

Clumber: The Story of a Settler Church

1825 = 1967

*A commemorative booklet to mark
the Centenary of the third
Clumber Methodist Church
November, 1967*

by

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Preface

THE CLUMBER METHODIST CHURCH lies in the hollow of a small but beautiful valley, with hills and lands rising away on either side. It is situated 25 miles from Grahamstown, 12 miles from Port Alfred and approximately 10 miles from what was known as "The Frontier".

What makes it significant for those who have been or are members of this little country congregation, is not only that this year marks the Centenary of their Church but also that since July, 1820, this site has been for them and their forbears a spring from which the strength and grace of God have been drawn.

With the advent of this Centenary year it seemed fitting that the record of endeavour and faith which has marked the life of this congregation from the earliest Settler times, should not pass unnoticed. Mr. E. Morse Jones was accordingly requested to compile a history of the Clumber Church and the Centenary Committee places on record its sincere thanks to him for this work and for the careful way in which he has sought to give an accurate and authentic record.

This booklet has sought to give the factual record of the history of this Church without the embellishments of imagination to which a history of this kind can so readily lend itself. Therefore that which follows is a plain chronicle of events in the life of the congregation from 1820—1967. Nevertheless, the reader will detect behind the plain facts a story of the courage and devotion of Christian men and women as they sought to establish the worship of God and the witness of His Church on a wild frontier. It is the story of a faith which sustained them in their many trials and one which reminds us that the Church means firstly people and only then bricks and mortar.

During this year the Church and surrounding cemetery have been renovated and beautified and a final section of the booklet gives a note of the interesting and original features still to be found in the building.

This booklet is produced both in the desire to keep a proud history before us and humbly to call to mind the heritage of faith and service which the Settler men and women of this Church have bequeathed to all.

JOHN P. SCHOLTZ.

THE MANSE, CLUMBER.
April, 1967.

Introduction

IN offering this contribution to the Centenary of the present Church at Clumber, I would like to record my appreciation of the privilege granted to me to compile this History.

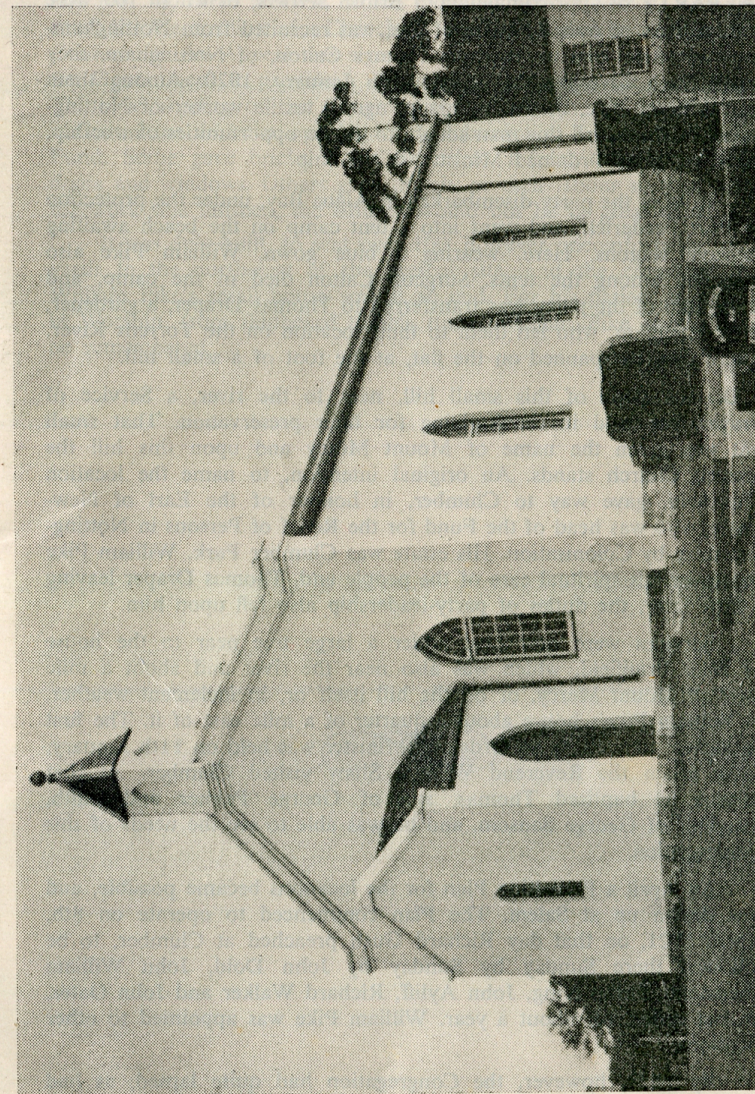
In the choice of material I have avoided legend, however attractive, being confident that the account will rest most securely on documented material from dependable sources.

The work is my expression of thanks to the Clumber Congregation for entrusting it to me.

E. MORSE JONES

PORT ALFRED.

September, 1966.



CLUMBER CHURCH

Before the Church

A PARTY of approximately 115 British Settlers, of whom 105 were persons of over 21 years of age, was recruited from Nottinghamshire in 1819. Led by Surgeon Thomas Calton, of Nottingham, they sailed from Liverpool in "Albury" in January, 1820. Among them was William Pike, then 41 years of age, a textile worker of Nottingham. On shipboard this man sought to devise opportunities of worship, there being no Ordained Minister in the ship.

In May the party disembarked in Algoa Bay, under the protection of Fort Frederick, and went into a tent camp on the beach awaiting baggage wagons. Here, wearing a blue gown, William Pike also preached among the tents. Surgeon Calton died in the camp, and leadership of the party was transferred to Thomas Draper, a gardener, of Nottingham, who led them to their location on the Torrens River. There they outspanned on the flat, at the foot of a small hill.

