



**Holy Trinity
Church,
Balaclava.**



50 years.

1883 = = = = 1933.



Jubilee Souvenir.

CAULFIELD HISTORICAL
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HISTORY OF

Holy Trinity Church, Balaclava,

1871—1933.



“Enough, if something from our hands have power
To live, and act, and serve the future hour.”

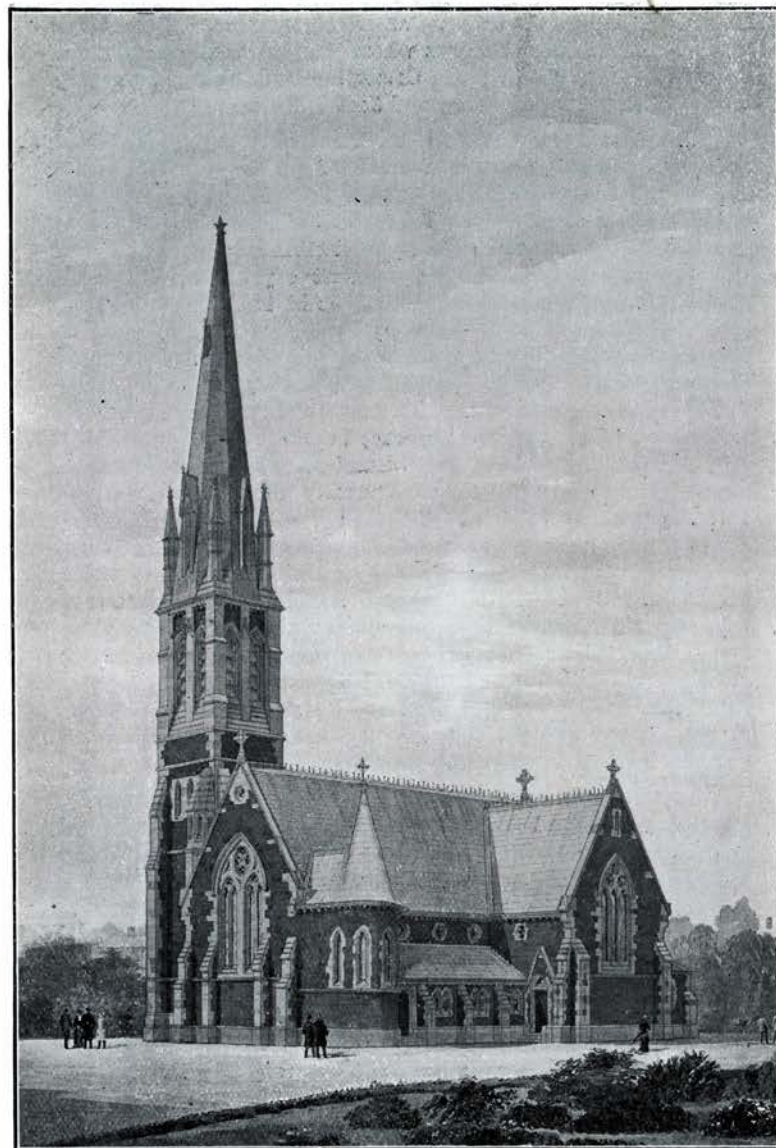


If you enter an English parish church, you feel that every part of the building has its tale to tell: it may be that you will find the tomb of some Crusader in the chancel, a lectern with the Bible chained to it, a pulpit from which William Laud preached, oaken panels whereon some monkish craftsman has maliciously used his skill in carving to portray the Devil with the face of his own Abbot; the very building is an epitome of architectural styles, while the mere flavour of antiquity lends interest to such entries in the records as “Peter Blackbeard brought up for not paying Easter reckonings,” and “Item, to John Glassier for mendynge the wyndowe over the gallery, vs. viiid.” Our annals have an appeal of a different sort; in them we may read the story of a parish church that is typical of hundreds of churches in Australian cities and townships, how a noble place of worship is planned, built, and paid for, thanks to the courage and pertinacity of a few leaders of ample generosity, abundant

faith, and wide wisdom, aided by the loyalty and willing co-operation of a congregation that soon became attached to the place and its pastors; how successive ministers, each with special gifts and capacities of his own, devoted themselves to the service of God in all parochial duties both spiritual and secular; and how the endeavour has been made to take a part in the building up of a sound national character, based on the sure foundations of religion, morality, and common service.

It may seem that in the sequel we hardly carry out what we here propose to do; the potter's hand may shake, and the potter's clay may not be altogether to his mind. The parish records are but scanty, and are largely concerned with matters of finance and official routine; other, and especially oral, sources of information are difficult to tap, the more so as our time is limited; and the events, and still more the persons, of forty or fifty years ago are rapidly passing into oblivion. We ask our readers to believe that we have done what is possible in the circumstances.

Our parish originated in a subdivision of Christ Church, St. Kilda, which had been founded in 1857. A notice in the "Gazette" of April 23, 1866, declares that the triangle at the intersection of Brighton Road and Chapel Street has been set apart for church services. The movement for the erection of a church on this site had begun earlier, and was promoted especially by Mr. H. Selwyn Smith, uncle of Mr. Frank Grey Smith, who had built "Hartpury," in Milton Street. An appeal was issued in January, 1870, the response to which was so hearty that a meeting of subscribers held on July 8 at the Grosvenor Arms appointed a building committee. In September the "Gazette" announced the appointment as Trustees of H. Selwyn Smith, Edwin Brett, and William Howard Smith. In October, under the direction of Mr. F. M. White, the erection was begun of a wooden church to hold 300 people, where the present Parish Hall stands, which was opened on January 29, 1871, by Bishop Perry. The cost amounted to £1217, the chief items being building, £846; fittings, £182; organ, £100; fencing, £50. By June 30, 1871, when the first report is dated, the subscriptions and collections had amounted to £283; the Government grant-in-aid was £150, the organ (supplied by Geo. Fincham, whose representatives still attend to our organ) was paid for by instalments, and £738 was advanced by the London Chartered Bank of Australia, "a few of those who had actively interested themselves in the building of the church having become responsible to the bank for the advances." These gentlemen preferred to remain anonymous, but they certainly included the first Trustees. A Font and Communion Plate were presented by Capt. W. Howard Smith. The first Parochial



The Architect's Design of the Church when completed.

