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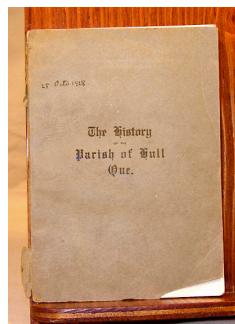
# The History of the Parish of Hull, Que. - 1923 CA0257

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## **ABOUT THIS CD:**

The by line in this book credits the Rev. E. G. May and Walter H. Millen as the 'compilers', but from the preface it is clear that much of the content was taken from a series of articles first published in *The Montreal Churchman* in 1913 and authored by Archdeacon Naylor. This original material has then been enhanced and expanded by a number of other named individuals to finally arrive at this more complete history of the Church of England in the city of Hull, Quebec.

Now, don't let me mislead you into thinking this is purely about the church because, of course, the church was the centre of the local society and so the story of the church is also the story of the community, and vice versa. The first of the church's representatives, the Rev Mr. Meach, settled in the area within a few years of Philemon Wright's pioneering influx in the early 1800's and thus began the parish of Hull (although not named as such at the time.)

The first actual church building, St. James', was conceived in 1820 and the book traces the story of the building and use of this and the subsequent structures through to the date of the book's publication.

Of particular value is the books appendix which, in addition to reproducing a number of documents of critical importance to the church's development also contains various lists of the bishops, incumbents, wardens and those parishioners making donations to fund the actual building of the first church.

This is 80 pages packed with valuable information about the earliest years of the development of the Ottawa - Hull region.

The lack of either a table of contents or an index makes the ability to computer search our reproduction of the book on CD a valuable addition, greatly enhancing accessibility to the information it contains.

## **ABOUT THIS BOOK:**

Considering that this little book only has a paper cover to protect it, it is in amazing condition for its 85 years age. This is partly due to its being assembled using the same techniques used for more expensive binding techniques. The cover, on the other hand, was definitely showing signs of wear and we have applied a little first aid to keep it together.

This valuable book has been loaned to us by its proud owner, Karen Prytula. We were pleased to receive her offer to allow us to scan the book so we could help her to preserve it and at the same time make it more available. Please join us in thanking Karen, and letting her know that her generosity is being appreciated.

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**The History**  
OF THE  
**Parish of Hull**  
**Que.**

BEING  
The Record of the First Hundred Years  
1823 - 1923

COMPILED BY  
The Rev. E. G. May and Walter H. Millen, Esq.

*With Illustrations*  
1923.

THE DADSON-MERRILL PRESS LIMITED  
OTTAWA.

## PREFACE

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When the historical notes of the late Archdeacon Naylor were published as a History of the Deanery of Clarendon, the Mother Church and Parish of Hull was not included; there were two main reasons for this apparently strange omission, first a History of the Parish of Hull by the same pen had been published in a series of articles in the Montreal Churchman of 1913, and secondly the strictest economy was necessitated by the very high prices ruling in 1919 when the History of Clarendon was published. The Historical interest and importance of the Parish of Hull both on account of its age and geographical situation seems to demand greater notice, and to call for the issue of a bound volume containing not only a reprint of what the late Archdeacon wrote, but also such other additions as are only possible today through further research, to bring the Parish History up to date.

The acquisition of several most valuable and interesting documents, found amongst the personal papers of the late Philemon Wright, and presented to the Corporation of St. James' Church by Miss Frances A. Wright, has made such additions possible.

No time could be more suitable than the Centenary year for the publication of such a volume, which we trust will be of real interest to descendants of the early Pioneers, and of possible value to students of local history.

As Editors, we lay no claim to any great share of originality, our's has been rather a work of compilation, which has been rendered comparatively easy through the painstaking efforts of others; for that very reason we are anxious to give credit not only to those who have been already alluded to, but to those many others also to whom it is due whose contributions have greatly lessened our labours.

The Rev. H. B. Metcalf obtained for us the account of the visit of Dr. Stewart and other historical data; and through the kindness of The E. B. Eddy Company we have been enabled to reproduce from an engraving in their possession, the only authentic picture of the first St. James' Church; Mr. and Mrs. W. H. G. Garrioch, out of their intimate knowledge of events, have written the history of the Women's Guild of St. James' Church, but it should however be recorded here that to their ceaseless interest and almost tireless energy, in that and other directions, a very large measure of the achievements of that period of our history are due.

The Rev. Canon Smith whose own incumbency of thirty-six years together with family associations cover a period of more than seventy-six years, supplied the late

Archdeacon with most of the matter for his articles, and has given us valuable assistance and information from time to time. We owe to Mr. Edwin Broadhead the account of the destruction of the first Church; to Mr. Lorne Young of Ottawa the copy of the Report of the Masonic Ceremony of laying the foundation of the second.

Through the kindness of the Rev. Lennox Smith we are able to include the portrait of the Rev. S. S. Strong; the Montreal Churchman lent the "cuts" of the Rev. Amos Ansley and Canon Johnston and has allowed us to make use of their articles; while the rest of our illustrations have been obtained from the excellent photographs specially taken by Miss Charlotte Millen. Lastly in the preparation of the letter-press Miss Annie Anderson has given very valuable assistance in her careful typing of the Manuscript. To each and all of these we desire to express our very deep appreciation and sincere thanks.

