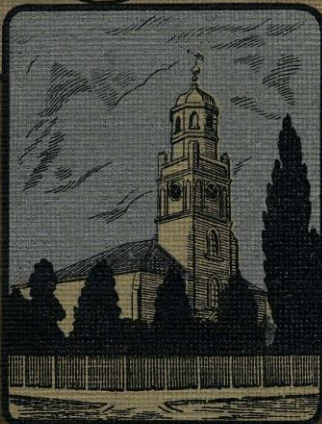


St John's

LAUNCESTON



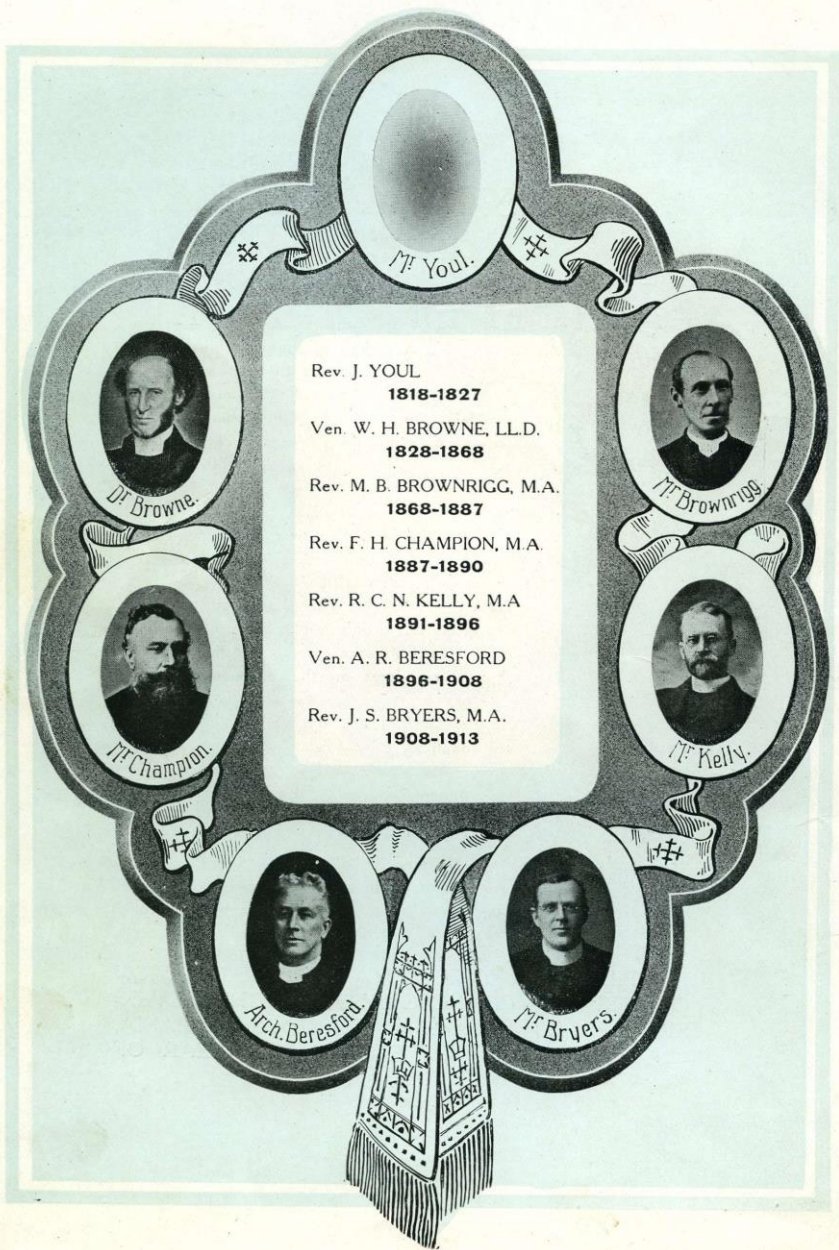
—SOUVENIR—
OF ♦ OLD ♦ AND ♦ NEW ♦ CHURCHES.

Mrs Jessop 16 Rocklyn Row

AN HISTORICAL RECORD
OF THE
PARISH OF ST JOHN,
LAUNCESTON.



COMPILED, SUBSEQUENT TO THE CONSECRATION
OF THE NEW CHANCEL BY THE RIGHT REVER-
END JOHN EDWARD, LORD BISHOP OF TASMANIA,
ON DECEMBER THE FIFTH, IN THE YEAR OF
GRACE, 1911.



Mr Youl.

Rev. J. YOUL
1818-1827

Ven. W. H. BROWNE, LL.D.
1828-1868

Rev. M. B. BROWNRIGG, M.A.
1868-1887

Rev. F. H. CHAMPION, M.A.
1887-1890

Rev. R. C. N. KELLY, M.A.
1891-1896

Ven. A. R. BERESFORD
1896-1908

Rev. J. S. BRYERS, M.A.
1908-1913

Mr Browne.

Mr Brownrigg.

Mr Champion.

Mr Kelly.

Arch. Beresford.

Mr Bryers.

ST. JOHN'S, LAUNCESTON.

A CONCISE HISTORY OF THE OLD CHURCH AND PARISH.



THE formation of the Parish of St. John's, Launceston, dates back to the closing days of the year 1818, when the Rev. John Youl was appointed by the Senior Chaplain of New South Wales, the Rev. Samuel Marsden, to the Chaplaincy of Port Dalrymple. He arrived in Hobart on December the 20th that year, and at once took up his quarters at George Town.

Launceston at this time was called the "Camp," and a blacksmith's shop was utilised as a place of worship. The initial steps towards the erection of St. John's Church were not taken till September, 1824, when tenders were called for the work, and the 28th December following commemorates the laying of the corner stone by the then Lieutenant-Governor, Sir George Arthur.

St. John's suffered a very great injustice at the hands of Sir George on this occasion. The plans placed before him were a facsimile of St. David's, Hobart, and evidently thinking them to be on too large a scale, he ruled off fully one third of the length, saying "that will be quite large enough for the township."

The Church was opened for divine service on Friday, December 16th, 1825, the ground upon which it stands being previously consecrated by the Rev. Samuel Marsden. St. John's was duly consecrated on March 6th, 1828, by the Ven. Archdeacon Scott, of New South Wales.

The Rev. John Youl died in 1827, and the Rev. James Norman was temporarily placed in charge by the Ven. Archdeacon Scott, pending the arrival of the Rev. William Henry Browne, LL.D., who was appointed to the Chaplaincy by His Majesty, King George IV, and arrived here in the beginning of 1828.

In 1830 the Church Tower was completed, and a clock, which had been made by a prisoner in the gaol, placed therein; but in 1835 the present clock and bell took its place. The old Church presented a very strange appearance with its large tower, shortened nave, and no chancel.

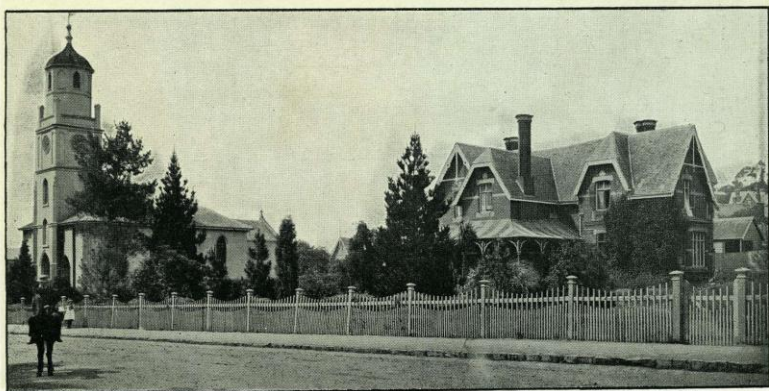
The parish of St. John's in these days was a very extensive one. It extended from Low Head to Breadalbane, then known as the "Springs," and as far east and west as there was habitation. There was a school at each end, and one in Launceston, all under the supervision of the Chaplain of St. John's.

It will be interesting to note that the first Churches were all built by Government, prison labour being used, and the clergy and all petty officers of the Church were Civil Servants. Government nominated one Church-warden and the Rural Dean another. They were very strict in collecting the pew rents, which were handed over to the Government, who effected all repairs and paid the officers of the Church.