On the slope of this small hill, near to the river, a Service of Prayer was held in thanksgiving for their preservation. That small hill was given the name of Mount Mercy and upon this hill the present Church stands. An original intention, to name the location Mansfield, gave way to Clumber, in honour of the Earl of Newcastle, who was head of the Fund for the Relief of Persons in Nottinghamshire by Colonisation. His estate was Clumber Park. William Pike continued his spiritual care of the people and, Thomas Draper leaving a little later, the duties of party-leadership also fell upon him.

Services were now held under a large tree near to the house of John Bradfield, which was also near the river and about a mile west of Mount Mercy, or on the hill itself or, in inclement weather, in William Pike's house about a quarter of a mile east of it. The first Service conducted by an Ordained Minister was held on 11th January, 1821, when the Reverend William Shaw visited Clumber. At that Service he baptised Thomas, son of George Palmer and Edith, daughter of George Sansom, and he was able to see the needs of this Congregation.

By April a Preaching Plan for the locations became possible, and was drawn up at Salem. The Plan commenced to operate on 8th, April, 1821, on that day Richard Gush preached at Clumber, to be followed there Sunday by Sunday by John Dold, John William Shepstone, Philip King, John Ayliff, Richard Walker and John Oates, in that order, for about a year. William Pike was appointed to other locations.

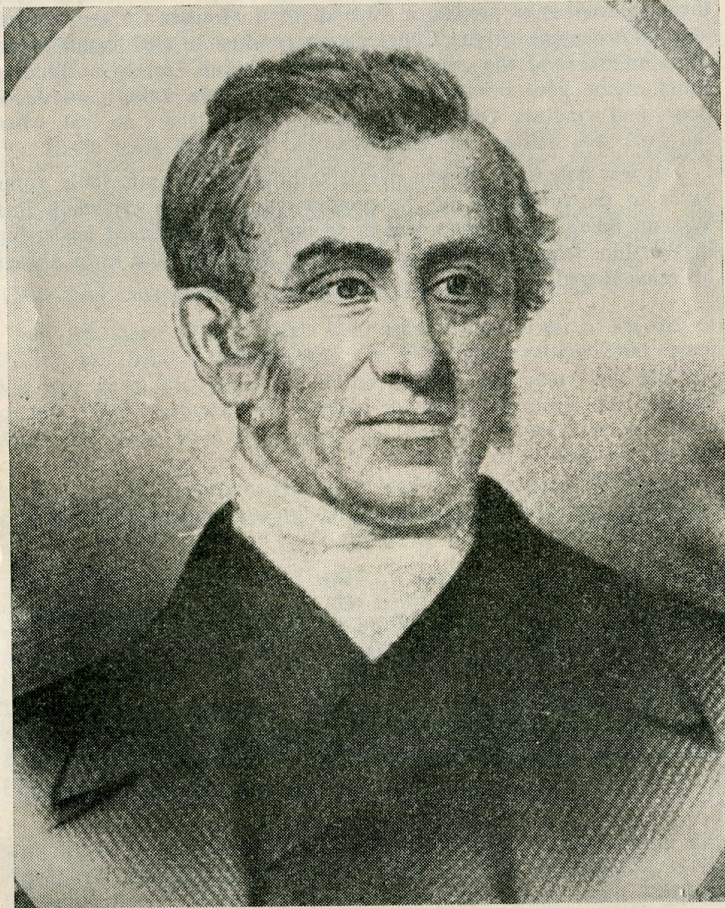
By 1823, however, the Congregation had quite lapsed, as had the Plan. William Pike, unable to gather them together, continued his work in other locations. He was nevertheless induced, in 1824, to attempt a resumption of Services. This he did, alternating between his

house and Freestone. After some time he had to hold them weekly in his house, which was filled.

By early 1825 the location had been surveyed into Allotments, and No. 18, three morgen, which included Mount Mercy, was allocated for the erection of a Church. It was later vested in the Wesleyan Conference. An Appeal was signed throughout Lower Albany, asking the Government to provide a Stipend for a Minister for the district. The re-awakening of the Congregation resulted in the formation of a Committee and the opening of a Subscription List to a Building Fund. Some gave bricks, some beams or rafters, others wood for doors and windows. Others gave thatch, or their labour so that, when the work was finished, the Church would not be in great debt.

It was duly built, to seat over 100, however uncomfortably, some yards to the north-east of the present site, and the crowding into William Pike's small house was at an end. For his patient leadership in Worship, from shipboard to this time, William Pike must always be remembered.





REV. JOHN AYLIFF

The First Church

THE Church was opened with a Service on the morning of 29th September, 1825. The Church was filled, people coming from Salem and Grahamstown. The Sacrament was administered. The Service was followed by a Love Feast in the afternoon. There was dinner for all, and tea later. The Society now increased in numbers. John Ayliff was given the care of the Congregations in Lower Albany, and from this time he preached at Clumber almost monthly, holding his first Service on 12th November. William Davis also visited.

The visiting Preachers usually dined with William Pike and, whenever it was necessary for one to stay overnight, he was accommodated by Mr. Pike. Congregations now usually numbered about twenty. There were occasional hazards, as when, on 16th April, 1826, the people were very apprehensive while forty elephants passed the Church, on their way to feeding sites.

The first Baptism in the Church was that of George, son of George Hodgkinson, by the Reverend Samuel Young on 24th September. In the following year, 1827, John Ayliff was Ordained as a Minister. An occasion in 1828 was the Memorial Service for Edye, wife of Aaron Aldum, on 22nd May, when William Davis preached. By 7th October of this year the Church was free of debt.