Committee was appointed in July, 1871, and included Messrs. Edmund Samuel Parkes, Robert Seller, Balderson, Albert Baldwin, Alfred C. Cummins, Frederick Sheppard Grimwade, H. E. P. Thompson, and Dr. Van Hemert. Among the original subscribers are several others whose names are still familiar in the parish—Mrs. Kirkland, D. Grant, McPhail, George Brunning, James Mason, George Rolfe, and James Mort.

The first Incumbent was the Rev. Barcroft Boake, D.D., who entered upon his duties at the beginning of 1871. Dr. Boake had but recently arrived in the colony from Ceylon, where he had been Principal of the Colombo College for 28 years, until the effects of the tropical climate compelled him to relinquish his post amid "the warmest expressions of respect and regret." On coming to Melbourne he had done duty for a time at Newport and Williamstown. When appointed to Trinity Church, South St. Kilda, as it was then called, he threw himself heartily into the work of organising the new parish. Uphill work it was at first, for the ordinary revenue was not sufficient to pay current expenses; in 1872 the accounts were only squared by paying the Incumbent £300 instead of the stipulated stipend of £400. Gradually things improved; the full stipend was paid in 1873, and a special effort in 1874 reduced the building debt to £440, towards which a *conversazione* contributed nearly £100. Indeed, things looked so bright in January, 1875, that the annual report expresses a hope for the erection of a permanent and larger church ere long. That hope, however, was not immediately realised, for although the Christmas Tree in December, 1874, brought in £137, this was counter-balanced by alterations and enlargement of the gallery, and the cost of the church fence, by which the grounds were now completely enclosed.

In 1875 also Dr. Boake fell ill, so that it was necessary to appoint the Rev. James Norton as temporary Curate. The annual report following expresses the affection of the parishioners for their pastor, "whose life still trembles in the balance, but is adorned under sickness and suffering by those Christian graces of which it has been the privilege of his flock to hear him preach in such eloquent terms. Ample evidence has been afforded that his parishioners, both individually and collectively, feel the warmest sympathy with Dr. Boake and his estimable family under their affliction." Dr. Boake died on September 9, 1876. A fund of £188 was raised by subscription, and used to defray the funeral expenses, to erect a memorial stone, and to make a presentation of one hundred and twenty guineas to the widow.

Archdeacon Stretch, who had been in charge of the parish for about three months, was now appointed Incumbent, but

after a year he was called to work of greater Diocesan importance—the organisation of the Bishop of Melbourne's Fund. Archdeacon Stretch was a notable Churchman, one of the pioneers of the Church in Victoria, where he laboured from his arrival in 1852 to his death in 1899. He was one of the founders of the Bishopric of Ballarat, spending two years in the collection of funds for the endowment of it; and though no man was considered to be more fit to become the first Bishop, he declined to be nominated on the ground that he did not wish any to think that he had been collecting funds for his own advancement. Bishop Goe paid a noble tribute to his life when a memorial brass tablet was unveiled in St. Paul's Cathedral. "Archdeacon Stretch's name," he said, "will find its place in the history of our Church in Victoria side by side with that of Bishop Perry and a few other strong, resolute, courageous, and faithful men, who worked wisely amid discouragement and failure—men who underwent great hardship, toil, and labour, and yet to whom belongs the undying fame, or, as they thought it themselves, the exceeding great privilege of founding the Church in growing city and solitary country districts alike."

It is difficult to find out what was going on in the parish in these early years; the minutes of the Parochial Committee were badly kept from the beginning, and for more than four years they were not kept at all. The Treasurers kept their accounts carefully, and these and the annual reports enable us to see the general trend of things. A few items may be noted. The eloquence of Dr. Boake apparently took little note of time and circumstance, for in January, 1872, the Parochial Committee asked him to curtail the services, in the hot weather especially. Mr. C. R. Parsons was thanked more than once for his work with the organ, the choir, and the Sunday School. Our church has never lacked some faithful helpers. In May, 1872, a Bible and Prayer Book were presented to Mr. and Mrs. Watt, of South St. Kilda, as the first couple married in the church.

The undeveloped state of this part of St. Kilda at that time is also shown by motions "that a gangway be placed across the deep gutter on the western side of the church lands," i.e., Brighton Road, and "that the St. Kilda Council be applied to to request them to put a lamp at the junction of Dickens Street and Chapel Street, as the road is so dark that it is difficult to pass along it without an accident," and "to form a path on the south side of Grosvenor Street from the railway bridge to the Brighton Road."

Meanwhile the parish had made steady progress, in spite of changes and difficulties. In 1876 the organ was extended and repaired; next year an organ-chamber was erected (the

rectangular area on the east side of the school-room platform), and the building debt was reduced to £280. In 1878 a special effort was made, by which this debt was completely wiped out, over £210 being contributed directly by 117 subscribers.

This year was the beginning of a new period of active progress and expansion, which is largely to be credited to the Rev. G. W. Torrance, M.A., whose Incumbency of 17½ years commenced with the new year. Mr. Torrance was a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, who came to Victoria in 1869 to join his brothers, already established here. He was appointed Curate of Christ Church, South Yarra; presided for a time over the newly-founded Trinity College, until Dr. Leeper became Warden; then filled curacies at St. John's, Melbourne, and All Saints', Geelong. His remarkable musical talents had been developed by extended studies in Dublin and Leipzig, and he became well known as a composer of oratorios, anthems, quartets, and madrigals. His degree of Doctor of Music was conferred upon him in 1879 by the University of Melbourne. In appearance he was handsome and refined, "an artist to the finger-tips." He had much personal charm and many lovable qualities, and he has been described as a man of kindness that was never wanting, of long-suffering that never failed.