In 1833 there was need of more accommodation, and Government were appealed to to carry out the original plan; but they had already begun to stay their hand in these matters, and would only consent to provide half the expense if the rest were subscribed. This was not done, and other denominations stepping in relieved the pressure for a time. In 1835 there was another demand for more seats, and then the prisoners who had been seated in the south gallery were removed to a room in the gaol. This gallery was fitted up, and in 1838 the north gallery was similarly treated.

During the forties the large parish of St. John's was divided into smaller ones, and several country churches built. In Launceston the population was steadily on the increase, and it was found necessary to form a new parish in the northern part of the town. The Church of Holy Trinity was erected, thus providing the extra Church accommodation so much needed. In St. John's parish a Sunday-school and cottage were erected. Then came the founding of the Launceston Church Grammar School, the principal of which, of necessity a clergyman of the Church of England, has always closely allied himself with the work of the Mother Church of St. John. In 1851 the southern portion of the town was formed into a separate parish under the name of St. Paul's.

The present organ in St. John's was procured from England in 1862, at a cost of nearly £600, and four years after the first attempt to enlarge the Church was made by the addition of a small chancel at a cost of £500. The east window, which represented "The Ascension," was presented by Mr. John Cameron, and a smaller one on the north side, "The Resurrection," was placed there by Dr. Browne in memory of Archdeacon Hutchins, Tasmania's first Archdeacon.



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH AND RECTORY.

In May, 1868, Dr. Browne, who had held the Chaplaincy for forty years, tendered his resignation, and the Rev. Marcus Blake Brownrigg was appointed to the incumbency. The following year the old Church underwent considerable repairs and alterations, the tall old-fashioned square pews were removed, and the present ones substituted. A few years later, namely, in 1878, the present parsonage was built at a cost of £2000.

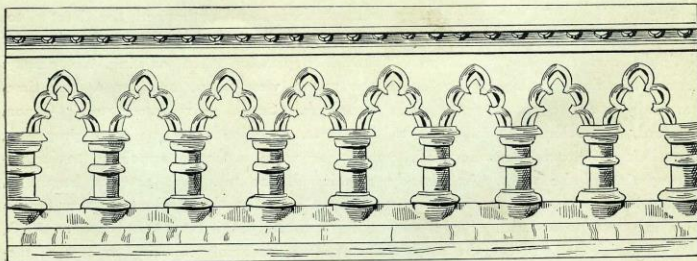
Canon Brownrigg was obliged to retire in 1887 on account of failing health, and the Rev. Elias Champion succeeded to the incumbency, but he, too, only two years after, had to retire for the same reason, and the Rev. G. Bourdillon was placed in charge as acting incumbent.

The Rev. R. C. N. Kelly, M.A., was appointed to the rectorship in 1891, and during the five years he was in office the little Church of St. Aidan's was erected in the eastern part of the parish, and a Mission House was opened in Wellington Street. In 1892 plans, which had been prepared for the extension of St. John's by the architect, Mr. A. North, were discussed and approved of. They were for a building to cost £20,000, and it was decided to erect the chancel and transepts first, at a cost of from £7,000 to £8,000, but nothing was done till 1899.

The Rev. Canon Kelly resigned the rectorship in 1896, and the Rev. Canon Alfred Richard Beresford was nominated to the vacancy. Five years elapsed before a start was made with the Church extension, and the story and description of our noble chancel and transepts will form the subject of another chapter. In 1905, the premises used as a Mission House in Wellington Street were found to be too small for the ever increasing wants of that useful institution, and a better and more commodious building was erected in Canning Street, the total cost being about £2,500. At the same time substantial additions were made to St. John's Schoolroom, at a cost of £615, and it was renamed "St. John's Hall." In the following year the erection of a handsome stone and brick wall was commenced, to take the place of an unsightly wooden structure enclosing the Church.

Canon Beresford became Archdeacon of Launceston, and Rector of Hagley, in 1907, and resigned the rectorship of St. John's. He remained, however, in charge for another year, pending the appointment of his successor.

The Rev. John Shaw Bryers, M.A., was appointed in 1908, and entered upon his duties on the 1st August of that year. The story of his labors and those of his devoted predecessors on behalf of the new building will be told in the next chapter.



THE NEW CHURCH BUILDING.

A NOBLE ENTERPRISE.



HERE are doubtless at this time many in our City and elsewhere who feel that, when the new portion of our Church has been in full and daily use for well over a year, it is eminently desirable that the main facts regarding it, and the whole story of its construction, should without delay be put on record whilst the memory of them is yet recent and fresh among us. It would in years to come be matter for deep regret, if through forgetfulness or neglect at the present time on the part of those who now know these things, anything of real interest or of permanent value should then have been lost sight of or forgotten. It is now more than twelve years since the work was actually begun, the foundation of the present chancel, transepts and vestries having been marked out, and the digging of the trenches first taken in hand in the month of March, 1901. By this preliminary work, a beginning was made of a great task, the completion of which a future generation alone is likely to see, in the entire remodelling and reconstruction of the oldest and most important Church of Northern Tasmania. The idea of something of the kind had, indeed, to a certain extent become familiar to the minds of the people many years before. As early as 1840, when the building had been in existence only about fifteen years, there was already talk of extending it. The building of Trinity Church, however, and later, the forming of the new district which was afterwards to develop into the parish of St. Pauls, had obviated the need for this by providing accommodation for those who were unable to find room for themselves in the original mother Church. Later still, early in the incumbency of Canon Kelly, the matter was again brought forward, and it was proposed to raise an entirely new building. As a result of this movement, our present Architect, Mr. North, furnished plans which were submitted to a representative meeting of the parishioners, who approved of them and authorised the Rector to sign them on their behalf. Nothing further was, however, at this time done, partly no doubt owing to the widespread financial depression then existing, but chiefly because the energies and resources of the parish were then, and for a long time after, fully absorbed in various other directions. Some years later, under Canon Beresford, the scheme again came to the front, and fresh designs were prepared. These being approved and adopted, committees were forthwith appointed to further and superintend the work. As already mentioned, the task was actually begun in March, 1901, when substantial concrete foundations for the present portion (going down in places to a depth of over eleven feet), were put in at a cost of over £900. Early in the following year the memorial stone was solemnly laid in the base of the

east wall by His Excellency, Sir Arthur Havelock, in the presence of many of the leading people and a full and representative gathering of the clergy. The idea was to begin at once, and carry on the work steadily as long as the necessary funds were forthcoming. And in carrying out this aim, the promoters may assuredly be said to have been marvellously successful. Great patience and determination were needed on all hands to secure such a result, not only in the officers of the Church, but also among the people generally, to all of whom alike great praise is undoubtedly due. For, whilst a certain amount in large sums was assured from the first, the greater portion of the funds required came in more slowly, largely by small but regular



INTERIOR OF OLD CHURCH. LOOKING EAST.

donations and by quarterly collections in Church. The general conditions of the problem suggested, therefore, the adoption of special methods of construction so as to use to the best advantage the funds from time to time available, and yet avoid the ever present danger of at any time overstepping the actual bounds of prudence. Accordingly, save only the solid work of the foundations, no part of the building was done by contract. Including even the bluestone courses of the base, the whole structure had been raised by day labour, under the sole direction and superintendence of the Architect and Church Wardens. This method commended itself as best for various reasons. By such means every item of expenditure could be carefully watched

and all the funds in hand be laid out as economically as possible in labour and materials. There was also no need to provide for the ordinary profits of the professional builder, which would thus be made available for further operations. In both which respects, it may well be claimed, the method followed has been amply justified by the result attained. To those who have throughout had charge of this difficult and responsible task, a debt of gratitude is undoubtedly due on the part of the community as a whole, for the care and pains they have bestowed, and the great skill shown in guiding to a successful issue the many intricate technical questions which it had often involved. Under this system of management, according as the funds came in, the



INTERIOR OLD BUILDING. LOOKING WEST.

