

Christ Church Vestry Minutes, 1837 - 1842 ©
Rev. C. P. Reid and Rev. R. H. Bourne
with Transcription Lists

Daniel B. Parkinson

This is a partial transcription of the *Christ Church Rawdon Minute Book* for 1837-1842 in **black font** – quotation marks are often used but much is paraphrased and summarized. The explication by the author and related comments are in **green**. I have omitted non essential formalisms of the time viz. meetings were opened and closed with a prayer. In the previous transcription, Mr. Reid and Mr. Milton were selective in what was recorded. The minutes are more complete here when William Holtby, or another, was secretary but there are surprising gaps.

- 27 March 1837 Easter Sunday: general meeting at the church to elect church wardens and select vestry to serve until Easter Monday 1838 and the final Vestry recorded by the Rev. C. P. Reid. From this minute it is clear that the church was completed and in regular use. George Copping senior, John Eveleigh junior ; his resignation was noted on 28 March (**he had had been elected a Church Warden, 1 June 1835**). Vestry: William Tighe, George Hobs, James Brown, Edward McGie, Conley [sic Connelly] Cassidy, John Robinson **many new and younger men stepped forward**
- 19 July 1837 R.H. Bourne chaired his first Vestry with George Copping as church warden and select vestrymen William Tighe and Edward McGie. Some conversation on subjects suggested by R. H. Bourne “for the obtaining of information” Resolved that Vestry dressing rooms, or enclosures, in the front end be removed and if necessary, placed at the side of the altar, **it appears the new minister wanted changes in the layout of the new church.** Resolved: That a meeting to elect a new church warden “in the room (**place**) of John Eveleigh, be held. Resolved: “that the following minute be entered: the Rev. C. P Reid resigned his pastoral labors in this mission on Sunday the 4th of June 1837 and bid farewell to the congregation in an affecting discourse. This was an occasion of sorrow to witness. But the cause for thankfulness that another missionary has been sent to succeed Mr. Reid in the charge of this mission. The Reverend Roland Hill Bourne commenced nis labors among the people of this mission on **Sunday July 9th** whose ministry, is our devout and earnest prayer, that God would help to the building up of his Kingdom and the saving of many souls” Rev. R. H. Bourne, for the Vestry. **It is not known where Charles Peter Reid ,the third rector of Christ Church, was from or where he went after Rawdon.** The election of a churchwarden having been postponed until August 6th, accordingly Mr. Gawn Brown was nominated and elected unanimously.
- Sept. 13, 1837 Select Vestry met at the parsonage with R. H. Bourne G. Copping, G. Brown wardens, Vestry: W. Tighe, G. Hobbs, J. Brown, E. McGie Resolved: the church to be clapboarded and necessary improvements made.

Resolved: the people of the congregation to contribute to defraying “the expense of these improvements.” Mr. Bourne proposed to “hold himself responsible for half the amount” provided the congregation covered the remainder.

Resolved: congregation be solicited to pay in cash or provisions before 1 Jan. 1838.

Bourne and McGie appointed a committee to hire a carpenter on “condition that he receive half the amount in provisions.

- Feb. 16, 1838 Select Vestry, present: R. H. Bourne, minister, George Copping, Gawn Brown Church Wardens. Wm. Tighe, Geo. Hobbs, James Brown, Conlay [sic Connelly] Cassidy, John Robinson
- Mr. Bourne reported receiving £15 / 17 from the Lord Bishop of Montreal, Subscriptions £9 / 6 / 9. Total £15 / 2 / 9. Expended £33 / 6 / 9 ½ . Due RHB £8 / 3 / ½.
- McAbby’s bill for clapboarding Steeple, porch & church £11 / 10 / 8 by cash to him £9 / 15 / 8; Due to him: £1 / 15 / 0. [Francis McCabby on the 1831 Census, was a joiner with no land, living at 1st Range, Lot 17. There are entries in both Catholic and Anglican registers of Rawdon Township for McCabby / McCabe.](#)
- Resolved: it is expedient to have the church furnished with pews and that a subscription be entered into. Also: there shall be two pews at the front of the altar, one on each side of the aisle. One appropriated to the resident minister and “the other for the time being, to the use of Col. Griffith but subject to the disposal of the Vestry.”
- Resolved: “that the pews ... shall be rented to such as wish to possess a pew for their own exclusive use, But to those who refuse to pay pew rent the exclusive privilege of any particular few shall not be granted.” ¹

- March 12, 1838 Select Vestry had been called for a meeting on “Wednesday the 7th instant, and the members did not assemble with the exception of three individuals and consequently the meeting was not held.” Only a minority showed for the second meeting therefore no business was transacted.