It is not easy for the generation growing up amid the industrial activities of the City of Hull, or in the more important Capital City of this wide Dominion with its stately Houses of Parliament, and other imposing Buildings, to picture this District as it was a hundred years ago; when their forefathers with a sturdy courage that recked nothing of difficulty or danger, and with extraordinary patience, hewed their first homes out of virgin forests by strength of arm, harnessed the forces of the mighty waters, and laid the foundation of vast fortunes to which they have fallen heirs. Only the careful collection of facts, and their incorporation in a History, can

enable succeeding generations to keep these things in mind, and to estimate the debt the Nation owes to its Pioneers. What is true of the Nation is equally true of the Church in this respect. Moreover examples of the past should prove the inspiration for the future; to this end, and with this hope, we have gladly undertaken the task of gathering together the records which are here published in the History of the Parish of Hull.

Hull, Que.,  
Sept. 1923.

E.G.M.  
W.H.M.



# History

OF

## St. James' Church

### Hull.

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The first white man who, so far as is known, explored the Township of Hull with a view to settlement, was Philemon Wright, a native of Woburn, near Boston. He made trips to what is now the Township of Hull in 1796, 1797 and 1798; coming always by way of Montreal. In reply to enquiries which he made in Montreal he was told that there were not 500 acres of land in the whole valley of the Ottawa capable of cultivation. "Well", he answered, "you may bet your best beaver skin that there are more than five hundred thousand acres of uncleared land fit for cultivation." His estimate was well within the mark. It is safe to say that between the Ottawa and the Gatineau Rivers there are over six hundred thousand acres occupied beside the great country on the south shore and the long reach from Hull and Ottawa eastward.

## HISTORY OF ST. JAMES' CHURCH, HULL

### LOSS OF THE FIRST CHURCH

The following account of the loss of the first St. James' Church is furnished from facts supplied by Mr. Edwin Broadhead, who, a small boy of ten years old at the time, was an eye witness of the occurrence. In the course of time, since the Church was first erected, some houses had been built upon the land surrounding, during the same period through stress of wind and storm the shingles of the church roof had become curled and frayed. One of the occupants of the houses who had been engaged in underbrushing his holding, and had collected a large pile set fire to it, in order to get the rubbish out of the way, as the flames increased sparks from the bonfire were carried up into the air and falling on to the roof of the church set light to the shingles at one spot.

Seeing what had happened Edwin ran to tell his father, the caretaker of the church, who was engaged at work in The E. B. Eddy Match Factory just below the hill. J. W. Broadhead hastened at once to the Church, and William Warren one of the millwrights at the Factory, picking up his axe, accompanied him. As no ladder could be found long enough to reach the eaves both men entered the Church, and climbing up under the roof, broke a hole with the axe, in an attempt to get at the fire from below, as soon however as the shingles were lifted the fire spread over the whole roof with amazing rapidity, rendering useless all further efforts to subdue the flames,



THE HONOUR ROLL

## HISTORY OF ST. JAMES' CHURCH, HULL

Of the sixty-seven whose names appear on our Honour Roll nine were called upon to seal their sacrifice with their lives, and as on a tablet it is hardly possible to do more than record names, we take the opportunity of this history to give the facts mentioned in our Parish Registers in regard to our heroic dead.

**Major Gordon Brooks Wright**—3rd Division of Canadian Engineers, who was awarded the D.S.O. for distinguished gallantry and ability, was killed in Action at Festubert on the 21st of May, 1915. It was said of him "he died a Hero to save others." His body was buried at Hinges about three or four miles N. of Bethune, behind the Chateau grounds.

**Major Stanley Joshua Wright**—50th Calgary Regiment, who was promoted to the rank of Major in the field in October 1916 shortly before his death, was killed in Action in the Battle of the Somme on the 18th of October 1916.

**Albert T. Kelly**—Pte. No. 410516—38th Canadian Infantry Battalion (Ottawa Regiment) was killed on the Somme in France on the 18th November, 1916.

**Arthur A. Boucher**—Pte. No. 145852—87th Battalion C.G.G. was killed in Action at Regina Trench near Bapaume in France 21st October, 1916.

**Gordon Gladstone Denis**—Pte. in the 207th Battalion was killed in Action somewhere in France on the 30th of October, 1918.

## HISTORY OF ST. JAMES' CHURCH, HULL

enabled the Guild in this year to complete the wiping out of the entire debt. The text above the Chancel arch "I was glad when they said unto me we will go into the House of the Lord" which was her gift, is still a visible expression of that love and interest which she always had for her Church."

Among the names of those who have been prominent for long and faithful service who are now laid to rest, we would also record the name of William Hamilton, who, as a member of the Choir, was for over forty years regular and faithful in its service.

There are still, we are thankful to say, many loving and diligent workers and Members of St. James' Church, amongst whom we would mention, not only the names of the present Wardens, W. H. G. Garrioch and J. F. Rochester who have served for many years in their respective Offices, but also such as Miss Bessie McCormick, Mr. and Mrs. Harbour, Mr. and Mrs. Bowness, the Misses Wright, Messrs Hamilton, Palen, Millen, Kelly, Broadhead and Mullen, Miss Millen, and Miss Marston, and Mrs. and Miss Garrioch, who are some of those who are carrying on the traditions of the past in the various offices of the Church, and by their experience and example helping, we trust, to train up others to serve with like zeal and steadfastness, both their God and His Church.

HISTORY OF ST. JAMES' CHURCH, HULL

APPENDIX

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The History of the Women's Guild of St. James

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Copy of Agreement between the Committee, Contractor,  
and Workmen on the New Church 12th July, 1823.

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The Original Subscription List  
April 3rd, 1823

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Diocesan Bishops 1823-1923

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List of Incumbents since 1823.

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List of Churchwardens of St. James

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List of Those Confirmed in "The Tabernacle"

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List of first class Confirmed in the New Church.