number of men actually employed on the work has varied greatly from time to time. Sometimes the walls appeared to rise rapidly; at other times progress was slow; at times it seemed to those who watched it with most attention to grow almost imperceptibly. The period of construction was thereby, doubtless to some extent, prolonged; but as a deliberate method, it had beyond doubt many advantages besides those enumerated. There was safety in it. The work could at any time be stopped immediately, should sufficient funds cease to come in. To many, perhaps, it seemed at times that some such course would sooner or later prove to be inevitable. Nevertheless, the work never wholly ceased, and the result of the system followed was

shown to be in every way satisfactory. One very important feature of the system was this, that great control was possible over all the details of the work, and greater care could be exercised in carrying them out. And lastly, but by no means least, as during the progress of the work various modifications of some of the more important details suggested themselves, it was easy to introduce them, and thereby greatly improve the structure as a whole. To this fact we undoubtedly owe some of the most striking features of the building as we now see it. It may indeed be said that in this way it had actually grown up beneath the hands of its gifted architect, and those who have so earnestly co-operated with him in carrying out his design, until the results attained very greatly exceed the highest hopes and expectations of all those who saw the work begin. The original plans have, as a matter of fact, been greatly developed, elaborated and extended in various particulars in the course of construction. The fact should therefore be realised that on the foundation laid in 1901, a far grander and in every way more stately building has been raised than any one of us contemplated then. And, whenever the entire plan is carried out, and the whole stands finished and complete, from east to west, those who see it then will have reason to feel how much there is to be proud of, and at the same time thankful for, in the building which these times have seen so well begun. Nor will they then forget, we trust, the debt they owe to those who in these last few years have so effectually watched and guided its first beginnings, and have laboured on it with such faithful and loving care. The efforts so directed have undoubtedly procured us not merely a finer building, but, when we realise the thoroughness of the work and the far reaching effect of the changes introduced, great economy of construction also. In point of fact the system described above may most justly be regarded as the truly natural method of producing all great buildings. It is at any rate that by means of which by far the greater part of the noblest buildings in the world were raised. The ordinary form of contract, so commonly associated with modern work, is necessarily to a great extent hard and fast, and binds the hands of those who are parties to it on either side. It can never lend itself readily to alteration and expansion during the progress of the work. On the contrary, it tends altogether to discourage and stifle any sort of initiative which might seem to point in that direction. In this way, therefore, and in others also, it is to a great extent apt to be fatal to the production of truly good and original work such as was commonly manifested by the builders of old, and such also as we see it already as far as we have gone in the new Church of St. John's. Are we not then justified in viewing these as being, in part at least, cause and effect? May we not, in fact, ask how far the lack of originality and freshness in most modern work is due wholly and solely to the prevailing contract system?

In carrying out the plan, a massive base of local bluestone was first raised upon the foundations already laid. To the east this base was carried to a greater height than elsewhere in the building. Above the bluestone courses the work was mainly done in Victorian brick of excellent tone and quality. In conjunction with the brick, however, ashlar courses of local freestone were introduced at intervals to give variety and greater freedom to the detail of the exterior, and added strength to the whole. Stone work of a somewhat more ornate and elaborate character was also introduced here and there with the same object in view; and invariably with good effect. Inside

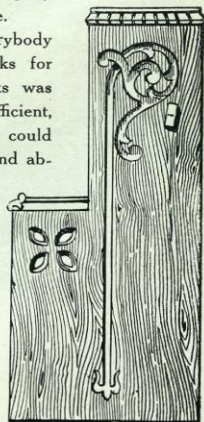
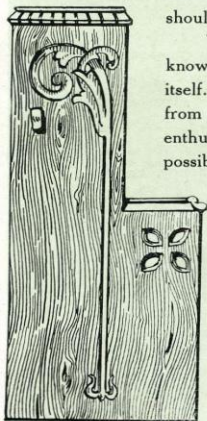
the building, stone was employed still more freely and with excellent result, as all must recognise. This was for sometime procured almost entirely from the Ross quarries. Later, some part was brought from New Norfolk, but more recently the whole of the large amount required was procured nearer home from the fine quarries then recently opened on the St. Patrick's River, in the Patersonia district. All the stone used is of first rate quality, and could perhaps be equalled in few places elsewhere. But, besides brick and stone, a vast amount of concrete has been used throughout. With this the centre of all the walls was filled, brick and stone being used practically only as a facing. Concrete also has been largely used for roof and flooring. Moreover, wherever special strain was to be looked for, the concrete was thoroughly reinforced with steel. This was employed in the form of interlacing wire-work; in rods of varying thickness, according to the strength required; and also, here and there, in the heavier form of railway iron. We may safely say that no building anywhere was ever raised stronger or sounder in construction. In fact, it may be said that nothing short of a general convulsion would seem able to bring about its dissolution. Those who have been required to make openings through the masonry since its completion can testify to the soundness of the structure and the difficulty of getting through the walls. Every precaution was adopted to secure the absolute stability of the whole, and no risks were at any time taken.

The general idea in taking in hand the complete reconstruction of the Church was doubtless, to begin with, a building of somewhat greater capacity than the old one, but still meant, like it, to serve solely as a parish Church. As the work has gone on many have come to see that within no very distant period, as such things go, the need must arise for a structure fitted for wider purposes than these, through the creation of a northern bishopric. It is obvious that the portion now constructed is in all respects capable, when needed, of being developed into a building highly adapted to all such diocesan purposes. The building as it now stands is indeed well and amply fitted to fulfil the part for many years to come of the principal Church of Northern Tasmania. And the addition hereafter of a new nave of like proportion and fitting detail will make it second to none amongst the Cathedral buildings of Australia now existing. Attention may be drawn to the massive thickness of the walls, affording the strongest and most pleasing contrasts of light and shade; to the beauty and grace of arch and window openings; to the stately columns and piers and buttresses; to the solidity and grandeur of the stone roofs and central dome, which between them cover the whole building; to the large and ample floor space and vast proportions generally; to the fair and noble carving which graces arch and pediment and capital: to the dignity imparted to the whole by the stately dome which rises high above the crossing. The lines of the whole building are indeed throughout graceful and pleasing in the extreme, and reliance has been placed more upon the beauty of these, combined with a satisfying sense of general proportion, than upon the richness and profusion of the carved stonework. Details of this kind have been, however, by no means neglected, as even a cursory glance will enable anyone to see. Much of the carving is yet to be done, the capitals to the piers and columns of all the main arches being so far quite plain and in their rough state. This is also the case as regards most of the pediments and canopies. The bold and graceful carving connected with the vaulting of the

central dome, and the lovely work already completed in the capitals of the shafts which support the vaulting of the chancel roof, with other portions here and there, provide a pleasing foretaste of what the rest will be when all is finished. The varied and beautiful window tracery is also a very striking feature, and thoroughly characteristic of the building; and when these are all filled with glass of satisfactory design and coloring, the windows will furnish one of the most admirable features of the Church as it now stands. It may be added that for the suggestion of the design of the glass which fills the beautiful circular window over the Elizabeth Street entrance the Church is indebted to the Bishop of the diocese.

Much remains to be done, both within and without, before even the present portion of the new Church can be looked upon as absolutely complete. Gables and turrets must be erected by degrees as funds are available. High-pitched roofs externally must cover the transepts and chancel. A dignified and lofty tower is to rise high above the central dome, whilst within mosaic, of bold lines and rich but soft shades, is designed to fill the roof and wall spaces, and clothe the dome itself with chastened splendour. When all this is done, Launceston will undoubtedly possess the first and most essential portion of a building capable of being matched by few if any other buildings on this side of the line; and when, as must ultimately be the case, a vast and glorious nave on similar lines is added, nothing will be wanting to make this building famous throughout the Southern Hemisphere—the pride not merely of this city, but of Northern Tasmania as a whole. But few of us who have now seen completed this first portion of the new Church of St. John's are at all likely to see the completion of the whole edifice by the addition of the proposed nave. The carrying out of that part of the scheme must be left to a future generation, to the piety and enthusiasm of our posterity. But at least we may claim that the portion now ready sets before them a very high standard, and by its very excellence does all that is possible to ensure that the work shall hereafter be carried on in a manner not unworthy of that already done. To God's greater glory should their work and ours alike and equally serve.

The architect of the building was, as everybody knows, Mr. Alexander North, whose work speaks for itself. The master mason and clerk of the works was from the first Mr. J. Birth, than whom none more efficient, enthusiastic, thorough and altogether resourceful could possibly have been found. The great accuracy and absolute soundness of all his work has evoked the highest praise throughout from those whose wide experience in such matters elsewhere makes them thoroughly competent to be judges. Mr. G. Phillips, during the later years, occupied throughout the position of master carpenter, in which he showed himself a good workman, well skilled and painstaking in what he had to do.