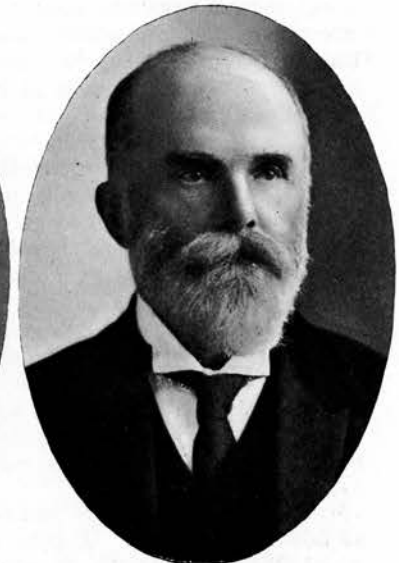
The parish was in 1879 duly constituted under the Patronage Act by the title of Holy Trinity, Balaclava, and the management of its affairs passed from Trustees to a Board of Guardians elected by the parishioners. The first Guardians were Messrs. W. Howard Smith, F. S. Grimwade, E. S. Parkes, Edwin Brett, A. C. Cummins, and R. H. Evans; the last three soon after removed from the parish, their places being filled by Major G. O. Geach, Mr. S. W. McGowan, and Mr. Henry Jennings, Junr.

The Guardians at once directed their attention to the erection of a permanent church, since the existing building had become obviously unsuitable to the requirements of the parish, both from the inadequate accommodation and the unworthy character of the structure. The building committee at first thought of building a portion of the new church on to the north end of the school building, but discussion and repeated consideration both enlarged and clarified their views, until in the end they decided to construct their new place of worship on a fresh site, following a complete and dignified scheme. It is evidence of their courage and prevision that they both realised the duty of providing a parsonage, and had the enterprise to put the two schemes forward together. With characteristic generosity these leaders of the congregation employed in the service of the Church the same qualities which had made them so successful in their business. In the meantime a grant of £75, soon raised to £100, was made to the Incumbent in lieu of rent.

Men of Splendid Hearts.



Mr. Geo. Connibere, J.P.



Hon. F. S. Grimwade.



Mr. E. S. Parkes.



Captain W. Howard Smith.

Commercial depression delayed for a time the opening of the appeal for funds, but the collection of subscriptions began in 1880, and next year, when Mr. Grimwade became Treasurer of the Building Fund, more ambitious modes of raising money were adopted, with the most fortunate results. The greatest effort was an Olde Englishe Faire, held in the Melbourne Town Hall on December 13 to 17, 1881, which brought a net profit of £2887/7/9. We think that so successful a fete merits a little digression.

"Ye Book of ye Fayre" thus sets forth the aims of the residents in "ye modest and picturish village of Balaclava": "Stirred by ye syghte of large cosie and eke costlie Dwellyngs alle arounde them, and shamed withal bye ye meane and scantye appearance of ye Builddynge wherein ye Publick Worshyppe of ye Anciente Church of Englande is now celebrated, ye Inhabiters of ye aforesayed Village—fewe comparatively, but brave and generous—have sette theyre Harts upon buylding a Church of trulye noble structure, whyche schal be an Ornament toe ye Village, and schal satisfye ye growing wants of ye Parysh: for know, gentle Reader, ye Parysh is very healthie and Children doe thereyn abounde."

The idea of the Fayre was taken from a similar Fayre held at South Kensington. Thanks to the generous assistance of Mr. J. Hennings, of the Theatre Royal, the Melbourne Town Hall was converted into an old time English street, with mediæval shops down either side, each shop having its sign prominently displayed: Ye Boer's Head, Ye Sherwood Oke, Ye George and Dragon, and so on. At the Collins Street end was a facsimile of the Old Chelsea Bun House; at the other end the Flower Stall, with a gaily decorated Maypole rising out of its midst; behind, the Village Green, whereon were pitched the tents of the Gipsies and Astrologers. To give reality to the scene, the ladies who took part were dressed in appropriate old English costumes. In fact, no trouble was spared to make the scene as realistic as possible, and to take the spectator back in imagination to the days when the fairs of Merrie England drew a great concourse of traders and buyers, and the more frivolous associations of them were merely incidental. Such fairs are better represented in modern days by the great Leipzig Fair than by such degenerate shows as the Nottingham Gocse Fair, or the Fair described in Tom Brown's Schooldays. The Master of Ceremonies was Mr. T. Collins Russell, and the stalls were presided over by Mesdames T. C. Russell, J. H. White, Tozer, Parkes, McGowan, Torrance, Goulston, Woods, Walker, Grimwade, Murray, Shaw, W. Howard Smith, H. Jennings, Junr.; Newbery, Miss Nolan, and Mr. W. L.

Lempriere. The success of this entertainment encouraged the promoters to organise an Old English Xmas and Shakespearean Show on a similar scale three years later, but this time their efforts met with failure, and entailed a loss of £379.

Thus the year 1882 began with a credit of £3591 to the Building Fund. The architects, Messrs. Reed and Barnes (soon to be Reed, Henderson and Smart), were commissioned to proceed with their plans, and speedily the work began. The contractor was Mr. Ekins, whose tender amounted to £7675. Fees, furniture, and fittings brought the cost up to more than £10,000. The foundation stone was laid by Bishop Moorehouse on November 23, 1882. The erection of the parsonage was undertaken at the same time, land and building involving a cost of £2400.

A few extracts from the "Argus" of December 4, 1883, may be interesting, though they hardly do justice to the beauty of line and proportion which makes ours one of the finest parish churches in the Commonwealth: "The church is of the Gothic style of architecture. It is built of bluestone, Barrabool Hill stone, and Waura Ponds stone, and this combination of three different kinds of building material imparts to the church a very pleasing effect. Internally, too, the church has a very pleasing look. The arches are cathedral-like in their proportions, and the handsome chancel is a great feature of the building, and the baptistry (a small circular chamber off the church) is an attractive addition. In this chamber there is a stained glass window representing the Baptism of our Lord by John the Baptist. This was the gift of Mr. Reed, one of the architects. . . . It is intended to proceed with the erection of a church tower as soon as funds will permit. The erection of the church has very considerably enhanced the value of property in the neighbourhood. Numerous applications for sittings have been received—a fact which testifies that a church of its permanent character and dimensions was very much wanted. A good organ by Fincham has been specially built and erected in the chamber provided for its reception. The offers of assistance from musicians, male and female, have been numerous, and a good choir will be organised for plain congregational services, as distinguished from services of a high church character." The preacher at the opening service on December 6, 1883, was Archdeacon Stretch.