Early in 1829 William Pike, now sixty years old, became ill. A Service in which he could take part was held for him in his house on 9th May by the Reverend John Ayliff. The Minister visited him again on 17th. On the following day he died, and was buried near to the Church which he had served so well.

The Reverend John Davis visited Clumber during 1830. The Reverend John Ayliff was transferred to Somerset, and the Reverend Samuel Palmer took charge in Lower Albany for 1831. There were now twenty-five children attending Sunday School. The Reverend William Satchell was in charge in 1832, and the Reverend Richard Haddy in 1833. The Congregation was growing, up to fifty-five people sometimes attending in 1834.

But this year brought the tragedy of war. The Church, like the people's homes, had to be abandoned. On 23rd December the people were ordered to concentrate in Bathurst, where they had the protection of the military post until, on the 28th, they were taken from there in an escorted convoy to Grahamstown. Lower Albany was completely occupied by the enemy. During the war the Church was entered, and some damage was done, but it was not burned as were two of its sister Churches in the district.

A little before the Peace of September, 1835, a few people returned, but the protection of scattered families could not be under-

taken by the force available, and they were ordered to laager at Edward Timm's homestead, Halfway Bush, now called Prospect. The Church could not be used.

In 1836 the people were resuming their neglected homes and lands, and in May the Reverend W. Garner held a Service and Baptised four children. There were now about 150 adherents, although not all of them were attending regularly, but the Church was sometimes inadequate, and its post-war condition was decrepit. So plans were made to replace it with a new Church, this time to seat 200, and to be sited on the crown of Mount Mercy, somewhat higher than the then existing one.

The Reverend George Green held a Service in October, 1837. A Day School was now being conducted in the Church, with Thomas Peel, of Trappes Valley, as School Master, and in November tenders were called for the erection of a School Master's House, to be built adjacent to the Church for convenience.



The Second Church

THE new Church was opened before the end of 1857, but the old building continued to be used for various purposes. In the next year the Reverend William Boyce was in charge in Lower Albany. A visiting Minister in August was the Reverend George Bingham. From this time Thomas Peel was a Local Preacher, frequently doing duty. Visiting Local Preachers were Jeremiah, son of Thomas Hartley, shortly to be a Catechist in Bechuanaland, and John, son of Lieutenant John Bailie, R.N., later a Missionary in Great Namaqualand.

Parents were now called upon to subscribe 10/- yearly toward the salary of the School Master. Contributions were also sought for the School Library. The Reverend William Shaw came for the Watch Night Service, and addresses were also given then by Thomas Walker, George Barnes and John Usher, Local Preachers.

The Reverend John Cameron, the Reverend John Richards and the Reverend William Impey were visiting Ministers in 1839, and Local Preachers visiting included Brook Attwell, Benjamin Booth, William Comley and Philip Powell. The Annual Missions Service was conducted by the Reverend George Green on 3rd March. There was a visit by two of the Society of Friends from York, James Backhouse and George Walker, who stayed with the School Master as his guests. They attended a Prayer Meeting, and a Service, on 3rd April, and visited the School two days later.

The Reverend James Archbell preached the Missions Sermon on 15th March, 1840. In 1841 the Reverend Thornley Smith was in charge of the district. He preached at the School Anniversary on 14th November. Thomas Peel was Chapel Steward in 1842. The Reverend G. Aveling held the Missions Anniversary Service on 27th March. The Reverend John Smith now had the care of the Congregations. He held the Sunday School Anniversary Service on 30th October, and on the next day held the Examinations at the School.

In 1845, with the Reverend George Green in charge, the Missions Anniversary Sermon was preached by the Reverend Thornley Smith. John Richardson, of Thorn Hill, who was married on 28th February to Emma Tarr, made and presented a pair of iron gates for the Churchyard, incorporating his initials in the design. The Reverend Henry Dugmore was Minister in 1844. The Reverend John Ayliff, a friend of Clumber of twenty years past, returned in January, 1845, and Thomas Pike became Chapel Steward.

Toward the end of the year there were fears of another invasion, and preparations were made early in 1846 for the concentration of the people in a number of defendable Stations, as alternative to the

mass evacuation of Lower Albany in the previous war. The Church became Clumber Station, with Thomas Cockcroft as Commandant, in April. There the women and children of Clumber had what security the building could offer, while the men were engaged in guard, reconnaissance and cattle-recovery duties. The Reverend John Ayliff was able to ride into the Station from Bathurst in May to hold a Service for the occupants.