Lastly, the work has had the benefit of the excellent taste and skill of Mr. H. Cunningham, the well-known carver, whose achievements will compare favorably with the best work of the kind elsewhere. We may truly say that the undertaking in receiving the aid of these has been fortunate indeed. It should be noted that during the whole ten years which elapsed from the time the work was first seriously taken in hand until it has been so far finished, the same three Church Wardens have continuously been in office. This fact surely speaks volumes as to the confidence reposed in them by their fellow parishioners in connection with the superintendence of the building operations in progress all the time. To them indeed as a body, in conjunction with the different members of the Building Committee, the work owes a very great deal. Nor should we forget the devoted band of collectors, subscribers, and workers of every kind for the fund, whose devotion and self-denial have made the undertaking possible by providing, with such unceasing self-sacrifice and generosity, the means to carry it out.

The Wardens have expressed their keen appreciation of the enthusiasm of the Rev. C. G. Wilkinson, and the great assistance his knowledge of English Church architecture was in carrying out the work.

This short sketch would appear altogether incomplete without the account, however brief, of some of the later stages in the work, prior to and immediately following the time when it was so far nearing completion as naturally to suggest the possibility of its being at no very distant date made available for public use. Soon after the coming of the Rev. J. S. Bryers as Rector, some of our people, tired already of what necessarily seemed the slow progress of the work, and probably also of the continual drain upon the resources of the parish, began to suggest that the money needed should be obtained by means of a loan; the idea being that the building might in this way be speedily finished and brought into use, whilst the cost could be thereby spread over an indefinite number of years. This plan, however, did not commend itself to those who were mainly responsible for what had been done hitherto. They felt strongly that such an expedient would, of necessity, be full of danger: for they saw clearly how much yet remained to be done, and realised the probability that, when once the building was completed, and they were able to use it, there might be a falling off in the amount of the contributions to the fund through a feeling that enough had already been done, and that the task of meeting the loan might not unreasonably be left to those who came after. For some time longer, therefore, the operations were carried on exactly as they had been hitherto, only by means of somewhat lessening funds. Later, however, the desire to finish the task without delay became so strong that there was absolutely no resisting it. The Committee, therefore, agreed to borrow the money, and so far bring matters to a conclusion, though not altogether to a completion. By this means

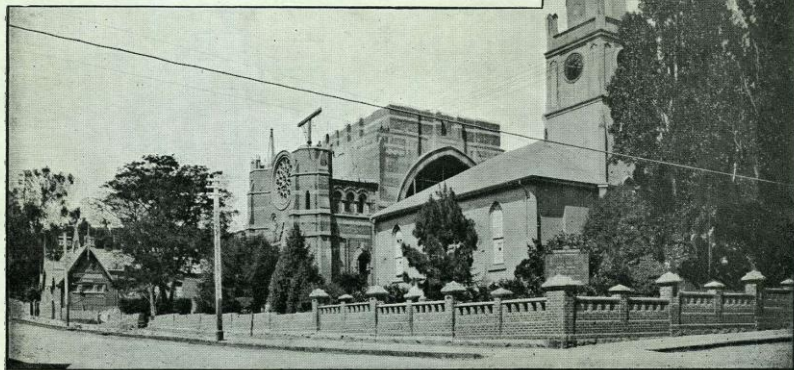


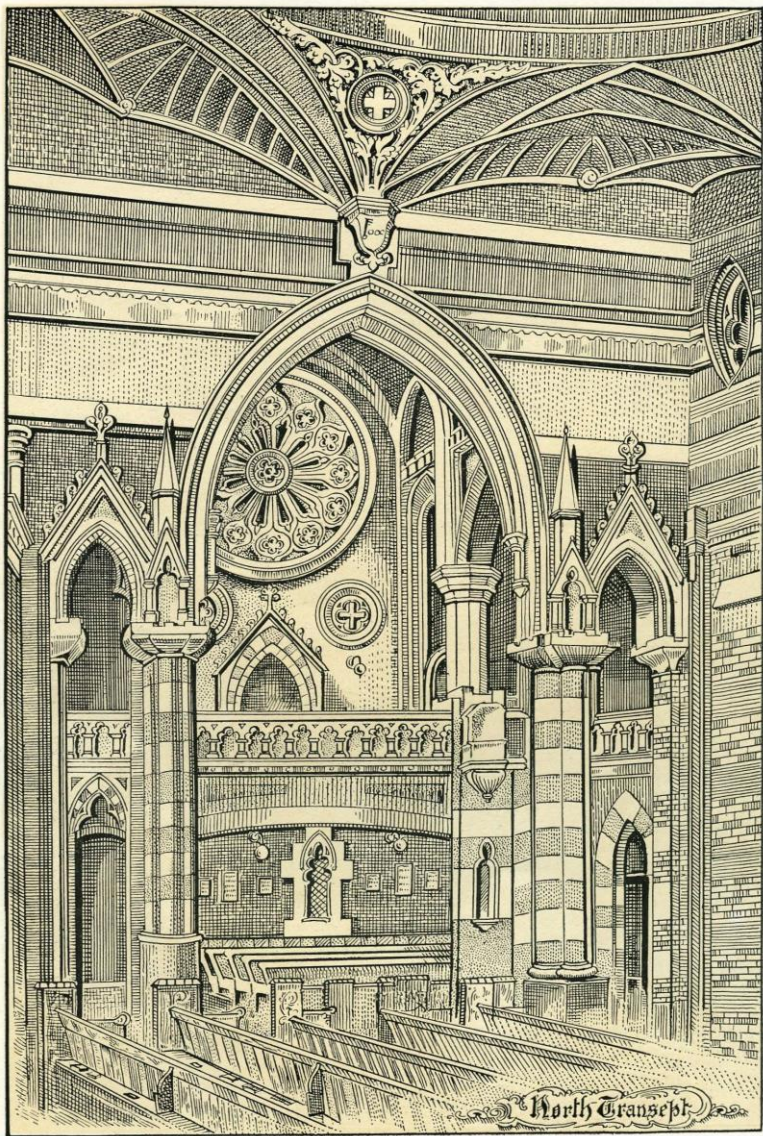
it speedily became possible to remove first of all the old chancel (which now for long had stood surrounded and overshadowed by the new structure) and, after putting in the first rough floor of concrete, to take down a large part of the end walls of the old building and so connect it with the new portion. By a temporary arrangement the two were first thrown into one to accommodate the vast assemblage which met to take part in the observances connected with the coronation of the present King; at which service the special offerings were set apart to provide one of the windows in the east wall of the building as a permanent memorial of such an important and interesting occasion. At that time, however, and for some time after, indeed almost up to the solemn dedication of the building, nearly six months later, on the first Sunday in December, 1911, but two of the window openings had their glass fixed in them, wind and rain being elsewhere imperfectly excluded by brightly colored material of somewhat flimsy texture stretched upon light wooden frames. When it is realised also that few, if any, of the doors had been hung, and that the weather, which at the time was frequently very rough and stormy, was only kept out by improvised curtains hung over the openings, it will easily be seen that the drawbacks were at first by no means few or inconsiderable. From that time onward however, week by week, by the efforts of Rector and Wardens, and by the generous support of the already heavily burdened parishioners and their friends, the conditions gradually improved all through the following summer, until by the time winter came round again the building was in a position to resist the most stormy weather. Many, doubtless, were the inconveniences of those times. Nor did they all cease at once and of themselves. But, at least to many among us, the satisfaction of seeing this beautiful building so far advanced towards completion as to be already capable of being put to the highest uses, far outweighed any temporary discomfort which might attend it. We found it possible, all of us, to forget the slight amount of personal inconvenience in face of so much that there was of the opposite quality. In spite, however, of the many personal gifts made at this time, and the unwearied efforts of individuals, the load of debt in these later stages steadily mounted up and increased, until the amount already borrowed was far exceeded, and it was soon evident that the overplus would have to be met, either by a further loan of a considerable amount, or by heroic measures of some other kind. On the one hand there was extreme reluctance on the part of everybody concerned to increase the amount, already large, of the permanent debt with its attendant burden of interest year by year; but what to suggest as an alternative no one was able to think. Little else was thought of or discussed where Church people met together. It was the most prominent question everywhere. A special committee was appointed to deal with the matter as a whole. They found their hands helpless in face of all the existing



