reverend G.K.Allen Bell 1921-1929, now Bishop of Chichester. They were stransferred from the ruined ETHELBERT TOWER from the original Saxon Church, which was on was on the site of the monastery of Saint Augustine , land granted by King ETHELBERT about 597, when ten thousand Saxons were baptised at the mouth of the Medway. Down to the time of Becket this Augustinian monastery ranked as the second such house in Europe. Since 1915 excavations have uncovered the foundations of its Saxon predeccessor . A large part of the Saxon floor 2-3 feet beneath the level of the Norman nave and at the angle is is the ruin of Ethelbert's great Norman tower . These stones were built into the Reredos, which was taken down some time ago and the stonessent to Victoria. "

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