Those present on the 7th were Mr. George Copping Sr., W. Tighe, Conlay [sic Connelly] Cassidy. On the 12th Mr. Bourne, Mr. Copping, Wm. Tighe, Wm. Brown and Geo. Hobbs. [William Brown’s brothers James and Gawn Brown were also, at times, Vestry members.](#)

A meeting of the congregation was called and appointed to be in the church Easter Monday. This did not occur because they did not assemble [perhaps due to bad weather](#) “Whereupon a number met at the parsonage” and after deliberation it was resolved to defer election of church wardens until Sunday 22 March after Divine Service. At this time, subscription was opened to enclosing the Burying Ground and “the same appointed to be presented at the church door for” obtaining the “subscription of the Congregation.”

- May 13, 1838 After repeatedly calling a meeting of the congregation and being disappointed the minister presented the following names to be church wardens and vestrymen until Easter Monday 1839.

¹ Mr. Bourne completed a Mission Survey, in August 1838. It is quoted extensively in [Up To Rawdon](#), pages 1065-1067 and gives a view of the parish and his work there. The survey is from the Diocesan Archives, Bishops University, Lennoxville, QC and is in [Up To Rawdon](#), at [Diocesan Archives, Bishop’s University, Volume B 19](#).

Church Wardens, Edward Tighe, William Holtby, Vestry: Abraham Bagnall, Samuel Smillie [sic Smiley], William Eveleigh, John Burns, Dean Burns, James Dixon of Kildare Township whose family gave the land for St. John Church and Cemetery in Kildare William Scales, Andrew Kerr, James Herbert. Whereupon those individuals signified their willingness to serve and were unanimously elected. Edward Tighe to be rector's warden and William Holtby chosen by the congregation.

May 27, 1838 Select Vestry met at the parsonage. Present were Edward Tighe, William Holtby Abraham Bagnall, Samuel Smillie [sic], William Eveleigh, Dean Burns, James Herbert. Business brought forward was deferred to next meeting.
"The church wardens signed a paper certifying that the *si quis* or notice of the ordination of the Rev. R. H. Bourne had been read in the church during Divine Service on Sunday 13 May, 1838." I believe he was initially ordained as a deacon and a statement from the congregation was required as part of the process.

March 3, 1839 Resolutions passed after Divine Service "in regard to a certain 'petition' to the Lord Bishop of Montreal praying for the removal of the Rev. R. H. Bourne from the charge of this church. The issue is covered in some detail in *Up To Rawdon*, in the chapter on Thomas Griffith (page 315) and on Mr. Bourne (page 1053) and on other pages.
Resolved: that the 'Petition' "does not express the feelings of this congregation" but in the contrary we believe "the representations "are wholly unjustifiable and unmerited and regard with utmost horror and indignation any renewed attempt to involve this congregation in Dissention with its minister."
Resolved: congregation bound to disclaim connection with a proceeding marked with "disrespect for the Honorable Rulers of the church and injustice to our minister and injurious to our character and welfare as a church and community."
Resolved: "the conduct of the instigator and abettors of this conspiracy against the character of our minister" we consider "disgraceful and unchristian." The church wardens "have prostituted the character of such officers in subservience to these vile proceedings." Resolved that "they shall no longer be considered as holding that office" Edward Tighe, William Holtby were removed from office but remained prominent in their church. In fact, in April 1841 they were again members of Vestry with Holtby as secretary. Thomas Griffith was promoted to rector's warden. It seems that Rawdon was a place of reconciliation and short memory. Perhaps Tighe supported Griffith because of his militia connection. (Tighe was soon to make a second marriage to a relative of Major Robert Bagnall). Holtby was Township secretary-treasurer and perhaps had feared not supporting Griffith, the Crown agent, with whom he must have worked closely and in the militia, where he was quartermaster.
Resolved: it is our duty to express detestation of any communication reflecting foully on "the choice of clergy" made by our "beloved and sound Bishop" and to "express our entire satisfaction and confidence in the character of our present minister."
Resolved: we pray this is the last attempt by "corrupt and designing persons to disturb the peace and welfare of our church." And "that our beloved and respected minister may be encouraged cheerfully to continue his pastoral duties and to preach the Gospel

as such faithfully, fearlessly and honestly” etc.

Resolved: “the foregoing resolutions be entered upon the records of this parish,” with a copy to “the Lord Bishop of Montreal signed by the Commandant of the Volunteer Corps” and by the “Select the Vestry in the name and on behalf of the Congregation.”

