

STORIES FROM THE RICH PAST OF OUR PARISH

These historical stories are submitted weekly by our Heritage Chairperson, George Munroe.

Last week we read of the completion of the rectory by the Rev. Mr. Cochrane and the state of the parish. Who was this man? Again we refer to the writings of Cyril Read.

James Cuppaidge Cochrane was born in Windsor, Nova Scotia on Sept. 17, 1798. His father was the Rev. William Cochrane who served as the First Vice Principal of King's College. He also was Acting Vice Principal for a time and Missioner of King's County. William Cochrane had been born and educated in Ireland and settled in New England. He came to British North America (Canada) as a United Empire Loyalist, having given up his post as professor of Greek and Latin at Columbia College in New York. The senior Cochrane along with Printer John Howe began the publication of the Nova Scotian Magazine, reputed to be the first English Publication in Canada. He organized a literary society in Windsor and also organized The Association against Spiritous Liquors in 1793. His son, James continued these particular interests throughout his life.

James Cochrane's mother was the daughter of Col. Cuppaidge of the British 67th Regiment. It was his father's wish that James should embark on a career in the Navy but the lad was not addicted to the sea. With support from his Mother he entered business in Halifax, however, after several years in various offices he decided to seek ordination the Ministry. He entered King's at the age of 23, and was subsequently ordained by Bishop Jacob Mountain of Quebec in 1824. The Bishop of Nova Scotia was in England at the time. He was to receive his Master's Degree in 1835 and his D.D. from King's in 1872.

He assisted his father at Falmouth for a short time, before going to Lunenburg to assist during the fatal illness of the Rev, Robert Aitken. After the death of Mr. Aitken the congregation petitioned the Bishop and the S.P.G. to appoint Mr. Cochrane as Missionary at Lunenburg.

The Ministry of Mr Aitken had not been too successful and the belief that Mr. Cochrane would bring harmony and unanimity seemed as if it might be no more than a pious hope.

This was more than a hope for the Ministry of the Rev. Mr. Cochrane was very successful.

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