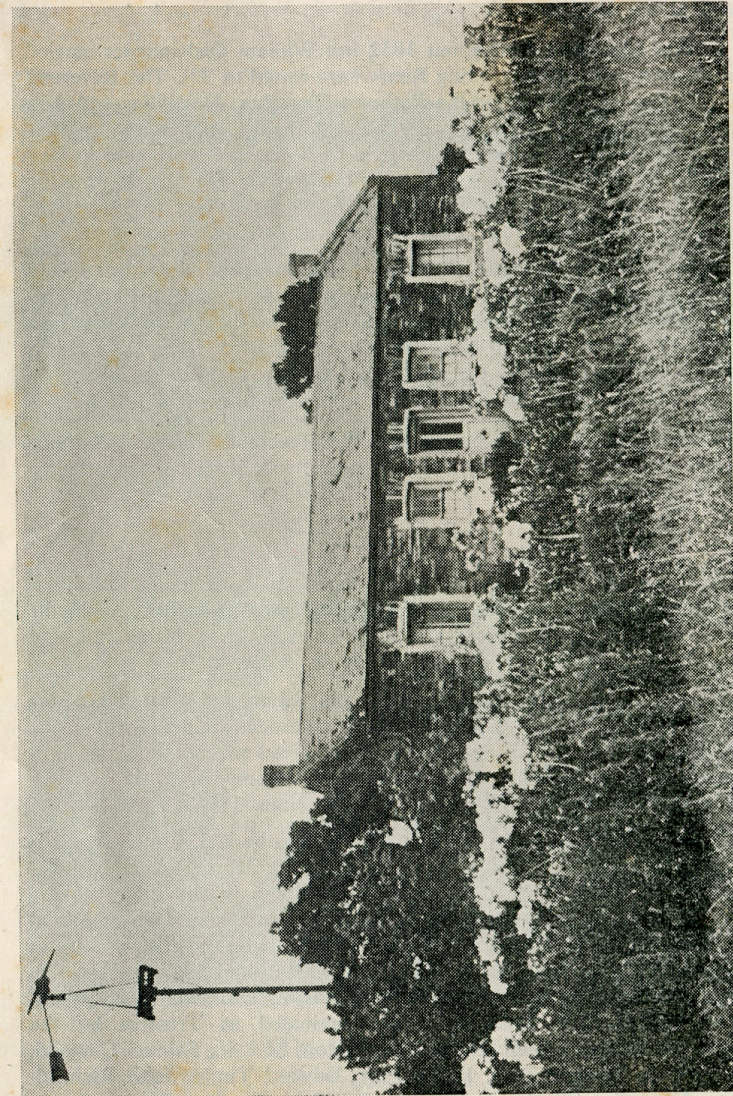
Martial Law was lifted in January, 1847, but it did not become possible to resume Services until March, when the Reverend H. Pearse conducted the Missionary Auxiliary Society Service. Arrears of Quit-rent on Allotment No. 18 were remitted in August, in consideration of the recent state of hostilities. On 13th September seventy European and fifty African children were examined by Job Harvey, a Local Preacher, who, in Kaffraria, had printed the first complete edition of the New Testament in the Xhosa language. He questioned them in Xhosa, their answers to be given in English. Prizes of books were presented, and eighty persons took tea in the Church.

The Reverend John Ayliff moved again to Fort Beaufort in May, 1848, and was succeeded by the Reverend H. Pearse. The Reverend William Sargeant and the Reverend John Appleyard served occasionally. Thomas Peel retired as School Master, to be succeeded by James Hallier, at £30 per annum. Mr. Hallier also cared for the cleaning of the Church, being allowed 19/6 for expenses. The Reverend John Smith was in charge of the Lower Albany Circuit from January, 1849. On the 25th July in that year a big Bazaar was held. Sitting Rents were now 2/- per annum.

William Cadwallader became School Master in January, 1850, and also served as a Local Preacher. In April a School Meeting was held. The Reverend Ebenezer Hepburn preached at the Church Anniversary in September. This was followed a few days later by a Bazaar and a Tea Meeting. Joseph Jolly was among visiting Local Preachers this year.

The shadow of war appeared again in October, and plans were made, should the need arise, to make a defended Camp, this time at Edward Timm's homestead. Prospect was on a more open site than the Church, and more difficult to attack. The School children were examined on 23rd December, and commenced a holiday of three weeks. But everything was interrupted by the opening of hostilities and the 27th, and a move to Timm's Camp commenced.

By January most of the Clumber people were in the Camp, living in their wagons or in wattle-and-daub huts which they erected there, the men also attending to entrenchment. William Cadwallader preached in Camp on the 19th January, and it was arranged that he should do so each Sunday as long as possible while the Camp survived, except when the Reverend John Smith might be able to get in from Bathurst. This the Minister succeeded in doing occasionally.



TIMM'S CAMP

By November it was decided to go to Clumber Church, for worship only, whenever security conditions permitted, and William Cadwallader preached there on the 9th, and the Minister on the 30th November, 1851.

War continued throughout 1852 but William Cadwallader carried on his preaching duties. Sitting Rents were raised to 3/-. The Reverend W. Garner took charge of the Bathurst Churches. Hostilities ended in March, 1853. The Church badly needed repairs, and Thomas Tarr and William Foxcroft were each paid 10/- for the work which they did. School was resumed with an Anniversary on 7th March. In June Henry Shone repaired the Bell, and cut two new poles to support it. At this time the Reverend John Wilson was serving.

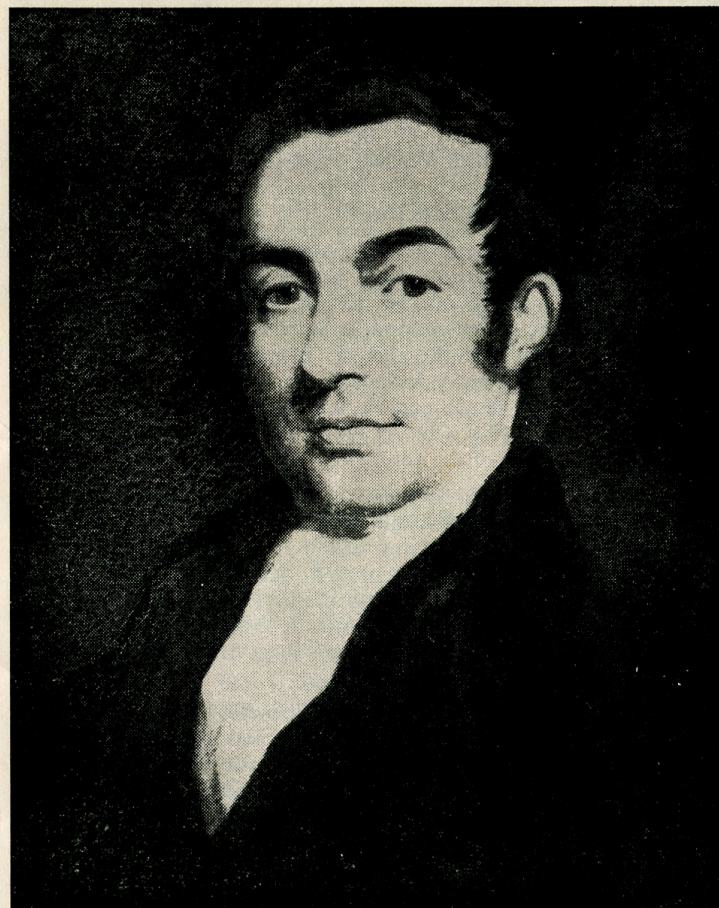
In 1854 the Reverend William Shaw preached the Anniversary Sermon, on 13th August, over thirty-three years since his first visit to Clumber. In a few months he was to leave the Colony, never to return. The outside world came to Clumber in 1855, when the Church responded to the Fund for the Relief of the Families of the Men Killed in the War with Russia with a subscription of £1-15-1.