For ten years the main efforts of the congregation were concentrated upon reducing the building debt and equipping and adorning the church. A list of the stained glass windows and other monuments is given in an appendix; but we may here remark that most of such memorials are not tributes of personal affection, but have been placed by public subscription

in recognition of service and character. Strenuous and persistent work was required to reduce the debt upon the church, which at the time of opening amounted to £6000. At last, by 1892, it was reduced to £700 (not including the cost of the parsonage) by a series of efforts, those of 1885, 1887, 1888, and 1892 being especially successful. Little could be done in the following years owing to the depression consequent upon the collapse of the land boom, and various changes and difficulties in the parish. At last Mr. Grimwade himself in 1898 paid off the outstanding liability of £600. Thus the parish was relieved of the debt upon its church. There remained the mortgage of £2500 upon the vicarage, which is henceforth termed the Parish Debt. An examination of the church accounts will show how much the parish owes to the liberality of a few public-spirited men: out of less than £7000 raised by subscription for the Building Fund, the direct donations by Mr. Grimwade that we can trace amount to £1500; Mr. Parkes and Capt. Howard Smith had given £700 each; other large contributors were Dr. F. M. Harricks, £500; Mr. James Mason, £400; and Dr. G. A. Mein, £300.

The fine organ with which the new church was equipped, as the brass inscription upon it tells, is a monument to the energy of Dr. Torrance. Being a musician of high attainments, he desired a worthy organ to be installed, but he recognised that the parishioners had shouldered a sufficiently heavy burden. He would not therefore allow the organ to become a charge upon the general building fund, but undertook himself to raise the £600 needed to pay for it (the old organ was taken in part payment at £115). He gave organ recitals, organised concerts, and collected subscriptions. For nearly three years in the Church services he combined the duties of Priest and Organist, so that he might be able to pay the Organist's salary into the organ fund. In this dual capacity he earned the nickname of "the disappearing Parson," for he would recite the prayers from the reader's desk, and then disappear behind the screen to accompany the Psalms and hymns on the organ. Indeed Dr. Torrance's labours in his first seven years in the Incumbency so told on his health that he had to obtain eighteen months' leave of absence in 1886-1887.

Brief references in the records show that the church music, in spite of, or perhaps because of the Vicar's eminence, was a constant source of anxiety to the Guardians, so that the plain and almost Puritan form of service which was originally used was gradually modified as time went on. In January, 1882, it was decided "that the choir be a surpliced choir of men and boys, assisted by ladies"; two years later it was decided "that the services of the lady members of the choir be dispensed

with as soon as this can be conveniently done." That word "conveniently" is curious; it looks as if the situation had to be handled with tact. The Rev. W. Chas. Ford wished to readmit the ladies, but the Guardians ungallantly discouraged him. Rules were also drawn up regulating the payment of gratuities to choir boys, and imposing a scale of fines for absence, misbehaviour, and loitering in the streets; in the good old times of forty years ago the choir boy was no more a paragon of juvenile propriety than he is to-day. In November, 1885, permission is given for an anthem to be sung in the church one Sunday in each month. Still later a Guardian brings up "the very unsatisfactory rendering of the music in church during the last few Sundays"; another suggests that Jackson's Te Deum might be sung occasionally; the adult choir members ask for "choral services instead of the present monotoning of the service," with the result that a more musical form of service was ultimately adopted. With the appointment of Mr. H. J. Inge as Organist (1888-1896) the music seems to have been more to the mind of the Vicar and Vestry, for we find that in 1889 the choir was thanked for hearty rendering of the musical service, and Mr. Inge for his careful training.

The social life of the parish in this period seems to have been active, and somewhat aristocratic in tone. A men's social club held its meetings for a time in the school-room, but it appears not to have been a church club. Dancing, card-playing, and dramatic performances were banned. Less likely to offend were the meetings of the Ladies' Working Party, instituted in 1878, which out of the proceeds of its work and sales purchased much furniture for the church, including the brass lectern, an oak pulpit, Communion table, reading desk, and credence table. Its successor, the Ladies' Working Guild, was established in 1886 primarily to work for the extinction of the debt. Of its early members, we are happy to say that Mesdames Booth, Mein, and Stokes are still with us. For 20 years the Guild was the centre of social activities in the parish; by its needlework and its garden fetes (at "Caenwood," the residence of Mrs. J. Booth), concerts, and bazaars, it raised considerable sums for various church funds. The beautiful tableaux arranged by Mr. Waterfield were a special feature of its entertainments. The class-room on the Chapel Street side of the school-room was erected from funds raised by the Guild in 1889, and the room on the west side, which is still called the Guild room, was built on as the result of a Maypole Fete held by the ladies of the Guild under the direction of Mr. Connibere. The vigour of their operations is shown by the fact that in 1890, when the vestry was enlarged at a cost of £300, a Cake and Apron Fair raised £133 of that sum, while entertainments and

the special work of the Guild raised another £130. The report of the year justly adds that there was "much to be thankful for during a year of great commercial depression."

The church was duly consecrated on November 19th, 1889, and the Board of Guardians was replaced by Churchwardens and Vestry; three Nominators were also elected for the first time.

