

EARLY DAYS AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, RIDGEMOUNT

BY GEORGE TAIT

When the erection of St. John's Church at Ridgemount was begun in the year 1840 the diocese of Toronto embraced nearly all of the Province of Ontario west of that city and was under the supervision of Bishop Strachan.

The Parish of Waterloo covered then, as it does now, the Township of Bertie and was in charge of its first Rector, the Rev. John Anderson, through whose efforts the church was erected to serve the needs of his rural parishioners.

The confirmation class whose names are given below would probably be presented for confirmation on the occasion of His Lordship's first visit to the new church.

None of the candidates appear to be living (1927) but a number of their descendants reside in the vicinity and the names on the list will be familiar to many.

"List of Candidates for Confirmation at St. John's Church, Bertie," June 18th, 1846:

Names	Age	Names	Age
Lydia Scarlet	23	Lydia Jansen	15
Mary Scarlet	19	Levinia Teal	15
Catherine Scarlet	25	Mary Craig	24
Thomas Scarlet	21	Samuel McMurray	23
Mathew Spedding	18	Charlotte Bowen	15
William Spedding	16	Susan Buck	18
James Rooth	16	Isaac Buck	.....
Margaret McMurray	20	Powell Wilson	28
Jane McMurray	16	Charlotte Wilson	15
Mary Ann Palmer	18	John Palmer Miller	17
Catherine Palmer	15	Edward Miller	15
Mary Jane Miller	19	Mary McMurray	17
Melinda E. Miller	17	Andrew Miller, Senior	45
Anna H. Miller	15	Mrs. E. Miller	42
David Somerville	18	Benjamin Miller	43

EARLY DAYS AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

117

Catherine Teal	20	Mrs. Everett, Senior	.....
Lydia Teal	18	Mrs. Palmer, Senior	.....
Mary Ann Jansen	21	James Adair, Senior	.....
Sarah Jane Jansen	19	Mrs. Adair	.....
James Hardison	21	Christina Benner	23
Isabella Shackleton	17	Abigal Eva Benner	21
Jane Shackleton	15	Matthias Haun	32
Mary Stevenson	20	George Anger	21
Agnes Stevenson	17	Mrs. Bowen	.....
Thomas Stevenson	22	Mrs. Thompson	.....
Jane Adair	19	Thomas Cawthard	.....
James Adair	15	Henry Laur	.....
Emma Powell	16	George Dumklee	.....
Elizabeth Powell	16	Mrs. Beach	.....
Jane Goldie	15	Robert Stevenson	.....
George Cawthard	.....	Mrs. Stevenson	.....
Hanna Cawthard	.....	.....	.....

Total 63 names

List of Candidates for Confirmation at St. Paul's Church, Fort Erie, on June 19th, 1846:

Names	Age	Names	Age
Mrs. Lewis, Senior	.....	George Hardison	37
Mrs. Onison	.....	David Hardison	23
Miss Lewis	.....	John Adair	.....
E. Riselay, Jr.	17	Mrs. Adair	.....
Julia Riselay	.....	Margaret L. Y. Anderson	16
William Anderson	.....	Margaret Rainsford	15
C. D. Hall	20	Caroline Warren	18
James Halburt	18	Charlotte Warren	16
George Halburt	16	Sophia Warren	16
.....	.....	Mrs. W. Warren	.....

Total 19 names