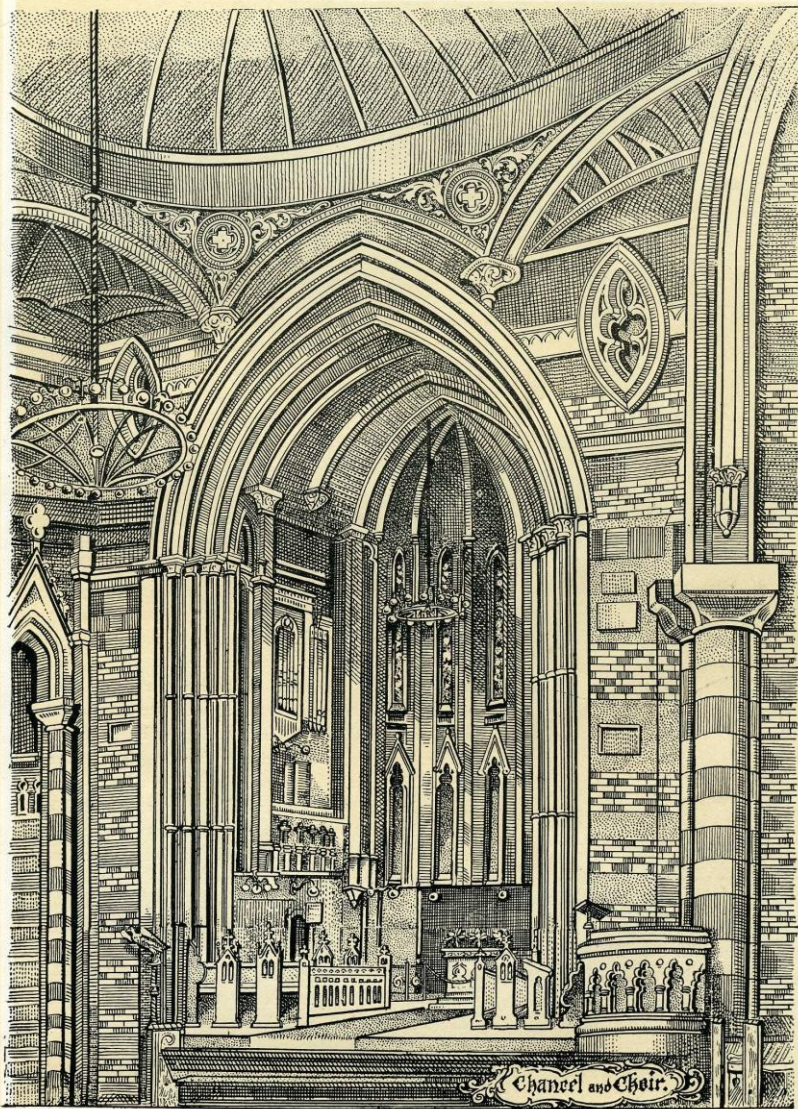


difficulties. It seemed a task well nigh hopeless. At this juncture, when everything seemed at its worst, two of our most prominent people came forward with an offer of a most generous character. There is no need to mention their names: they are known to everybody. None the less, gratitude demands that their generosity should be recorded here. All through the progress of the work their help had been given freely and ungrudgingly. To none more than to these two was the enterprise indebted from first to last. But this fact did not prevent them from offering further help; because they had the work at heart and were anxious above all to see the overwhelming burden of debt removed, and the task as far as possible completed and its fruits made fully available for all. They therefore offered each to give a sum of one thousand pounds if the people generally would raise another thousand amongst them. An offer like this at once put fresh heart into everybody. It seemed for the moment that a task, which had appeared for a while well nigh impossible, was now as good as done. Surely it would be a simple matter to raise another thousand pounds. Surely we could count on raising more than that! We might well hope that it would be exceeded! The attempt was made forthwith, but seemed at first mainly to prove the magnitude of the task in hand. Circumstances had made it increasingly difficult in these later years to obtain the funds required. And such was found to be the case in the present instance. Some there were who were found ready enough to respond, and give what they felt was right. But for the remainder it was difficult indeed to press too hardly on those who had been so frequently called upon. As we write these closing lines, however, we learn with grateful hearts that the full thousand has been assured, and the Church is relieved from the incubus of a heavy financial burden, which might otherwise have paralysed the efforts of the clergy and parishioners in the spiritual side of Church work. It is indeed a noble undertaking, and well worth the splendid self-denial that has assured the completion of the present sections of the projected building.





North Transept



Chancel and Choir.

AS visitors to the Church not infrequently seek information concerning the subject so beautifully depicted in the great Rose Window of the south gable, a word or two regarding this will not surely be thought altogether out of place. It is, we suppose, fairly generally known that for the suggestions, of which the artist has made such fine use here, we are indebted to the good taste and nice discrimination of Bishop Mercer. He named for treatment in the larger openings twelve of the most familiar and widely recognised of the symbols connected with the person and offices of our Blessed Lord. These, taken in order from the top (going round the window in the direction of the hands of



a clock), will be found to be The Cross, The Lily, The Rose, The Grape, The Corn, The Fish, The Lion, The Lamb, The Lamp, The Sun, The Key and the Sceptre. The treatment of the remainder is purely decorative, with the exception of the central space, which is occupied by the sacred monogram, the Alpha and Omega, the best known perhaps of all the symbols of our Lord. The whole of this window is considered by good judges to be in excellent taste, the artist's treatment being good throughout, and well calculated to bring out the great beauty of the stonework. A fact which is probably less generally known may, we think, be fittingly referred to here, viz: that for one of the boldest and most striking features of the whole building we are also indebted to another happy inspiration of our Bishop when staying at the Rectory some years ago. He then suggested the throwing of a lofty dome above the central portion of the Church. This, after some hesitation on account of structural difficulties and the somewhat increased expense which it involved, was enthusiastically adopted by those responsible, and a special character thereby given to the whole building, which probably could not have been obtained in any other way. We may add that his Lordship has further shewn the keen interest he has always taken in this great work by himself under-

taking to provide at some future time the money needed to complete the great tower designed to stand above the dome, whenever the exterior is completed.

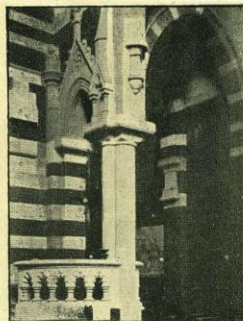
Doubts have at times been felt as to the need in Launceston for a building such as our new St. John's. It should be enough to appeal, surely, to such recent happenings as the death of our late King, and the coronation of his son. At both times public services were held, largely attended by all denominations of Christian folk: on the earlier occasion in the old Church; on the other with the new part added. Could it fail to have struck those who were present at these two services how much had been gained on the second occasion by the additions then first brought into use: and

this in spite of there being so much that could only be looked upon as wholly of a temporary nature in the general appointments of the building at the time? Under such altogether unfavourable conditions and circumstances, it was surely evident to all how much more of outward reverence and decency, and even dignity of worship, had become possible by reason of the ampler spaces and nobler proportions of the new Church. And how many such occasions must arise in years to come of State, or diocesan, or national importance for which a building such as this alone could serve, a great building raised especially for holy uses and hallowed by associations of the most intimate and sacred kind? How many a generation in time to come may have reason to thank God for the faithful efforts which provided them with such a fane! And how thankful should we be ourselves that the great privilege has fallen to our lot to help, though in ever so small a way, in the accomplishment of such a noble work!

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

It will be of interest to readers who may not have the opportunity to visit St. John's Church to know that all the illustrations and artistic embellishments used in the printing of this Souvenir are part and parcel of the building itself, and not merely stock ecclesiastical ornaments used by the printer as suitable for the work.

The following are amongst the subjects: Freestone railing to gallery and organ-loft; carved ends of Church pews; oak and brass communion rails; arches at Elizabeth Street entrance; arcading in Grammar School Chapel; eagle and lamb as carved in the embellishment of the dome; the Greek cross; carvings on the altar; brass lectern of old St. John's; brass lectern, South Chapel, new Church; Balfour and Dry memorials; baptismal font, ewer and Oriental shell in old Church; alms dish.



The special drawings by the artist of the chancel and South (Grammar School) Chapel give a very fine representation of the noble proportions and symmetrical design of the Architect in his conception of a future Cathedral for a Northern Diocese, and the acceptance of such an ambitious project by the Parishioners exhibits an optimism as to the ecclesiastical future of this part of the State that is truly inspiring.