(signed) T. Swinburne, Major 83rd regiment

(signed) Select Vestrymen: James Herbert, Sam’l Smillie, William Eveleigh, John Burns

The foregoing is a true copy signed R.H. Bourne

- 1 April 1839 Congregational meeting to elect Select Vestry to hold office until Easter Monday 1840 and other church business. The following were nominated.
Church wardens: John Burns (for the rector) and James Herbert (for the people):
Select Vestry: William Burns, George Harkness, Gawn Brown, Robert Eveleigh, George Hobs, Joseph Smith, Abraham Bagnall, Thomas Torney, Arthur Hamilton, Major Robert Bagnall. **The only other men with officer rank in the militia, from my research, were Hamilton and Hobs unless this is actually George Hobs junior.**
Election postponed to the first Sunday following: The minister read a statement of accounts and a subscription “was opened towards the burial ground.”
- 14 April 1839 the 1 April list of church leaders was elected. [See above](#)
- 10 July 1839 pursuant to notice, the following attended a meeting at the parsonage. The minister, John Burns, Gorge Harkness, Robert Eveleigh, Joseph Smith, William Burns.

A statement of accounts by the minister and signed by John Burns and Robert Eveleigh.

Clapboarding of church	paid on account, work & materials, incl £4 on lots		
From the Bishop	£ 15 / 17 / 0		£ 37 / 12 / 9 ½
Subscribers in cash	<u>£ 14 / 19 / 3</u>	paid	<u>£ 30 / 16 / 3</u>
Total	£ 30 / 16 / 3	due	£ 5 / 16 / 5 ½
On acc’t. collections in church		paid out of same	
£ 12 / 9 / 7 ½		£ 12 / 4 / 5 ½	
<u>£ 12 / 4 / 5 ½</u>			
On hand	5 / 2		
Subscriptions to Burial Ground		paid on this account	
£ 21 / 9 / 2		£ 22 / 9 / 11 ½	
		<u>£ 21 / 9 / 2</u>	
		£ / 0 / 9 ½	

- 11 May 1840 ON Monday, pursuant to public notice a meeting to elect vestry to 1841 and to conduct church business. Mr. Bourne made financial report from 9 July 1837 to 20 April 1840.

On Church account	£ 31 / 6 / 3	
Burial Ground	£ 22 / 1 / 11	
Church collection	£ 10 / 3 / 5	
Fuel	£ 1 / 19 / 9	
Amount paid	£ 33 / 2 / 9 ½	(incl £4 on lots)
Burial Ground	£ 22 / 9 / 11 ½	
Fuel account	£ 1 / 6 / 7 ½	
Deeds and Lots	£ 5 / 10 / 0	
Total	£ 77 / 14 / 4	

Balance due RHB, 20 April	£ 5 / 10 / 0	
Subscriptions due	£ 7 / 4 / 5	
Bills unpaid April 20		
On patents	£ 1 / 15 / 0	Perhaps for Glebe or church & cemetery lots.
John Robinson	£ 3 / 17 / 0	we know from 1834 Minutes that Vestry were sometimes paid a stipend when collecting subscriptions
J. W. Brace	£ 2 / 5 / 6	He operated a saw mill in the village. A short summary of the Brace family at Updates p.1045.

Election of Wardens: Major Robert Bagnall, as Rector's Church Warden Henry Payton as People's Warden, Vestry: Henry Smith, Sam'l Smiley Jun'r, And. Irwin, Henry Pigott, William McGowan, Thos. Scales, James Scroggie

Resolved: new subscription to be "opened to defray the expenses incurred upon finishing of the seats and other outstandings" and "the lathing and plastering of the church." About 4 pounds are thus subscribed towards the said objects."

