

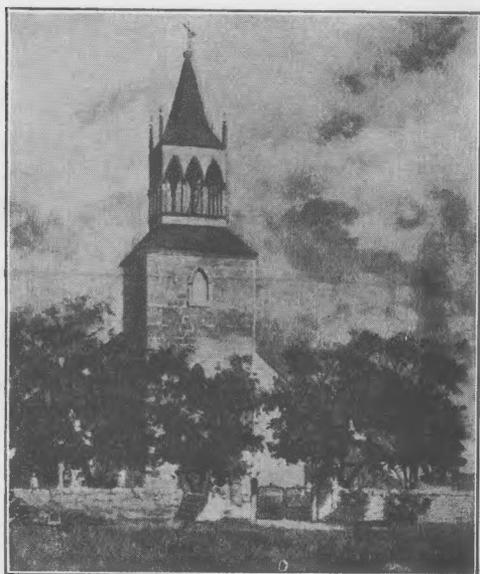
\$45

St. Andrew's

"THE RAPIDS CHURCH"

ST. ANDREW'S, the oldest church in the West, stands on the banks of the Red River, a fine memorial to the enterprising spirit of the men who first settled in the Red River valley. Built before the use of machinery simplified the labour of the hewer of stone, or of the builder, it presents to us an almost inconceivable accomplishment.

On December 29th, 1844, the Rev. William Cochrane held a meeting to ascertain what means might be raised to build a stone church to replace the log building then used.



The response was so liberal that Mr. Cochrane wrote of it in his diary: "Silver and gold had they "none, but stones, lime, shingles, boards, timber "and labour were cheerfully contributed to such "an amount as completely astonished me. Never "since Pentecost was self so completely ignored."

The construction of the building was completed by the year 1849, and it was consecrated on December 29th by the Rt. Rev. David Anderson, first Bishop of Rupert's Land. Since this time it has been in use continuously, but for the past fifteen years there has been a slow movement of the east wall from the gable, causing serious cracks to open in the structure. The tower, though not the original one, is also badly in need of repair, and it will be necessary to replace a number of the window frames.

To rebuild the gable of the east wall, replace the window frames and to build a new tower, will be the minimum of restorative work to ensure the preservation of the building for many years. Other work will be undertaken as funds are made available for it. For this work at least \$5,000 will be required, a substantial portion of which has been subscribed locally.

Assurance has been given by competent architects and engineers that the work to be undertaken will establish the building for a long period of time, and will certainly make the undertaking of the work worthwhile. This is an excellent opportunity to show appreciation of the heroic efforts of our forefathers, and our faith in the future of the Church in the West. The restoration of St. Andrew's Church is an undertaking with which a person should be proud to be associated, and this appeal is being addressed first to those for whom the historic and venerable edifice has personal or family associations, and then to those who might feel moved to assist in the preservation of a structure which has had an intimate connection with the development of the whole West.