It is sincerely hoped and anticipated that, as all the windows, and a great deal of the interior furnishings of the Church are voluntary gifts, memorials, or thanks offerings of members of the congregation, this splendid example will still be emulated by others according to the necessities of the building and the means of donors.

An interesting feature of the construction of the Church is the three distinct classes of freestone used—pink, yellow and white—all obtained from Tasmanian quarries—each distinctly differing in colour, texture and specific gravity, but equally useful and effective for building purposes.

PLAN OF ST. JOHN'S SITTINGS

IN THE YEARS 1840 TO 1850.

Amongst the interesting records of St. John's is an old plan of the sittings, with the seatholders, between the years 1840 and 1850, and, though the reproduction of the plan itself would not enhance the attractiveness of the Souvenir, the names of individuals thereon are printed hereunder as of considerable personal interest. The plan shows that the arrangement of the interior of the Church was vastly different in those days to that of 1901, when the foundation stone of the new structure was laid, and specific allotment of space was made "in the old time" for "Governor," "Military," "Officers," "Chaplain," "Strangers," "Sunday School Children" and "Free." Strangers were provided with seats close

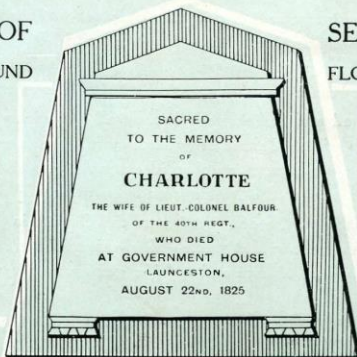
up to the pulpit, whilst free back of the building downstairs, galleries. The Sunday School organ in the South Gallery. The every pew, and evidently varied position, and hence those nearest 15/- each, whilst those more remote were 10/-. Upstairs in at 15/- (for front seats), 12/6, position, light and liability to the windows. On the ground to have been removed, probably accommodation, and the numbers the north side of the pulpit, No. 4 Church, all subsequent numbers way back and forth, and Nos. the centre block from the front tion at right angles to the other the South exactly opposite the section filling the space in the North Gallery opposite the Sunday School Children.



NAMES OF

GROUND

Messrs. Reibey,
Capt. Synnot, Messrs.
stone, Weedon, Weir,
Beck, Captain Stewart,
Fletcher, Morris, Hyde,
lingsworth, Radford,
ders, Priaulx,
Day, Manley,



SEATHOLDERS.

FLOOR:

Simpson, Lawrence,
Smith, Easton, John-
Wm. Dean, Antey,
Mrs. D'Arch, Messrs.
Neville, Elliott, Hol-
Adams, Browne, Saun-
Kilner, Claridge,
Eddie, Johnson,

NAMES OF SEATHOLDERS—*Continued.*

Dr. Robertson, Messrs. Atkinson, Jones, Milligan, White, Whitehouse, Culley, Moore, Lark, Miss Gore, Messrs. Knight, Rocher, Birch, Kennedy, De Dassell, Rev. Gibbon, Messrs. Gough, Green, W. Henty, Jas. Henty, Mrs. Cowie, Messrs. Griffiths, Uther, Robson, Dry, Barnard, Reading, Oldham, Mrs. Parker, Messrs. Bransgrove, Kentish, F. Evans, Mrs. Field, Messrs. Flexman, Franks, Mann, Sinclair, Dr. Pugh, Messrs. Gleadow, Kennedy, Synnot, Coulston, Thomson, Turner, Weymouth, De Little, Flexmore, Miss Capon, Mr. Hudson, Dr. Maddox, Dr. Barton, Messrs. Windeatt, Cameron, J. King, Davenport, S. E. Harvey, Haynes, Brooks, Williams.

NORTH GALLERY :

Mr. Palmer Rundall, Mrs. King, Douglas, Bryant, Spencer, Paget, C. S. Henty. Mrs. Cox, Mrs. Andrews, Messrs. Mason, Mrs. Duncan, Mrs. Boon, Messrs. Barrett, J. Reeve, G. Eddie, Lyne, and Cowtin.

SOUTH

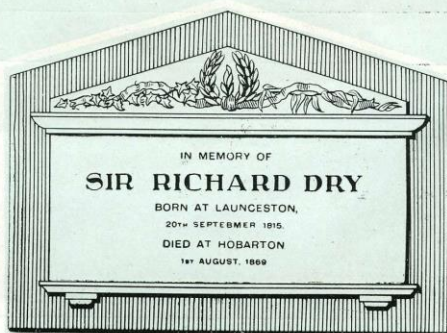
Messrs. Hogbin, Jackson, ning, Cassidy, Tucker, Taylor, Captain Tregurtha, Windeatt, Sams, Minnett, Mrs. Thomas, Sparrow, Tevelein, Best, Mrs. Gilles.

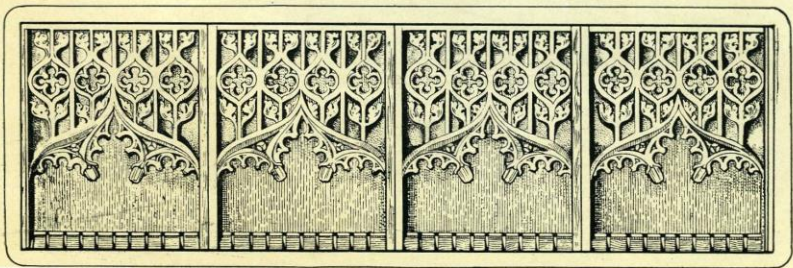
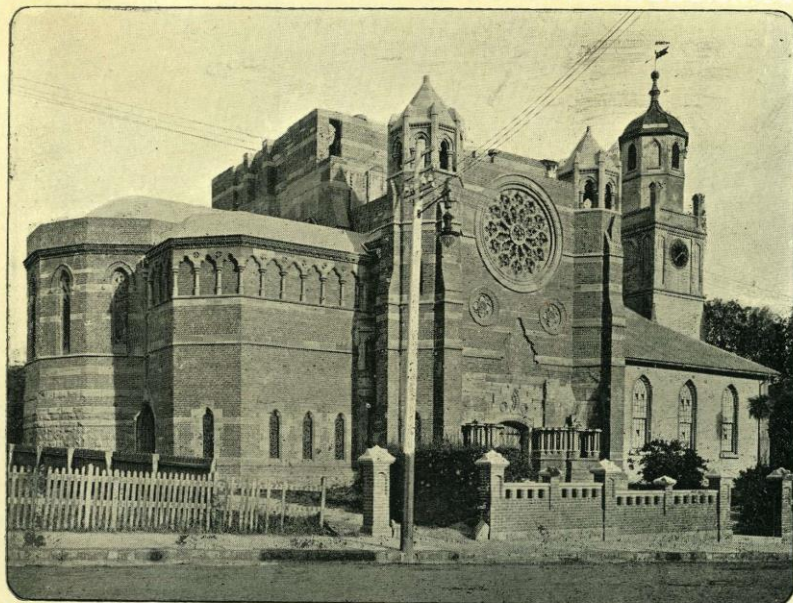
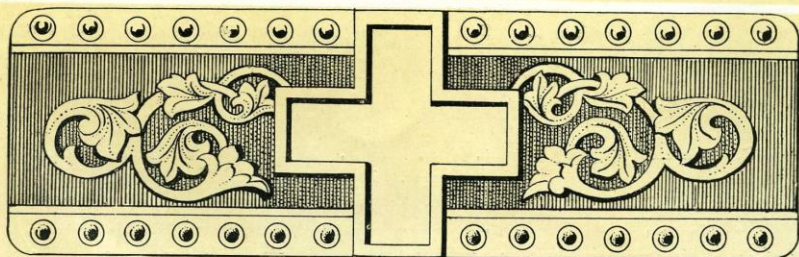