- 17 May 1840 Henry Payton having declined the position of People's Warden, George Harkness was elected until Easter Monday 1841.
- 29 July 1840 Present for meeting of Select Vestry and Church Wardens at the Parsonage: The Rev. R. H. Bourne, Major R. Bagnall, George Harkness, H. [sic J. H.] Pigott, H. Smith, J. Scroggie
It was agreed to place a notice in the church in the village "for proposals for the lathing and plastering of the church to be received at the Parsonage until the 15th of August."
- 17 August 1840 a meeting held at the church to consider the proposals for the lathing and plastering of the church with Mr. Bourne, H. Pigott, A. Irwin, S. Smiley, Thos. Scales attended. Proposals presented from J. Booth, R. Lee, J. Emerson and C. Dupuis. There is list of family heads (footnote 3) and it was John this Booth whose 5 shillings subscription pledge of was "in work." The family of James Booth, his older brother, remained at Rawdon. I cannot identify the other who made proposals.
Booth's proposal to lathe the church interior and plaster "with two coats and in good style and to furnish all materials for the sum of 9 pounds currency" was accepted "conditionally" in case the "Select Vestry have sufficient encouragement in their endeavours to raise the means to authorize them to undertake it." Resolution was that Vestry was to undertake "an immediate effort "and they should report their success ... after the return of the Reverend Bourne from his journey to Quebec." Mr. Bourne had a twin brother in Quebec City, where their father George Bourne had lived for some years. A younger son, Theodore Bourne lived with R. H. at Rawdon at this time and was later a leader in the Abolitionist movement in the United States, as George Bourne had been. The Bourne papers are <https://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>
- 31 August 1840 Vestry meeting at the Church" Rev. Bourne, Samuel Smiley, Henry Smith, Wm. McGowan. Resolved that Mr. Booth should "proceed forthwith."

10 Nov. 1840 Select Vestry and Church Wardens at the Parsonage, present: Mr. Bourne, Major Bagnall, George Harkness, Henry Smith, Sam'l. Smiley, Tho. Scales, Andrew Irwin. Plastering and lathing for £9 completed plus plastering if stone work £ 0 / 7 / 6. Mr. Bourne paid £ 2 / 15 / 0. Balance due to Mr. Booth £ 6 / 12 / 6

Receipt of 25 pounds from the Lord Bishop to the church account acknowledged and a further amount of £ 3 / 17 / 6 on subscriptions making £ 28 / 17 / 6

Mr. Bourne's account "against the church"

Balance of former account	£ 6 / 10 / 0	
Paid to John Robinson	£ 3 / 17 / 0	
Paid to Mr. Brace	£ 2 / 5 / 0	
Repairs, cleaning etc.,	£ 2 / 14 / 7	
for Horse Shed	<u>£ 8 / 15 / 0</u>	was his horse kept at a stable?
	£ 24 / 1 / 7	
Advanced to Mr. Booth	<u>£ 2 / 15 / 0</u>	
Due to RWB	£ 26 / 1 / 7	

when deducted from £ 28 / 17 / 6 (above) there is £ 2 / 0 / 11 in hand

Resolved that what is in hand be given to Mr. Booth on account. Proposal to submit to the Bishop the purposes to which his donation was used and to return him a vote of thanks "was deferred to another time."

12 April 1841 Congregation met by notice, at the church, to elect Church Wardens and Vestry for the coming year. The minister presented a statement of accounts. Present were Vestry members – Major Bagnall, Henry Smith, Andrew Irwin, Wm. McGowan, Thomas Scales. Accounts were presented and approved by the Vestry. Balance in the hands of Mr. Bourne was £ 2 / 0 / 17 / 11 ½ . A communication from the Lord Bishop to the Church Wardens was read by Mr. Bourne and discussed after Vestry was dismissed. ²

² The Bishop's request to the Rawdon Churchwardens as read to the Congregation 12 April 1841:

Quebec, 27 March 1841, Gentlemen I am about to call upon the professed adherents of the Church of England, throughout the Diocese, to do their part in contributing to the support of the Gospel, and the auspices of that Church, and although the plan is not wholly digested, yet they much I am prepared to say [sic word was omitted], that if the Rev. Mr. Bourne or, in the event of his removal, any minister succeeding him, is to continue at Rawdon at the present charge to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, it will be necessary that the congregation shall put the Parsonage House into thorough repair and also establish some secure method for the punctual payment of their contributions, according to their ability, to a fund in aid of the operation of that Society. Mr. Bourne, a bachelor, had married at the Cathedral, in Montreal, on 31 March, 1841.

That the Congregation will readily recognize the principle laid down in the Gospel which binds them to allow their worldly things to be reaped, where spiritual things are sown unto them, is what I will not permit myself for a moment to doubt, and it is to you gentlemen, that I must look, in the first instance to make my intentions known. As far as regards the Parsonage House, I know some particulars respecting the state of it, which shew that there is not a day to be lost, and I have not even waited therefore, for the approaching season of Easter at which it is possible that you may be replaced in office by other individuals. In that case you will be kind enough after preparing the minds of the congregation for what is expected from them, to pass this note to the hands of your successors that they may follow up effectually whatever you may have found yourselves able to set on foot, I am gentlemen your most obedient servant G.J. (George Jehoshaphat) Montreal

Mr. W. Holtby was requested to act as secretary to the meeting. It appears in the copies from Church Archives, Montreal that Mr. Holtby recorded this meeting twice; there are two versions in the Minute Books The first set may have two pages missing and I have combined the two and used the one that seemed most complete.