In 1888, out of 487 sittings in the church, 354 were let; the seat-rents were graded, as has been said, "into stalls, pit, and gallery," with different rates for nave, transepts, and aisles. In the same year the Vicar conducted an interesting census of the parish "with a view of ascertaining the religious views of persons residing therein." The parish, which had in 1881 contained 520 houses, now contained 1182 (classed in the return as houses and heads of families) apportioned as follows:—Church of England, 448; Roman Catholic, 127; Presbyterian, 123; Wesleyan, 108; Independents, 51; Baptists, 38; Jews, 14; other denominations and unclassified, 77; new and unoccupied houses, 196. It should be noted that the parish boundaries were then much wider than now, running from the Bay along Glenhantly Road, and then by way of Hotham Street, Inkerman Street, High Street, Blessington Street, back to the Bay, though much of the south-western part was uninhabited. The parish has been much curtailed since then in consequence of the formation of new parishes adjacent—St. Clement's (1891), St. James' (1914), and St. Bede's (1915).

At the end of 1894 Dr. Torrance accepted the Incumbency of St. John's, Melbourne, where he had been Curate some twenty years before. His departure called forth many expressions of esteem and regret. His successor, the Rev. C. E. Drought, M.A., happily referred to him as one "whose beautiful mind was indicated by his outward form," adding that to follow him reminded him of the text, "Other men labour, and ye are entered into their labours." After a few years at St. John's, Dr. Torrance returned to Ireland, where he became Chaplain to the Bishop of Ossory, and Vicar-Choral of St. Canace's Cathedral at Kilkenny. There he died on August 19, 1907, having survived his wife by two days. A marble tablet was placed to his memory in the church, and a brass tablet in the chapel of Trinity College.

Mr. Drought's position was one of difficulty, for the community was still suffering from the disastrous after-effects of the land boom; all the time the Vestry had to struggle against heavy debit balances. But though material expansion was deemed inexpedient in the circumstances, the new Incumbent devoted himself with great earnestness to the deepening of the spiritual life and to work of a missionary character in the

The Eight Vicars.



Rev. Dr. Boake.
1871—1876.



Venerable Archdeacon Stretch.
1876—1877.



Rev. G. W. Torrance,
Mus. Doc.
1878—1894.



Rev. C. E. Drought, M.A.
1894—1900.



Rev. Canon Sutton.
1900—1904.



Rev. Canon Stephen.
1904—1906.



Rev. F. G. Masters, M.A.
1906—1921.



Rev. H. W. Doudney,
M.A.
1921—

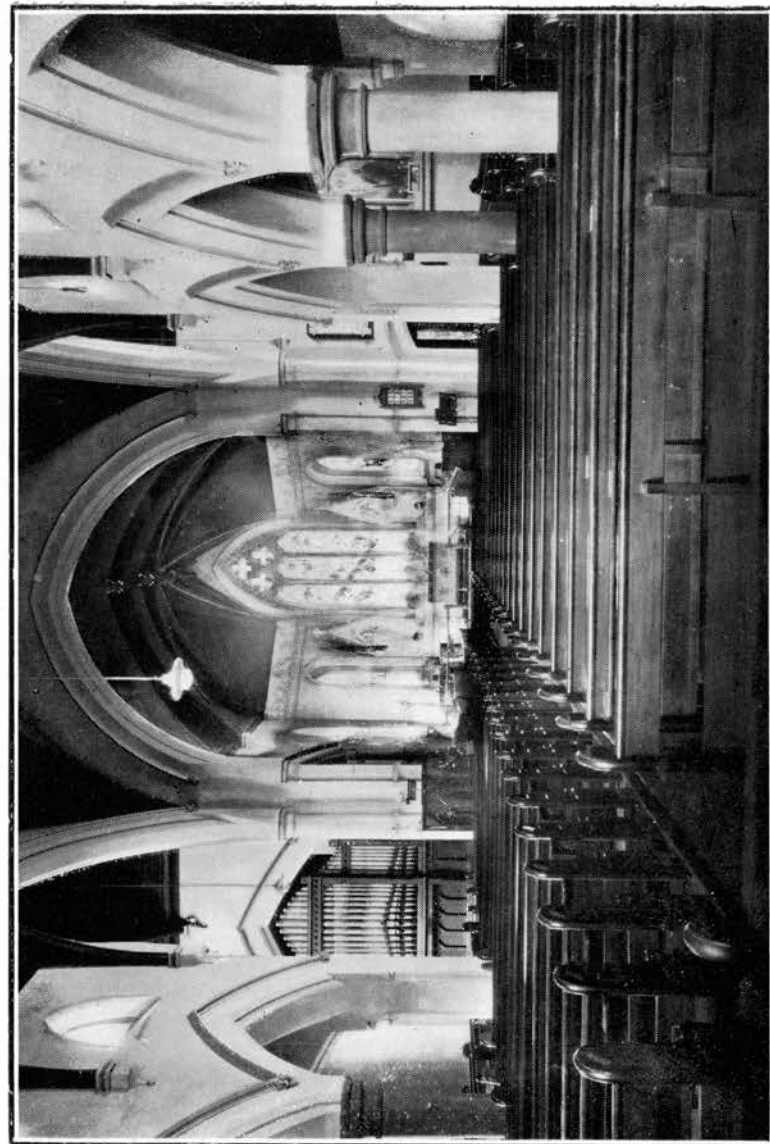
parish. The scope and nature of his activities is shown by the formation of new associations, including a branch of the Mothers' Union (at the jubilee meeting of this branch in 1920 presentations were made to three original members, Mesdames Adkins, Creed, and Fuller), the Visiting Guild, the Men's Union, Ministering Children's League, Men's Communicants' Guild, Sunday Afternoon Bible Class for Men. The church services and parish work generally were extended by the appointment of a Curate, thanks to the munificence of Mr. George Connibere; and under Mr. Connibere's superintendence the Sunday School increased in a few years from 340 to 600 scholars, reaching a high pitch of efficiency, which was well tested by the Diocesan examinations. In July, 1900, the Vicar resigned, having been elected to the Incumbency of St. John's, Toorak.

The work so successfully inaugurated by Mr. Drought was continued with devotion and energy by the Rev. Canon George Sutton, B.D., who came to Balaclava from Castlemaine. He was fortunate in having the able assistance of the Rev. L. Townsend, who was Curate for the four years of his Incumbency.