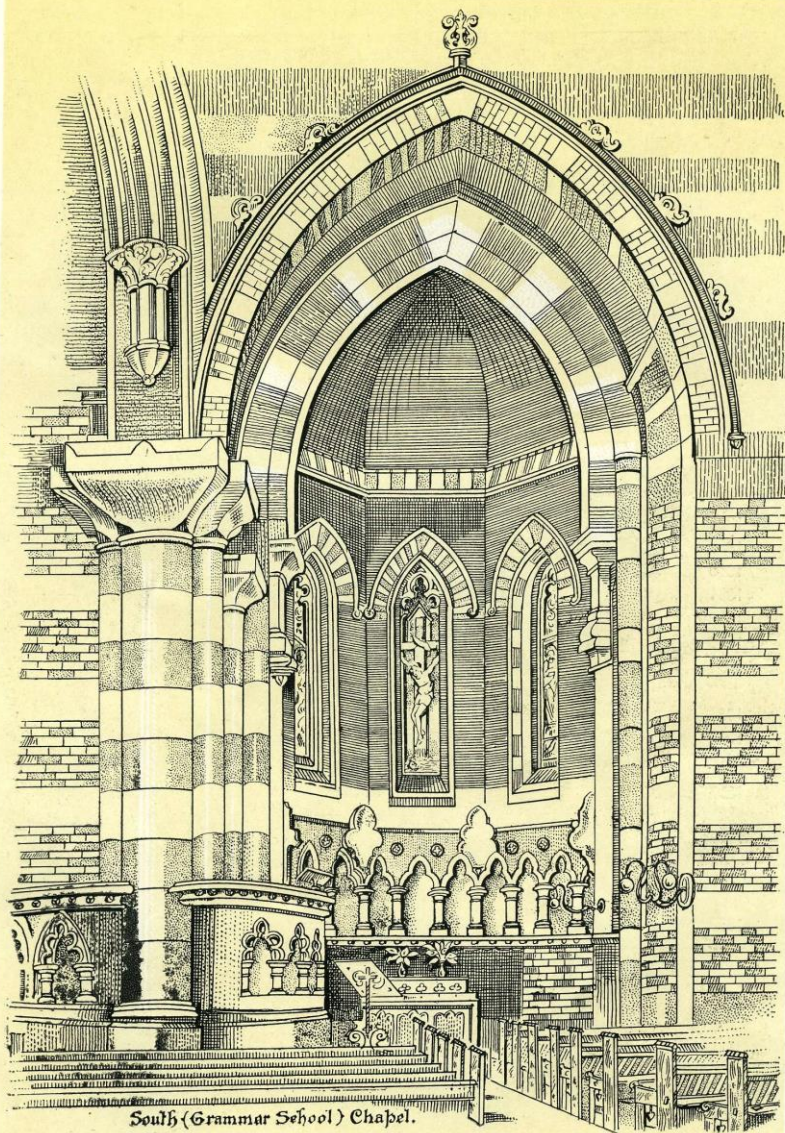
Field, Messrs. Edmunds, R. J. Orr, Piddington, Walbourne, Messrs. W. G. Walker, Parker, Poulton, Waddel, Miller, Horne, Peters, Marriner, Fildesley, Green, Gilbert, Galley, Beach, Clifford,

GALLERY.

Ward, Bennett, Langmaid, Twin-Atkinson, Goddard, Goodwin, Ferguson, Archer, Williams, Mrs. McKee, Messrs. Spencer, Hines, Messrs. Underwood and







South (Grammar School) Chapel.

St. John's Church,
LAUNCESTON.

Official Record,
from
1825 TO 1913.

YEAR.	INCUMBENT.	WARDENS.	ORGANIST.
1825	Rev. John Youl	W. Kenworthy T. B. Bartley	No Record
1826	"	"	"
1827	Rev. James Norman	"	"
1828	Rev. W. H. Browne	"	Mrs. Nairne
1829	"	"	"
1830	"	"	"
1831	"	"	"
1832	"	"	"
1833	"	"	"
1834	"	W. Kenworthy Lewis Gilles	"
1835	"	"	"
1836	" John Leade, Catechist	"	"
1837	"	W. G. Sams James Flexman	"
1838	"	Henry Priaulx J. C. Underwood William Henty	"
1839	"	John Cameron William Henty J. A. Eddie	"
1840	"	R. Mauley John Cameron John Atkinson	"
1841	"	William Fletcher John Atkinson F. Palmer	"

St. John's Church,
LAUNCESTON.

Official Record,

from
1825 TO 1913.

Continued.

YEAR.	INCUMBENT.	WARDENS.	ORGANIST.
1842	Rev. W. H. Browne John Leade	W. Fletcher R. De Little W. Synnott, jun.	Mrs. Nairne
1843	„	J. W. Cunningham G. Borradaile James Henty	„
1844	„	J. W. Cunningham T. S. Atkins W. Parker	„
1845	„	C. J. Weedon W. Henty J. Atkinson	T. L. Beckford (acting)
1846	„	C. J. Weedon — Gilbert Francis Evans	Thos. Rolfe
1847	„	Richard Green J. Ferguson D. A. Turner	T. L. Beckford
1848	„	Vincent Giblin J. Ferguson W. Turner	„ D. A. Turner (Director Music).
1849	„	Vincent Giblin W. Johnstone — Kennedy	„
1850	Rev. W. H. Browne	W. Johnstone E. P. Tregurtha N. Oldham	T. L. Beckford

St. John's Church, Official Record.

Continued.

YEAR.	INCUMBENT.	WARDENS.	ORGANIST.
1851	Rev. W. H. Browne	N. Oldham St. J. Ed. Browne John Windeatt	T. L. Beckford "
1852	"	J. E. Harvey W. M. Dean St. J. Ed. Browne	"
1853	From May 16th, Rev. W. H. Browne Rev. J. M. Norman	W. M. Dean — Cleveland Jas. Smith	W. Snelling
1854	Town Term "	— Cleveland W. Henty James Flexman	"
1855	" To Dec. 3	W. Henty R. Green R. S. Pryce	Thos. Sharpe
1856	Rev. W. H. Browne	R. Green T. C. Weetman — Westbrook	Miss Henry
1857	"	T. C. Weetman Thos. Fuller W. Barnes	Thos. Sharpe
1858	"	Thos. Fuller W. Turner A. Harrap	"
1859	"	A. Harrap W. H. Clayton B. Campion	"
1860	"	A. Harrap C. C. Swan Robt. Marlow	"
1861	"	A. Harrap Ed. Boyes W. A. Parker	"
1862	"	A. Harrap E. P. Tregurtha John Waldron	"



St. John's Church, Official Record.

Continued.

YEAR.	INCUMBENT.	WARDENS.	ORGANIST.
1863	Rev. W. H. Browne	A. Harrap E. P. Tregurtha W. S. Allanby	Thos. Sharpe
1864	"	W. S. Allanby F. Lakin E. Gaunt	"
1865	"	W. S. Allanby — Butler A. Harrap	"
1866	"	— Butler Thos. Fuller Dr. Ozanne	"
1867	"	W. Barnes A. Harrap B. Campion	"
1868	Rev. M. B. Brownrigg	A. Harrap B. Campion Thos. Fuller	"
1869	"	"	"
1870	"	A. Harrap Alfred Green G. Babington	"
1871	"	"	"
1872	"	W. Turner W. S. Allanby Alfred Green	"
1873	"	"	"
1874	"	W. Turner H. Barnett G. Babington	"
1875	"	W. Turner B. Campion A. Harrap F. Lakin	"





St. John's Church, Official Record.

Continued.

YEAR.	INCUMBENT.	WARDENS.	ORGANIST.
1876	Rev. M. B. Brownrigg (afterwards Canon)	W. Turner B. Champion F. Lakin	F. Ferguson
1877	"	W. Turner F. Lakin L. R. Blyth	"
1878	"	"	"
1879	"	"	Carl Schmitt Henry King
1880	"	W. Turner Thos. Fuller Joe Firth	"
1881	"	W. Turner F. Lakin Joe Firth	"
1882	"	W. Turner F. Lakin Thos. Fuller	"
1883	"	"	H. King (resigned) W. W. Thornthwaite
1884	"	G. Babington F. Lakin R. J. Sadler	"
1885	"	G. Babington F. Lakin A. Harrap	"
1886	(Resigned)	"	"
1887	Rev. E. C. Champion	W. Martin F. Lakin S. Eardley-Wilmot	"



St. John's Church, Official Record.

Continued.