The following appointments were made – Lieut. Col. Griffith as minister’s Warden and George Constable as People’s Warden. Constable is a new Vestryman and occasionally acted as secretary. He was the son-in-law of Hugh Torney, a former vestryman, as were his brothers Thomas and Richard Torney. The Select Vestry are named for the first time by District. I tried to imagine the district locations by quartering the rectangular Township, NW, NE, SE and SW.

#1 District	Robert McGowan	Second Range / south east
# 2 District	William Robinson	Fourth Range / south east
#3 District	George Copping Junior	Fifth Range / centre
# 4 District	Edward Tighe	Tenth Range / north east
# 5 District	William Smiley Junior	Eighth Range / north west
# 6 District	John Holmes Junior	either 4 th or 10 th / west side
# 7 District	Hugh Torney	not sure. He had 3 locations
# 8 District	Bryan [sic Byron] McCurdy	3 rd or 5 th Range / west side
# 9 District	William Holtby	Seventh Range / centre

Resolved: that Vestry take measures to carry the Lord Bishop’s communication to the church wardens into effect were (passed unanimously). Secondly, that Vestry “be requested to wait on inhabitants of the respective districts and ascertain that subscriptions can be raised for furtherance of the foregoing.” See Subscription list 1841-42 with payments to 1844 at Minute for 1 August 1842, below. For an additional subscription list see **Endnote A** of *Christ Church Vestry Minutes 1843-1846*

Vestry wrote to the Bishop: “Being thus empowered” they would adopt measures to fulfill “your Lordship’s requirements” that “no exertions shall be wanting.” Vestry acknowledged their debt to “the venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel which we can never repay” and to his Lordship for the strong interest “manifested in the welfare of the people of this mission.”

- 26 April 1841 Vestry meeting at the church. Present were Lt. Col. Griffith, Geo. Constable, Hugh Torney, John Holmes, William Holtby
Agreed: “the roof of the parsonage house should be put in repair without loss of time by shingling.” Resolved that the secretary provide blank lists to Select Vestry on which they are to enter names of heads of families belonging to the church and opposite the amount of subscription and the date they expect to be able to pay. That a full vestry meeting be held on 23rd May.
- 23 May 1841 Select Vestry met after service. Rev. Bourne, Lt. Col, Griffith, R. McGowan, H. Torney, G. Copping, J. Holmes, M. Saddler [sic Sadler],³ B. McCurdy
The following subscriptions have been handed in to Rev. Bourne for subscription of 1840. Robert McGowan 2/6, John Copping 2/6

³ Mitchel Sadler *the Reverend Mitchell Sadler: “Endeared to All.”* He was son of John Sadler mentioned in *Christ Church Vestry Minutes, 1834-1836*

Resolved that the subscription list already entered into for the Parsonage House “be persevered in” and Vestry “persevere in soliciting further ... in aid of that object. Meeting adjourned until 24 June at 3 p.m.; G. Constable acting secretary.

24 June 1841 Select Vestry met at the church by notice

Resolved that Wardens and Vestry approach family heads “to come forward in support of the Church.” Passed unanimously.

Moved by Tighe and seconded by Griffith that 5 shillings is requisite from each head “in order to defray all expenses attendant” and “conceived to be but a small contribution from each family” Passed unanimously.

If this appeal is not met Vestry “will be under the necessity of Renting the Pews for the support of the church.” Passed unanimously.

Resolved that Bourne, Griffith and Holtby be authorised to draw up the appeal to be submitted at next Vestry.

4 & 11 Jul. '41 Griffith's wordy message was to be read to the congregation on the 4th and 11th of July. [I have summarized it here. It lacks the subtlety and succinctness of the Bishop's message, \(footnote two\) and does not enhance my opinion of Griffith.](#) He speaks in reference to the repairs needed to the parsonage and support for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts and “the blessings we enjoy above the neighbouring Townships in having the regular administration of God's Word through the liberality and benevolence of that Society together with the munificent donations” of the Lord Bishop towards the completion of our church.” He appeals “to your liberality” for five shillings per family per annum, which would be sufficient for support of the church “and cannot be considered too much.”

Even if it had not been mentioned by the Bishop, returning to the topic of the parsonage which “will not be habitable for the winter months,” he begs again for “liberal support.” He seems to suggest that vestry can appropriate from the SPG church funds for that if every family “contribute their mite” to this yearly appeal and “prevent the necessity of selling or letting the pews”... “and considering that what you pay out in this way is but to the Lord and verily it shall be repaid to you here and hereafter. If we give nothing towards God's House not towards its Causes, we cannot expect his blessing to rest upon our labours and it is hard to expect that the land will yield its increase to us.