The Reverend John Smith and the Reverend Thomas Glanville served successively in 1857. The Reverend Purdon Smailes took charge in 1859.

The Congregation was increasing, but it was found to be impossible to enlarge the existing building because of its dilapidated condition. The erection of a new Church had to be considered, and attention was given to this at a meeting held in July, 1860, with the Reverend Purdon Smailes in the Chair. Thomas Cockcroft moved, and Joseph Kidson seconded, that a Church of 45 feet by 20 feet be built.

William Smailes was Teacher at the School in 1861. The years immediately following passed without recorded incident, but plans and preparations for the new Church occupied much attention. During this period the Reverend H. Holden assumed duty in August, 1864, and the Reverend George Green in June, 1866.

On 11th July, 1866, after a Hymn in the old Church, and a Prayer offered by the Reverend George Green, George Wood, M.L.C., laid the foundation stone for the new building in the name of the Holy Trinity. At a meeting after tea had been taken, George Wood moved, and Edward Timm seconded, that building commence as soon as two-thirds of the required cost of £800 had been subscribed. Approval was moved by G. Clough, M.L.A., and was seconded by John Edkins. The following were nominated as Trustees by the Reverend George Green: Robert Godlonton, M.L.C., Samuel Cawood, G. Clough, Thomas Pike, Elijah Pike, Edward Timm, John Richardson, Alexander Shepherd, Richard Bradfield, Reuben Timm, James Tarr, Joseph Kidson, Joseph Trower, Daniel Davis, James Davis, Jeremiah Elliott, Henry Purdon, William Forward and Thomas Bradfield.



REV. WILLIAM SHAW

Alexander Shepherd, Henry Purdon, William Forward, Edward Timm and Joseph Kidson were elected to the Building Committee. The following were appointed Collectors of Subscription: Henry Purdon, Reuben Timm, William Forward, John Brent (for Kaffraria), John Bradfield (for Kaffraria), and Mesdames Green, Hartley, Peel, James Tarr, Thomas Tarr and the Misses Timm. Edward Timm was appointed Treasurer.

An addition of £60 to the amount already raised would entitle the Church to a grant of £50 from the Missionary Society. Plans and specifications were offered voluntarily by George Jarvis, a draughtsman, residing at Port Alfred. Also present were George Duthie, Civil Commissioner, C. Barber and Joseph Wood from Bathurst. On the 24th, with William Purdon now incorporated, the Trustees decided on a building with three windows on each side, stone walls of 14ft., and a slate roof.

At an August meeting of Trustees, with Thomas Tarr now incorporated, John Edkins was appointed to the Building Committee. It was resolved that a Porch of 10ft. by 6ft. be included in the plan, and that the joists be of sneezewood. A September meeting considered tenders for the masonry, to the plan of George Jarvis (the walls now to be 15ft. high, and a Belfry included), the plastering and materials, by Charles Brislin and Mack, and by Shepherd. The tender by Brislin and Mack was £162-15-0. Charles Poulton tendered £90, including materials, for carpentry of the roof, floor, ceiling, door and windows.

An October meeting of Trustees agreed to an addition of £2-5-0 on account of the increased height of 15ft. for the walls, and the tender of Brislin and Mack was effective. A November meeting accepted Charles Poulton's tender of 2/6- each for making Pews of yellowwood, to be copied from those of St. Bartholomew's Church, Grahamstown. These pews are still in use. A December meeting authorised the purchase of 4,500 "Countess" slates from A. Stewart, of Port Elizabeth, at £10 per thousand.

In February, 1867, the Reverend Ebenezer Hepburn was in charge. In May the Building Committee authorised him to ask Thomas Cockcroft what repairs his family wished to have made to the grave of Harriet Cockcroft which had been damaged in the course of building, which was now in hand. In July the Trustees agreed to purchase, for £25, a Pulpit made by a Settler, and formerly used in Wesley Chapel, from the Trustees of the Grahamstown Circuit. The pulpit is also still in use.

A meeting of Trustees in August appointed as Chapel Opening Committee, Elijah Pike, Joseph Trower, Joseph Kidson, James Tarr and Thomas Bradfield. The builders had now completed the masonry, the stone having been quarried by William Whittaker. An October meeting agreed to Church lighting by four paraffin lamps with reflectors, and two Pulpit lamps. These were supplied in the following month by Mr. Parker, of Grahamstown.