The vitality of the church work is shown by the statistics, which seem to us to convey a just impression of the facts: thus in 1903 there were 600 children on the roll of the Sunday School, there were 77 baptisms, 101 candidates were confirmed, the communicants on Christmas Day numbered 447. The church music also gave great satisfaction under the direction of Mr. A. E. Nickson, who from 1903 was ably assisted by Miss Cross at the organ. Meanwhile the character of the parish was changing owing to closer building and removals into the outer suburbs; the sittings let in the church constantly declined in numbers, and it became more and more difficult to square the accounts at the end of the year.

This difficulty was accentuated during the short Incumbency of the Rev. Canon R. Stephen, M.A. (afterwards Bishop of Newcastle), who succeeded Canon Sutton when the latter went to Holy Trinity, Kew. When in January, 1906, Canon Stephen was appointed Principal of St. John's College, which was then being opened for the training of theological students, the overdraft on the general account amounted to £199. With characteristic generosity the three Churchwardens, Messrs. Grimwade, Connibere, and Larking, paid off the overdraft themselves in order to give the new Vicar a clear start.

Among the parochial activities of this period we may note the formation of various athletic clubs and a literary society; the foundation and re-foundation of such clubs in connection with the Girls' Friendly Society and Men's and Boys' Societies



The House of our Worship.

has since been a normal feature of parish life. The Ladies' Working Guild was also carried on with vigour and success, Mrs. F. Grey Smith being a most enthusiastic Hon. Secretary. One department of their work was to hold Saturday afternoon meetings to make surplices and cassocks for use in the church; another was to raise funds for church purposes by fine needle-work; there was a time when no Balaclava baby was considered to be properly dressed unless its smock had been made by the ladies of the Guild. In 1901 the Guild raised £100 "for beautifying the church." The carpeting of the sanctuary is one of the chief results. A similar sum was in 1905 raised for the re-decoration of the church interior. The planning and supervision of the work was left in the hands of one of the Vestrymen, Mr. Sydney Smith, who has often helped the church as honorary architect. The church is a notable example of modern Gothic in its perfection of line and proportion; its beauty was now enhanced by a harmony of colour, every detail in the decorations fitting in to the scheme with faultless taste.

Before this work was actually carried out the new Incumbent had arrived (March, 1906). He was the Rev. F. G. Masters, M.A., of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, who, after working for some years in South Australia and New Zealand, had been called to Melbourne, and had been for nearly two years Diocesan Chaplain. His position was a difficult one from the start. The three last Incumbents had set on foot an amount of parochial work, both religious and social in character, which had taxed to the full the energies of both Vicar and Curate; meanwhile the financial position was only saved from disaster by the generous assistance of a few men, notably the three Churchwardens. Now two of these had just removed from the parish. The only way of carrying on at all was by drastic economies; these involved the loss of a Curate's assistance and the reduction of the Vicar's stipend, as well as numerous small savings that in the aggregate mounted up. Financially the retrenchments served their purpose, but at the cost of the spiritual and pastoral work of the parish, as was seen immediately in the reduction of services, though the indirect effects were probably more serious still. But it is a notable thing that in spite of the losses of generous supporters the parish has been able gradually to improve its position; it would seem that the congregation as a whole has better realised its obligations to the financial upkeep of parochial work.

The two Churchwardens whose removal has been referred to were Messrs. R. J. Larking and Geo. Connibere. The former had been on the Vestry for sixteen years, and Warden for ten years, grudging neither labour nor money in the service of the church. The latter had been Vestryman and Warden

nearly as long, and he had been Superintendent of the Sunday School for thirteen years. He had for years contributed the major portion of the Curate's Fund, he had given several choir scholarships annually, and in 1903 he had erected a new fence, with gates, around the whole of the church property at a cost of some £300. His long association with the Church and Sunday School is commemorated by a brass tablet placed in 1911 on the wall near the baptistry.

In August, 1910, the parish suffered the loss of the Hon. F. S. Grimwade. Since the year 1871, when the parish was formed, he had been an officer of the church, as Parochial Councillor, Trustee, Guardian, and Churchwarden; every branch of church work, whether parochial or diocesan, had received the benefit of his wise counsel and generous support. Our account has shown something of the material help he gave in building our beautiful church; those who knew him were even more impressed by his personal qualities, his ability and integrity in public life, his high ideals and high character, his discriminating benevolence and generous support of all worthy objects. In church affairs he was always prudent and practical. His subscriptions to the Debt Fund, which reduced the debt from £2500 to £1500 in the ten years 1901-1910, amounted to half, and his legacy of £500 reduced it to £1000. The memory of Mr. and Mrs. Grimwade is recorded by alabaster tablets which members of the family have placed on the wall of the north transept.

The event of greatest consequence to the parish in these later years was the Great War. The young men of the congregation who were eligible answered the call to service, and, in 1917, the Vicar went as transport chaplain to England and back. Meanwhile those who remained behind were busied with Red Cross and relief work.

The various church activities were diminished or suspended during the war, but they gradually revived again. The Parish Debt still stood at £650, for it had not been possible to pay off the mortgage on the Vicarage; but nearly £500 had been raised for the building of a Kindergarten room, as the first stage in the remodelling of the old school-room. In church management perhaps the most notable event is the financial reform initiated by Mr. A. R. Kelsey when Hon. Treasurer in 1918. Under this scheme, which after three years is working satisfactorily, pew rents were replaced by parochial contributions—each parishioner was asked to make a regular subscription of such amount as he felt able to pay, and subscribers were allotted sittings irrespective of the amount of their contributions.

After fifteen years of service as Vicar, the Rev. F. G. Masters felt that a change would be desirable, and negotiated an exchange with an old Cambridge contemporary, the Rev. H. W. Doudney, M.A. Such an exchange is very exceptional, involving as it did the consent of the Patrons and Nominators on both sides of the globe, with no possibility of consultation with each other or with the respective Vicars. Many difficulties had to be overcome, but at last, in 1921, all details were arranged, and in October of that year the two Vicars passed each other, within hailing distance, near the Equator, the ships having been drawn together by wireless for this special purpose.