We therefore pray you to come forward and see that your names are enrolled in the church books, for the yearly offering , unto the Lord, and that all our names may be written in the Lamb's Book of Life.”

10 January 1842 [Minutes were omitted by oversight and inserted in error after 28 March and belong here.](#)

Present: Mr. Bourne, John Eveleigh, Geo. Constable, Hugh Torney, Geo. Copping Jr.

The following statement be presented to the Commissioners appointed by the Bishop as the opinion of Vestry in relation to the land proposed by Mr. Bourne to be purchased for a parsonage lot. Namely: “The said land adjoining the property now belonging to the church forming three separate parcels, all belonging to three several [sic] individuals, they coincide and would form a valuable addition to the church property and afford a much more desirable and eligible spot for the site of a parsonage property. The three

acres next adjoining the present church property and separated from it by the line for a public road, which are valued at acres 5 pounds per acre, they consider high, but on account of the situation and the desirability of preventing them from being occupied in any way which would incommode the church, they think it would be better to purchase them even at that price. The 10 acres next adjoining valued at 2 pounds 10 shillings per acre, cleared and under pasture, and the 5 acres, adjoining them at 3 pounds per acre, they consider valuable as affording a suitable situation for a parsonage convenient to water; and they think that the prices of the two last mentioned lots of land are moderate and reasonable.

They beg respectfully to recommend the proposed purchase to a favorable consideration signed - John Eveleigh, George Constable, Hugh Torney, Geo. Copping Jr.

The first three men were to settle their families in Upper Canada in the mid 1850s.

28 March 1842 Meeting of Congregation to elect Church Wardens and Select Vestry to elect church wardens and for transacting other Church business. Mr. Bourne presented the Church accounts with a balance in his hands of £7 / 19 / 2 on subscription list and £13 / 4 / 2 due him on Church collection Vestry present were G. Constable, church warden, H. Torney, Rt. McGowan, B. McCurdy, G. Copping. Other individuals present: S. Coultre, S. Smillie Jr, T. Scales. Accounts approved and accepted by Vestry. Mr. Bourne had been authorized by the Bishop to purchase the lots recommended at former meeting to be added to church property.

George Constable acted as secretary to the meeting. John Eveleigh and Thomas Scales appointed Church Wardens. Vestry G. Robinson 1st District, J. Robinson 2nd District, J. Lindsay 3rd District, W. Copping 4th District, J. McEvoy 5th District, M. Saddler [sic Sadler] 6th District, H. Nightingale 7th District, E. Burbidge 8th District, D. Manchester 9th District.

7 June 1842 Meeting of Select Vestry at the parsonage: Mr. Bourne, J. Eveleigh, Geo. Robinson, Wm. Copping, M. Sadler, E. Burbidge, D. Manchester

Mr. Bourne reported balance on hand on Easter Monday had been £ 10 / 11 / 8 ½.

Letter of the Bishop to the Church Wardens (below ¹) was read and considered.

Resolved: "further prompt and active measures" required by the Congregation "to make provision for a Parsonage House in this mission." That it is the "bonnden [sic] duty" as laid down in the Gospel and urged by the Bishop "to contribute according to his ability towards the maintenance of the ordinances of religion. That Vestry " make a strenuous effort without loss of time" to collect all subscriptions etc. That Select Vestry with Mr. Bourne visit every family connected with the Mission and report of the results so that a reply be made to the Bishop of their results. That Mr. Bourne inform the Bishop of proceedings on behalf of the Church Wardens.

Mr. Bourne reported he had concluded purchase of the recommended land, as authorized by the Bishop, from John M. Griffis of Montreal for £10 and 11 acres from Hiram Bateman for £30 plus 5 acres from C. R. and J. S Rood ⁴ for £15, making 18 acres

⁴ Charles Roe Rood & Josiah Stocking Rood were lumber merchants at Rawdon and owners of a portion of SE half of lot 18 on the 5th range acquired by Mr. Bourne for the church in April 1842. Solomon Cook arrived at Rawdon c. 1823 and was given Letters Patent in 1834. When and what he sold to the Roods has not been determined. It is

at a cost of £55 purchased by the S. P. G. for the maintenance of the minister of this church. Embraced in the minutes now but had been omitted by oversight. RHB

1 August 1842 Present at Select Vestry: R. H. Bourne, John Robinson, George Robinson, William Copping, James McEvoy, Elias Burbidge

Mr. Bourne reported about 60 subscriptions had been obtained on the new list amounting to about £14 & the total of old & new to 25th July was £13 / 1 / 8 ½. G. Robinson paid 7/ 6 E. Burbidge paid 2 / 6 for H. Burton (son of the former minister who lived on the Burton property on First Range, and recently baptized & married as a Catholic) and 5 / for H. Burbidge (his brother).