The Hundred Years

ON 10th November, 1867, 300 attended the Morning Service, conducted by the Reverend George Green. A meeting was held in the Church before noon, and was addressed by the Reverend Ministers George Green, Ebenezer Hepburn and W. Davis, and Messrs. G. Clough, William Stanton, Thomas Bowker, Thomas Cockcroft and John Jakins from Seven Fountains. There was a Tea Meeting at 2.00 p.m.

After a Prayer by the Reverend J. Davies, Samuel Cawood as Chairman called upon the Reverend Ebenezer Hepburn to read the Report, which stated that a debt of £60 would remain after all expenses had been met. The Chairman announced that he was ready to receive contributions, and gave a donation. Edward Timm gave £5, Thomas Cockcroft £3-3-0, and with others the sum was raised in 15 minutes. The proceeds of the Tea Meeting were £7-6-11. The day's collections amounted to £26-2-6. £750 had been collected in one and a half years, of which Edward Timm and his family had collected £300. Resolutions were moved and seconded by William Stanton and J. Jakins, G. Clough and Elijah Pike, the Reverend W. Davis and Thomas Cockcroft, and the Reverend George Green and the Reverend Ebenezer Hepburn. With 500 people on the ground, tea was provided in the old Church and was followed by sports on the Market Place. The flat race was won by a son of Thomas Hartley, of Bathurst. At cricket the "Rough and Ready Club" of Clumber beat Shaw Park; Clumber (1st innings) 40, Shaw Park 11. Clumber (2nd innings) 28. Scores in the first innings were: Clumber: A. Wilmore 8, W. Holesgrove 6, J. Elliott 5, E. Bradfield 5, E. Slater 2, T. Bradfield 2, C. Tarr 1, and W. Finn, J. Richardson, J. Mack and T. Tarr 0; wides 1, byes 10, total 40.

On the 28th the Trustees decided that Pew Rents be £1-1-0 annually, and Sittings 4/-, with three rows at the entrance to be free.

In October, 1868, Thomas Pike, Elijah Pike, Joseph Trower, John Richardson, Henry Purdon and James Tarr as Chapel Committee for two years, to be Trustees with Enos Timm as Secretary and William Forward as Treasurer. The Anniversary Service was held on the 21st, with a Tea Meeting on the following day.

A Chapel Meeting of August, 1869, instructed William Forward, Richard Bradfield junior (a new member), and Joseph Trower to arrange for a Bazaar. Another in August, 1870, instructed John Richardson and James Tarr to furnish a gate with rails, and a small iron gate for the Grave Yard. In October a gate on the river side was ordered. In November John Richardson reported that the gates had been fixed; he was paid £6-10-0 for the work. He agreed to buy a 40lb. bell, he and James Tarr to erect it when purchased. A Decem-

ber meeting of the Chapel Committee was advised that Joseph Trower had bought the Bell for £4-6-0. Mesdames John Richardson, John Staples, James Tarr, William Forward and Timm were appointed to a Committee to arrange a Bazaar.

In June, 1871, the Reverend George Green returned to the Circuit. In October the Chapel Committee resolved to ask Mr. Tovey to give a Magic Lantern showing on the evening of a Bazaar to be held in November.

The Reverend John Longden assumed duty in May, 1872. By September, 1873, the old Church had been taken down, and a new school-room built. In September of the following year the Chapel Committee agreed that the collections and proceeds of the Church Anniversary, to be held on 15th and 16th November, be given to liquidate the debt on the Bathurst Mission premises. On the latter date a lecture was given by Mr. Hellier, of Grahamstown.

It was arranged to enlarge the school-room, and in October, 1875, the Chapel Committee agreed to allow the Albany Farmers' Friend Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars to use it for their meetings, contributing toward the cost of the enlargement. In December James Davis succeeded William Forward as Treasurer to the Chapel Committee.

The Reverend John Wilson took charge in June, 1876. In that month a meeting reported that the young people of Clumber had presented an Harmonium to the Church. It was placed on the left side of the Pulpit. Mrs. Amos Timm was asked to act as Organist for one year. As from October, seats Nos. 15, 16 and 17 were to be free seats.

Joseph Trower succeeded as Chapel Committee Treasurer in November, 1877. The Reverend G. Rose took over in March, 1880. In September of that year it was resolved to buy a shovel, a spade and a crowbar for grave-digging, to be placed in the charge of John Quail, the Chapel-keeper, and that 5/- be charged for the Burial fee and for the use of the tools. It was reported that the 1st Clumber Mounted Volunteers had offered £14 towards the cost of fencing the Grave-yard.

It was decided in August, 1881, that the ground between the Native Chapel and the river be the Native Burial Ground. A Bazaar was planned for the Fencing Fund, no raffles to be held in connection with it. Mr. McMahon was engaged in November to erect the new fence for £44-16-0½. It was arranged that Harriet Cockcroft's grave-stone be placed erect.

The Reverend W. Caldecott succeeded in July, 1885. At a Chapel Committee meeting in November Josiah Bradfield was elected Chapel Steward, David Tarr Secretary and Joseph Trower Treasurer. A clock for the Church was ordered to be bought at Grahamstown.

In April, 1884, the Good Templars, the Sunday School and the Day School Committee were each asked to contribute a quarter of

the cost of a 400-gallon iron tank, to be bought for £7. John Quail was to be paid £6 per annum for Chapel cleaning. The new Trustees accepted in July were Joseph Trower, James Purdon, Josiah Bradfield, John Forward, Daniel Davies, Isaiah Staples, Henry Purdon, Richard Bradfield, Enoch Pike, Reuben Timm, Enos Timm and David Tarr. The Young Men's Theological Class asked for the use of the Church in the evening. James Richardson's name was added to those of the Trustees in September.