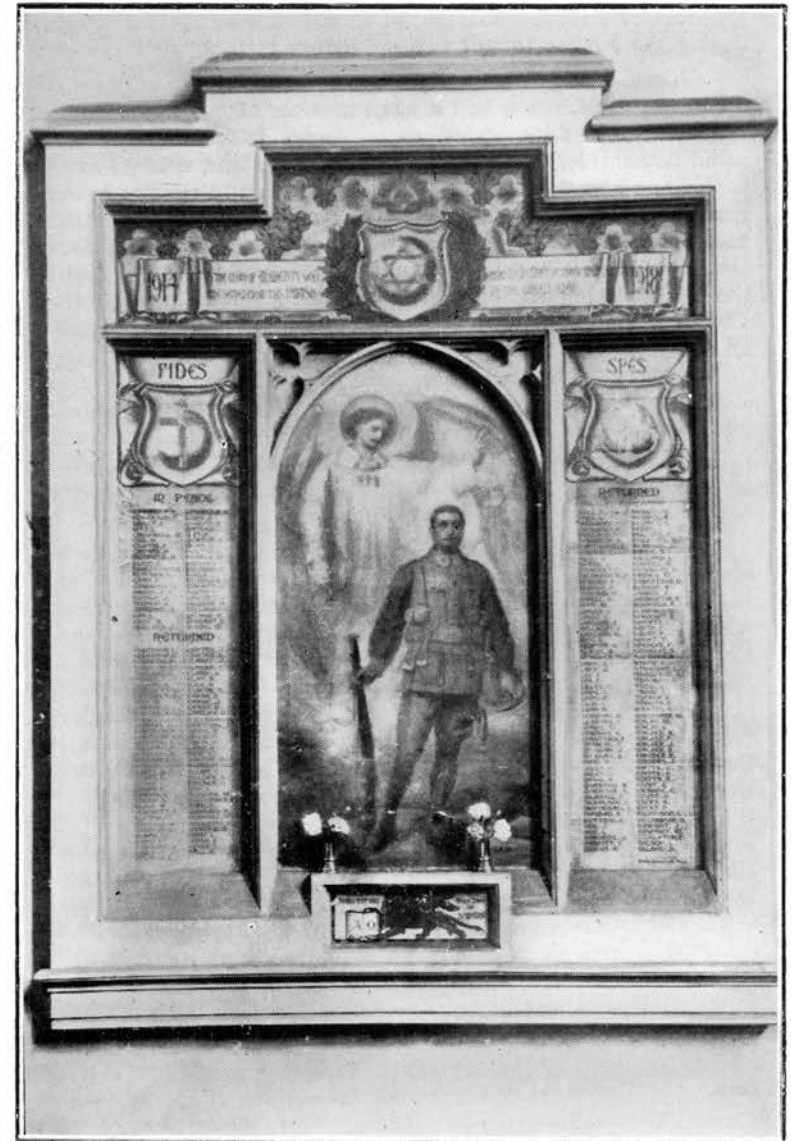
The period of Mr. Masters' Incumbency had, owing especially to the war, been a time when no special advance was possible, but the parish was fortunate to have his spiritual and intellectual gifts during those terrible years.

With the coming of the new Vicar, it became possible again to advance, and in 1922 a big move was set on foot to pay off the Vicarage mortgage of £650; to place a war memorial in the church; to install electric light and an electric blower for the organ; to renovate and re-decorate the church, and place stones around it instead of the fence, which, after long use, was falling into serious decay; and to asphalt the church paths. All this was accomplished in this year, the cost being £1180. The result of this effort was at once apparent in the great improvement in the appearance of the church, externally and internally, and in its lighting and music. About this time the system of allotted seats was abolished, and all seats were free.

It may be mentioned here that a few years later the wonderful organ was restored, at considerable expense, and several stops and pneumatic action to the pedals added. The marked improvement was soon revealed under the talented manipulation of the Organist, Mr. A. Smith.

The War Memorial, the work of the St. Kilda artist, Mr. Dancy, is a most remarkable one, and acknowledged by all to be of exquisite beauty.

After a short while to recuperate, another big movement was made, and in 1924 the old wooden building was removed, and the fine modern Parish Hall built on the site. This was erected to the specifications of Mr. Sydney Smith, the contractor being Mr. F. Crabb. The estimate for the building was £4073, besides furniture, of which £600 was in hand. The building, which included a very fine Kindergarten room, was designed to include many special features, including a very large cellar under the stage, which is half the size of the main hall. This has been of constant service in storing furniture, etc.



The War Memorial.

Unfortunately for the parish, soon after the erection of the building the lean years of the great depression began to make themselves felt, and it has only been possible to reduce the debt to £2975. It is hoped as a result of special efforts during the Jubilee to still further reduce this.

Together with the depression there came also a very great change in the district, and a large number of our houses were converted into flats. This, as it always unfortunately does, acted detrimentally to the Church. Besides this, a large number of our keener churchmen passed away, and the gaps in our ranks have not been filled. Owing to these losses, drastic economies had to be made, and although for two years before the depression it had been possible to have a Curate to assist the Vicar, it became impossible to renew this help when the Rev. J. L. Hall was given the post of Incumbent of St. Oswald's, Glen Iris.

Besides these handicaps, the advent of the motor car in such numbers, and the growing habit of misusing the Holy Day by devoting it to the cult of pleasure, has been terribly detrimental to our Church, as it has, no doubt, to all denominations, and we may feel great thankfulness to Almighty God that we have been able to carry on as we have.