Vestry separated without coming to a determination except "the season too advanced to do anything more than make some preparation for building the parsonage next year."

P. S. a subscription was opened to pay for clearing of the burial grounds.

Subscription list 1841-42 with payments to 1844

The amount pledged and collected, in shillings and pence. One shilling = 12 pence and 20 shillings made 1 pound. Those marked RHB indicate that Rev. Rowland Hill Bourne had acknowledged payment; the list in the Minute Book seems to be his copy and those without his initials are marked paid in several different styles of handwriting.

Name	Amount	Remarks	comment
Thomas Griffith	5		Minister's Warden
Rob't Eveleigh	5	pd RHB 9 May 1842	
James Robinson	5	pd RHB 15 Sept 1841	
James Brown	5	pd RHB 9 Mar 1842	Vestry
Henry Smith	5	pd 2 Oct 1842	Vestry
William Macgowan [sic]	5	pd RHB 19 Sept 1841	Vestry
John Eveleigh	5	pd RHB 15 Sept 1841	Vestry
Pat Cassidy	5	pd 2 Aug 1842	
Mr. Geo. Swift	5	pd by transfer of Bell subscription ⁵	
John Holmes	5		Presbyterian; Vestry
Thos. Scales	5	pd RHB 28 May 1842	Vestry
George Copping Sen.	5	pd RHB 8 May 1842	Vestry
Henry Copping	5	paid in shingles	
George Copping Jr.	5	pd RHB 17 Jan 1842	Vestry
Hezekiah Burbidge	5	pd 1 Aug 1842	pd E. Burbidge see 1837-42 minutes
Sam'l Smiley Sen	5	pd RHB 18 Dec 1841	Vestry
Wm. Copping	5	pd 21 Jan 1841	
Wm. Marling [sic]	5	pd RHB 24 May 1843	

possible they were from Clinton County, New York, which was where the Brace family who were millers at Rawdon had connections.

⁵ There are several payments with this remark but there is no explanation. Probably, there had been a separate subscription list to pay for the church bell and these pledges were being transferred into the new subscription ,inspired by the Bishop's challenge to the Church Wardens.

John Booth	5	in work settled since 19 Sep '43	see 1837-1842 Minutes
Jacob Manchester	5	29 May 1843	paid
James Armstrong	5		
John Burns	5	pd 28 April 1843	cannot say which John Burns this is
Elias Burbidge	5	pd RHB 7 June 1842	Vestry
John McCurdy	5	pd 14 June 1842	
Francis Morgan	5	paid to RHB	
Rich'd Boyce	5	pd 9 April 1842	
Thomas Brennan	5		
George Johnston	5	to be paid in Dec.	
William Holtby	5	left Rawdon ⁶	
Alfred Holtby	5		Methodist
Wm. Cunningham	5		
Andrew Thompson	5	dead	this remark was added later, he is on 1843 militia list
Hugh Torney	5	pd RHB 28 Nov 1841	Vestry
George Constable	5	pd 28 Mar 1842	Vestry
Mr. Darwin [sic]	1/15/0	paid in boards	
William Robinson	5	pd RHB 9 Dec 1842	Vestry
Edward Tighe	5	pd 7 May 1843	Vestry
William Tighe	5		
James Grey Sen'r	5	pd 22 June 1842	
Thomas Torney	5	"some misunderstanding about this"	Vestry
William Scroggie	5	paid by transfer of Bell Subscription	
David Scott	5	pd 5 th Sept 1842	
George Hobs	5	pd. 27 Aug 41	Vestry
Sam'l Coultra	5	pd 28 Mar 1842	
John Edghill	5		
William Tinkler	5		
Henry Dawson	5		
Hugh Moore	5		
Philip Holmes	5		Presbyterian & Methodist
John McEwen	5	pd RHB	Presbyterian
James Henry Pigott	5	pd 25 Sept 1842	Vestry
Robert Johnston	5	2/6 on acct, balance 24 Mar '45	
Henry Smith (tailor)	5		one time bailiff
William Smiley Sen'r	5	pd RHB 8 Dec 1841	
Michael Rourke	5	pd in potatoes to W. Bagnall	son of Major R. Bagnall
Henry Peyton [sic]	5	pd RHB 15 Sep 1841	
Russell Twiss	10	pd transferred from Bell Subsc.	clock maker family
John Rourke	5	pd RHB 8 Dec 1841	
W. Burns	5	pd RHB 10 Jan 1842	

⁶ Is this William Holtby Senior who I have presumed was deceased c. 1833. The comment is not in the hand of William Holtby Junior who was the secretary of Vestry. Very mysterious.