The Reverend Oliver Carey took charge in August, 1885. In 1889 the Parsonage was built. In March, 1890, a Time Book for the Harmonium was bought for 10/6. In July of that year the Reverend J. Thompson succeeded. He was followed in October, 1893, by the Reverend John Saunders. Coconut matting 3ft. 9in. wide was to be bought for the Aisle in January, 1894. The Reverend Thomas Rogers came to the Circuit in July, 1896.

Nominated to the Trust Committee in February were Josiah Bradfield, Enos Timm, Richard Bradfield, James Richardson, Isaiah Staples, Edwin Purdon, James Purdon, John Elliott, Jonathan Bradfield, John Quail, Reuben Tarr, Daniel Tarr and Arthur Timm. An appeal was to be made to the landowners of Clumber to allow the Conference to build a Chapel for the Native People on the Nottingham Party Market Place, the ground to remain the property of the Party, the Chapel to be removable at the Party's instance.

In September, 1902, the Trust Properties Committee resolved that an acre of the Church ground be made available for the erection of a Government-aided Public School. In the following month they made arrangements for the renovation of the School-master's house at a cost of up to £250. Elizabeth and Frances Trower had presented an American Organ in memory of the late Joseph Trower. Mr. Sissons, of Indwe, had met the cost of freight from America. The Harmonium was to be transferred to the School-room. It was resolved in November that, as from January, 1903, Pew Rents should be 10/- per annum.

In July, 1903, the Reverend John Smart took over. Elizabeth Trower had promised to build a new Day School for Clumber, in memory of her father, Thomas Peel. It was to accommodate 100 children. White Cooper, of Grahamstown, was asked to prepare plans. In August she indicated her wish to furnish a commemoration tablet also. It was decided to name the new building the Public Undenominational School Memorial.

In April of the following year the donor was able to approve the tender of Mr. McAlister. In September it was decided to hold a Bazaar on 9th November, the King's Birthday, to liquidate the debt resulting from the renovation of the School-master's house. Professor George Cory was asked to lecture on the British Settlers, and Elizabeth Trower was asked to unveil the tablet on 16th February, 1905.

John Bradfield, a pupil of Thomas Peel's, was to speak at the unveiling.

Enos Timm and Jesse Richardson were asked in May, 1905, to purchase two iron gates for the Church-yard. They cost £7-16-6 each. It was agreed in September, 1906, to allow the extension of the platform, for the better accommodation of the Choir and the Organ, at the request of Mrs. H. Purdon, the Organist. The Bathurst Farmers' Union was given permission in June, 1908, to use the old school building for its meetings. In April, 1909, a committee was appointed to purchase and erect a new Bell, and in July the Reverend Edwin Coombe came to take charge.

A meeting in June, 1910, learned that Mrs. Snelgar had given an epergne for the Communion Table. David Hulley was elected as Chapel Steward. Hymn and Service Books had been bought in November, and a Pulpit Bible was to be purchased for £3-8-0. The Church was insured against fire for £600, and the furniture for £100, in March, 1911, and a committee was appointed for the upkeep of the Church-yard. It was resolved to build a new Hall, of the dimensions of the Church; the cost not to exceed £275.

A meeting of August, 1912, decided that the new Hall was to be of wood and iron, lined with boarding. The tender of Mr. Hackart, in October, of £29-10-0 for its erection was accepted, the Hall to be built on the site of the old school-room. In November Norman Tarr was recorded as having given a Gramophone Concert, which produced £6-9-3 for the Building Fund.

In May, 1913, it was decided to open the new Hall on 9th July, and to hold a concert in the evening. The Bathurst East Farmers' and Fruit Growers' Union, and the Tennis Club, were given permission to use the Hall. On the opening day a shooting gallery and a "dip" were among the attractions. Horace Hulley was appointed Chapel Steward in October. A foot-bridge was to be erected across the river. Josiah Bradfield resigned as Treasurer of the Trust Properties Committee in December, and F. Long was elected to succeed him.

Lorimer Dold presented an Individual Communion Service to the Church in June, 1914. In August a piano was bought for the Hall for £28. The Reverend William Glassen commenced his Ministry in September, 1917. In February, 1918, it was decided to place a carpet in front of the Communion Rail.

£350 had been offered in June, 1916, by Henry Staples to meet the cost of erecting a Vestry, and J. Benyon's tender in September of £320 for the work was accepted. The Reverend H. Weavers took charge in July, 1922, and in October it was resolved to place a War Memorial in the Church, opposite to the tablet in memory of Joseph Trower. The Women's Auxiliary was founded in 1923.

Cyril Oates became Church Steward in February, 1924. In December, Communion Cup Holders had been bought. In January,

1925, it was at last possible to invest £100 at 5½ per cent., and a credit position replaced the old one of debit. Pew Rents were abolished in July. N. Pike was elected Church Steward in November. The Reverend Owen Thompson assumed duty in July, 1926. In September, 1929, Communion Service Books, Hymnals, and books for the Choir were to be purchased.

In August, 1931, the Reverend Cecil H. Sheasby came. In May, 1932, the Girl Guides were given permission to use the Hall. At a meeting in December, 1933, the acquisition of amplifiers for deaf persons in Church, was considered.

May, 1934, brought the resolution to purchase a Lister lighting plant for £90, including the cost of installation. The Reverend H. Richards took over in July. A meeting in August resolved to give one of the surviving Church lamps to the Manse and two to Bathurst Church, and to retain two in reserve. Toc H was allowed to use the Hall in June, 1935.

The Reverend A. Karg commenced work in April, 1936. Roy Oates was appointed as Trust Fund Steward in August, and in December a Baptismal Font was ordered. A Toc H Service was held in the Church in the evening on 19th July, 1937. Edwin Long was appointed to the Trust Committee in 1937. B. Staples became Trust Steward in November, 1939, and W. Timm in July, 1941.