YEAR.	INCUMBENT.	WARDENS.	ORGANIST.
1888	Rev. E. C. Champion Rev. S. Hart (Curate)	W. Martin F. Lakin S. Eardley-Wilmot	J. Bryan
1889	Rev. E. C. Champion Rev. G. Bourdillon (Curate)	W. Martin M. E. Robinson F. Lakin C. J. Kent	"
1890	Rev. E. C. Champion (resigned) Rev. G. Bourdillon	W. Martin W. Perrin M. E. Robinson	H. L. Smith
1891	Rev. A. Pollard Rev. G. Bourdillon (resigned) Rev. R. C. N. Kelly (resigned)	W. Martin W. Perrin E. Whitfeld	"
1892	Rev. R. C. N. Kelly (Rector) Rev. Frank Parnall (Curate)	M. E. Robinson W. Perrin E. Whitfeld	"
1893	Rev. R. C. N. Kelly Rev. S. Ingle (Curate)	J. C. Genders W. Perrin E. Whitfeld	"
1894	Rev. R. C. N. Kelly Rev. F. Parnall (resigned) Rev. H. Christie (Curate)	W. Perrin E. Whitfeld W. J. Genders	"
1895	Rev. R. C. N. Kelly Rev. E. C. Spink (Curate)	"	"
1896	"	"	"

St. John's Church, Official Record.

Continued.

YEAR.	INCUMBENT.	WARDENS.	ORGANIST.
1897	Rev. Canon Kelly Rev. Canon Beresford Rev. E. C. Spink	W. J. Genders E. Whitfeld M. B. Brownrigg	H. L. Smith
1898	Rev. Canon Beresford Rev. E. C. Spink Rev. C. G. Wilkinson	"	Miss Evershed J. H. Fray
1899	Rev. Canon Beresford Rev. L. A. Wyatt Rev. C. G. Wilkinson Rev. Canon Howell Rev. W. S. Stone	W. J. Genders E. Whitfeld M. B. Brownrigg	J. H. Fray
1900	Rev. Canon Beresford Rev. Canon Howell Rev. W. S. Stone	M. F. Brownrigg W. Perrin W. G. Genders	"
1901	Rev. Canon Beresford Rev. W. S. Stone Rev. F. A. Fernau Rev. C. G. Wilkinson	E. Whitfeld W. Perrin M. F. Brownrigg	"
1902	Rev. Canon Beresford Rev. F. A. Fernau Rev. A. Pollard	E. Whitfeld W. Perrin W. A. Whitaker	"
1903	Rev. Canon Beresford Rev. F. A. Fernau	"	"
1904	"	"	"
1905	Rev. Canon Beresford Rev. J. Hebblethwaite Rev. F. Riley Rev. F. B. Bethune	"	" Miss Evershed
1906	Rev. Canon Beresford Rev. F. Riley	"	" A. S. Wells (Choirmaster)
1907	Archdeacon Beresford (Rector) Rev. James Norman	"	"

St. John's Church, Official Record.

Continued.

YEAR.	INCUMBENT.	WARDENS	ORGANIST.
1908	Archdeacon Beresford (Rector) Rev. O'Bresnen Ball Rev. J. Gray Rev. E. C. Muschamp (Acting Rector) Rev. C. Lumsden Rev. J. S. Bryers (Rector)	E. Whitfeld W. Perrin W. A. Whitaker	Miss Evershed A. S. Wells (Choirmaster).
1909	Rev. J. S. Bryers (Rector) Rev. Canon J. K. Wilmer Rev. F. A. Fernau Rev. L. U. Alley Rev. G. N. Watson	"	"
1910	Rev. J. S. Bryers Rev. L. U. Alley Rev. G. N. Watson	"	"
1911	Rev. J. S. Bryers Rev. G. C. Rawlins Rev. F. B. C. Birch	"	"
1912	Rev. J. S. Bryers Rev. C. G. Wilkinson (Acting Rector) Rev. G. C. Rawlins Rev. F. B. C. Birch	"	G. Hopkins
1913	Rev. C. G. Wilkinson (Acting Rector) Rev. F. B. C. Birch Rev. H. N. Baker (Rector)	E. Whitfeld W. Perrin F. Lester	"
1914	Rev. H. N. Baker (Rector)	A. L. Green F. Lester E. A. Gee	"

GIFTS AND MEMORIALS.

CHANCEL.

Subject.	Memorial (if any).	Donor or Source.
Annunciation	Mrs. Josephine Mercer	Fund provided by Rev. J. S. Bryers
Incarnation		Scholars of the Sunday School
Our Lord in Majesty	Funeral of Edward VII.	Public Subscription
Resurrection	The Parents of Donors	The Misses Howe
Ascension	Coronation of George V.	The Congregation
The Great Altar		The Gift of the Communicants
The Altar Rails	Husband of Donor	The late Mrs. Barnes
Altar Desk and Service Books		The late Mrs. Barnes
Brass Alms Dish		The late Mrs. Barnes
Kneelers in Sanctuary		Mrs. H. Lakin
Choir Stalls		The Girls' Friendly Society
Clergy Stalls, 1		S. Eardley-Wilmot
Clergy Stalls, 2		Mrs. John Martin
Chancel Carpet		Miss Harrap
Lectern	The Sister of Donor	Miss Oakden
Pulpit	Husband of Donor	Mrs. Dry
Faldstool	The Mother of Donors	Family of J. F. Jones
Hanging Lights under dome and in chancel		The Messrs. Green

GRAMMAR SCHOOL CHAPEL.

The Blessed Virgin	The Mother of Donor	Miss Oakden
The Crucifixion	The Parents of Donor	Miss F. M. Parramore
St. John	The Wife of Donor	H. Gillett
Centurion of the Gospel	Grand-parents of Donors	Grand-children of Capt. Wm. Neilley
Christ Blessing Little Children. }	Father of Donor	Miss Bennett
The Call of St. Andrew and St. Peter }	The Rev. R. D. Poulett-Harris	Miss Bennett
Centurion of the Acts	Ancestor of Donor	F. M. Littler
The Seas		Former Pupils of the School.
The Altar		Four Communicants
The Lectern	Husband of Donor	Mrs. Parker
The Prayer Desk		G. E. Phillips
Armorial Bearings of the Family }	Archdeacon Browne	Montague Browne

GIFTS AND MEMORIALS.—*Continued.*

OTHER WINDOWS.

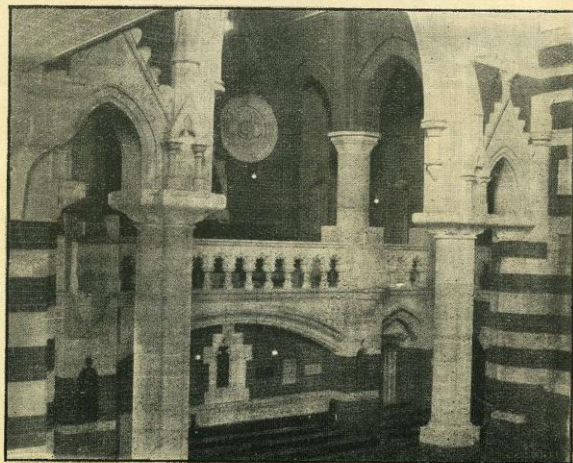
Subject.	Memorial (if any).	Donor or Source.
The Great Rose Window		W. and Mrs. W. Perrin
Vesica Window (St. John the Baptist)	Archdeacon Hutchens	Archdeacon Browne
The Windows in the Choir Vestry	The joint gift of Rev. J. S. Bryers and Mr. W. Perrin	

BRASSES, ETC., ON THE WALLS.

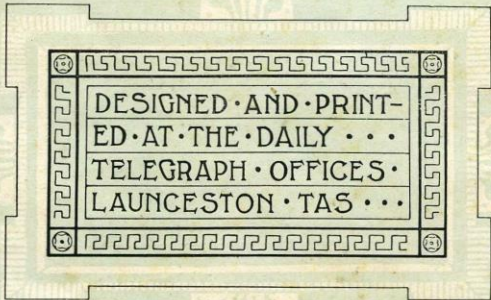
The Rev. John Youl (first Chaplain)	A. and C. A. Youl
Gerald Eardley-Wilmot	Stuart Eardley-Wilmot
C. H. W. Edginton	Masters & Boys of the Grammar School
Cadet Stephenson	Officers and Cadets of St. John's Corps
Alfred Green, Esquire	Public Subscription

OTHER SPECIAL GIFTS.

The Mosaics in the upper part of the dome	The Architect (Mr. Alex. North)
Oak Almsboxes	Mrs. Perrin
Iron Gates at South Entrance	Miss Bennett
Boundary Walls of Church Yard	Public Subscription



THE NORTH TRANSEPT.



DESIGNED • AND • PRINT-
ED • AT • THE • DAILY • • •
TELEGRAPH • OFFICES •
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