Before closing this brief history of our glorious Church, we would not only record our thankfulness to Almighty God, but also record the debt owed to our members of both sexes who have willingly and generously carried on the work. Notable amongst these are several of the Churchwardens and Secretaries who held office for many years, including Mr. H. R. Fuge, who was Secretary from 1885 to 1891; Mr. D. Wheeler, from 1901 to 1911; Mr. T. M. Mort, whose help in literary work will not soon be forgotten; Messrs. W. A. Whitehead and J. P. Doudney, who successively have held the position of Honorary Deputy Organists for thirty-five years; Mr. E. J. Prendergast, who was Warden from 1911 to 1918, and again later for a further period; Mr. W. J. M. Woolley, who was Warden for nearly twenty years; Mr. W. Kerry, who served for more than ten years, and to whom we are indebted for the major part of this history of our Church; Mr. J. N. Reeson, who occupied the post for over fifteen years; and Mr. J. T. Clough, who has been connected with the Church for thirty-two years.

At this time of the Jubilee the following gentlemen are in office:—Messrs. J. L. Treganowan, L. A. Sayers, and J. Moss, Churchwardens; and Mr. J. T. Clough, Hon. Secretary.

There are, of course, many others who have helped, including a host of Vestrymen and members of Ladies' Guilds, etc., whose work deserves to be gratefully recorded, and those who

have no memorial will, we feel sure, recognise that, in the service of the Church, the work and its result must be its own reward—that sacrifice is the essence of Christianity.

It is noteworthy that only two small legacies of £20 each have been left to the Church during the present Incumbency. If our members would remember to thus record their appreciation and love to the Master, as so many of our forefathers did, the financial strain would be greatly eased and more work possible.

So has the Church quietly and faithfully been serving the community. So have we been helping one another to draw near to God. And God has drawn near to us and blessed us. Therefore in humble faith in His continued goodwill do we enter hopefully upon another fifty years of parish life.

This Jubilee is a call to all who profess to be Christians and Churchmen to carry on the work, and rallying round our glorious Church prove ourselves worthy successors of those who, at such cost, gave us this wonderful heritage.

LIST OF CLERGY WHO HAVE SERVED IN THE PARISH OF HOLY TRINITY, BALACLAVA.

- Barcroft Boake, D.D.**, Incumbent, 1871-1876.
James Norton, 1876 (tem. Curate).
Ven. Archdeacon Theodore Carlos Benoni Stretch, Incumbent, 1876-1877.
F. A. Long and E. S. Goodhart, 1877 (temp. Curates).
George William Torrance, M.A., Mus. Doc., Incumbent, 1878-1894.
W. Charles Ford, 1886-1887 (locum tenens).
W. Stacey Chapman, 1888-1889 (special preacher).
F. J. Price, 1890-1891 (Curate).
Walter Fielder, 1892-1909 (honorary).
C. E. Drought, M.A., Incumbent, 1894-1900.
C. E. Perry, 1896-1898 (Curate).
C. G. Brazier, 1899-1900 (Curate).
George Sutton, B.D., Incumbent, 1900-1904.
Leonard Townsend, B.A., 1900-1904 (Curate).
Reginald Stephen, M.A., Incumbent, 1904-1906.
A. E. Saxon, 1904-1906 (Curate).
Frederick George Masters, M.A., Incumbent, 1906-1921.
F. W. R. Newton, 1908 (special preacher).
T. Holyoake Rust, M.A., 1912 (locum tenens).
E. C. Frewin, M.A., 1912-1913 (Curate), 1917 (locum tenens).
Wilford D. James, Th.L., 1914-1916 (Curate).
H. Harold Robjohns, B.Sc., 1917 (locum tenens).
J. L. Hall, Th.L., 1923-1925 (Curate).
Hubert William Doudney, M.A., Incumbent, 1921—.

LIST OF MONUMENTS IN THE CHURCH.

1. East Window, "On the Road to Calvary," to Dr. Boake (died 1876) and Miss Fanny Boake (died 1882), by subscription.
2. Window on N. of chancel, "Faith," to Clara Agnes, daughter of Agnes Rosa and William Howard Smith, died 1882.
3. Window on S. of chancel, "Hope," to Frances Nolan, died 1862.
4. Reredos, to Edmund Samuel Parkes, killed in the Windsor railway disaster, May 11, 1887; erected by subscription.
5. Clerestory Window, "Cherubs," to Gerard Ella and Kathleen Torrance, by their parents, 1897.
6. Marble Tablet on E. wall of S. Transept, to Dr. and Mrs. Torrance (died 1907), by members of the congregation.
7. Window of S. Transept, middle and upper lights, to Samuel Walker McGowan, died 1887, by Officers of Post and Telegraph Department.
8. Clerestory Window, to L. F. de Soyres, chorister, died 1889, by brother choristers and schoolfellows, and Brass Tablet below by Uncles.
9. Middle Window, S. aisle, "Call of St. Matthew," to Henry Robert Fuge, Churchwarden, died 1891, by members of the congregation.
10. Brass Tablet near baptistry, to George Connibere, died 1911, by "grateful scholars and friends."
11. Baptistry Window, "Baptism of our Lord," the gift of Mr. Reed, architect of the church, 1883.
12. Font, "presented by confirmees and children of the parish, A.D. 1883."
13. West Window, "The Four Evangelists," to E. S. Parkes, by his brother officers of the Bank of Australasia.
14. Middle Window, N. aisle, "St. John and the Risen Christ," to Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Ashley (died 1892, 1906).
15. North Transept, Clerestory Window, "Symbol of Trinity," to Frances E. Christey, "by her companions in the work and worship of this church."
16. North Transept, Window, to Olive Gertrude, died 1873, and Frederick Risdon, died 1878, infant children of Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Grimwade.

17. Alabaster Tablets below window, to Frederick Shepard Grimwade, died 1910, and Jessie Taylor Grimwade, died 1916, by members of their family.

18. Brass Tablet on organ, placed by Vestry to record the exertions of the Rev. G. W. Torrance, whereby "he was enabled within two years of its erection to dedicate the instrument free of debt to the service of Almighty God," 1885.

19. The wonderful War Memorial in memory of the thirty-five men who laid down their lives in the Great War, and the one hundred and eighty-one who served.

*42 died accidentally & war memorial photographs
36 - from Roll of Honour list.*

(5)