It was recorded in April, 1942, that the late Frances Trower had bequeathed £200, to be held in trust for investment, the bequest to be known as the Trower Trust. The Trustees of this bequest were required to keep the graves of Thomas and Mary Peel in repair in perpetuity. The Reverend A. Wilson succeeded in March, 1944. In July a Hymn Board had been hung in the Church. The Reverend A. Karg returned in April, 1946, and in July John Dugmare and Harvey Pike were appointed as Door Stewards. Edwin Long was appointed Cemetery Steward in July. Cows

Harvey Pike was appointed Trust Steward in July, 1950. In August Edwin and Constance Long donated £300 towards the cost of additions to the Hall, as a Thanksgiving to God. The Women's Auxiliary donated a carpet for the platform in the Church in February, 1953, in memory of Doris Long, a foundation member of the Auxiliary in 1923, who had given outstanding service to the Church. In September the Auxiliary was given permission to erect a plaque, recording the gift of the Memorial Carpet. Hilton Harper was appointed as Trust Steward in the latter month.

January, 1954, brought the Reverend W. Rimmington to the Circuit. Donald Long had given trees in April, 1957, and planted them in the Church-yard. The Reverend Peter Young took charge in January, 1959. The Financial Statement was presented in Rands and Cents for the first time in April, 1962. Hilton Harper had made the gift of rose trees for the beautification of the Church-yard. By June the

invested Fund had reached R2,000, built up by continual endeavour since the first £100 was invested in 1925. The interest was to serve the upkeep of the Church-yard. In November Pledged Giving was introduced and adopted as the means of offering by the congregation.

January, 1964, saw the arrival of the Reverend John Scholtz. A meeting of the Trust Committee was held in March, and in April Edwin Long and Aubrey Pike were elected as Society Stewards. A Centenary Planning Committee was formed, to make arrangements for the celebration to be held in 1967. In April, 1965, the Women's Auxiliary offered a Communion Table as their Centenary gift. Frank Long was still serving as Trust Treasurer, after 52 years of faithful and devoted service.

In April, 1967, the historical significance of the Church and Churchyard was officially recognised by the Historical Monument Commission and a suitable plaque was cast and placed at the entrance to the Church.

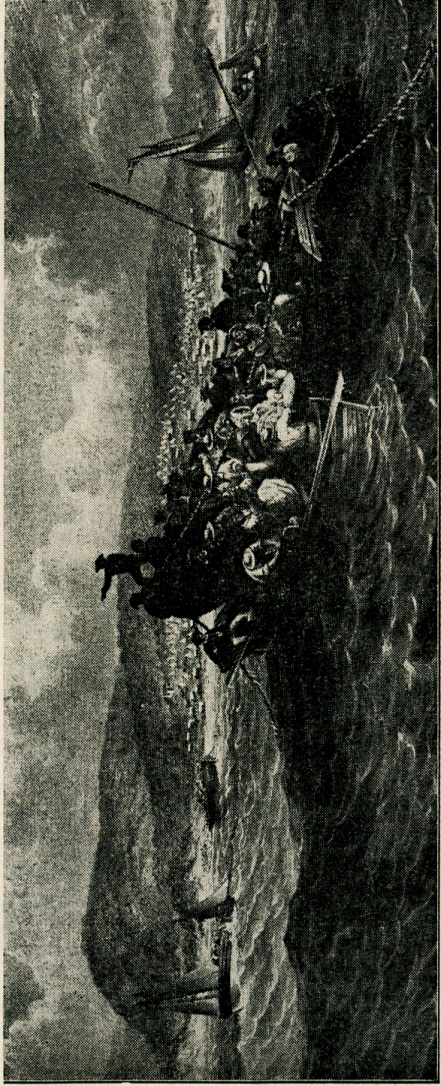
MINISTERS APPOINTED TO THE BATHURST CIRCUIT FROM 1863

17-8-1863	....	....	Purdon Smailes
27-8-1864	....	....	H. C. Holden
17-6-1866	....	....	George H. Green
6-7-1867	....	....	Ebenezer D. Hepburn
11-6-1871	....	....	George H. Green
19-5-1872	....	....	John Longden
21-6-1876	....	....	John Wilson
5-3-1880	....	....	G. A. Rose
8-7-1883	....	....	W. S. Caldecott
18-7-1885	....	....	Oliver Carey
23-7-1890	....	....	J. Wilson Thompson
8-10-1893	....	....	John R. Saunders
19-7-1896	....	....	T. Davies Rogers
30-7-1903	....	....	John T. Smart
22-7-1909	....	....	Edwin W. Coombe
14-9-1917	....	....	William Glasson
14-8-1922	....	....	H. Weavers
24-7-1926	....	....	Owen R. Thompson
20-8-1931	....	....	H. Cecil Sheasby
10-7-1934	....	....	H. B. Richards
8-6-1936	....	....	Albert E. Karg
19-3-1944	....	....	Andrew Wilson
1-11-1945	....	....	John McKee
10-4-1946	....	....	Winston A. Rimmington
29-1-1959	....	....	Peter R. Young
26-1-1964	....	....	John P. Scholtz

SURVIVING FEATURES

The following items are features which were originally incorporated into the furnishing and fabric of the Church in 1867:

- The two teak doors of the entrance porch.
- The double teak doors leading from the entrance porch into the church proper.
- The yellowwood floor and sneezewood joists beneath it.
- The yellowwood pews.
- The pulpit.
- The teak windows.
- The ceiling and centre-vent.



Settlers landing at Algoa Bay