Mitchell Sadler	2/6	pd RHB 17 Jan 1842	Vestry, later a Methodist ⁷
James McEvoy	5	pd RHB 20 Jan 1842	Vestry
Thomas Mason	2/9	pd RHB 8 Feb 1842	
Samuel Anderson ⁸	5	pd by Wm. McGowan	
Dean Burns	5	pd RHB 16 May 1842	Vestry
Richard Torney	5	pd RHB 16 May 1842	Vestry
John Robinson (4 th Range)	5	pd RHB 8 April 1842	Vestry
Jas. Swift	2/6	pd RHB 3 Aug 1842	
James Croaker	5	pd 3 Jul 1842	
William Smiley, Jr	5	pd 18 August 1842	Vestry

1842 Subscription List, with payment to 1844

List was entered in response to a second Bishop's letter requesting community support of new parsonage and his plan to standardize congregational support for the SPG in the diocese by church members. For an estimation of make up of these districts, see 12 April 1841 Minute.

#1 District			list of Robert McGowan
John McCurdy	5	pd 11 Feb 43	
George Robinson	7 / 6	pd 1 Aug 42	Vestry
Robert Rogers	2/6	pd 7 Jan 43	
Edward Brittain	5	bd 23 Oct 42	
Robert McGowan	5	paid 14 June 42	Vestry
Alexander Hannah	5	left Rawdon	
Henry Smith (cons)	7 / 6		the tailor
Henry Hunt	5 / 5	paid 14 June 42	not identified
A friend	5	paid 14 June 42	
James Kirkwood	2 / 6		Presbyterian
Andrew Kirkwood	5		Presbyterian
John Allen	7 / 6		Presbyterian
Zilliam Burns	5	5 paid in oats	
Dean Burns	5		Vestry
Thomas Robinson	2 / 6		
Richard Torney	5		Vestry
#5 District			list of Wm. Smiley junior
Maj. Robert Bagnall	10	pd. in lumber, settled	Vestry
William Bagnall	10	"	
Henry Pigott	5	pd 25 Sept 42	Vestry
Henry Smith	5	pd 26 Mar 43	Vestry
Philip Holmes	2 / 6		Presbyterian

⁷ The story of his life is at the Reverend Mitchell [Sadler](#): "Endeared to All"

⁸ Samuel Anderson, with Robert McGowan, the father of William Magowan [sic] and others, established the Rawdon Wesleyan Church, see *Up To Rawdon* page 618. Robert McGowan was a member of this Vestry and on 1842 list but is not on this list.

John Edghill	5		
William Cunningham	2 / 6		
Samuel McIntyre	2 / 6		
Martin Hobbs	5	pd 12 Sept 43	Vestry
John McNown	2 / 6		
Sam'l Smiley Senr	5		Vestry
William Smiley Senr	5	pd 31 Mar 43	
William Smiley Jr	2 / 6	pd 31 Mar 43	Vestry
Districts 2 & 7		lists of William Robinson & Hugh Torney	
Alexander Connolly	5	pd 2 July 42	
James Croaker	5	pd 27 Aug 43	
Thomas Torney	5	pd 24 July 42	
Henry Burton	2/6	pd 1 Aug 42	pd by E. Burbidge
John Robinson	5	pd 11 Feb 43	Vestry
Thomas Robinson	5	pd 11 Feb 43	
Patrick Cassidy	5	2/6 on account 2 Aug. pd in oatmeal & some mistake about ?	
William Robinson	5	pd 11 Feb 43	Vestry
James Robinson	5	pd 28 June 43	
John Burns	5	pd 11 Feb 43	
John Booth	5	in work settled June 19	
William Nightingale	5		Vestry
Hugh Torney	5	pd 7 th April 43	Vestry
George Constable	5	pd 18 Apr 43	Vestry
George McGowan	5	pd. 27 Feb 43	
James Foster	5	pd 27 Feb 44, 4 bu. wheat	
Joseph Fairley	2/6	dead	
John Nulty	5		
John B. Foster	5	27 June 44. Order on ?	
Arthur Hamilton	5		
Thomas Hannah	5	left Rawdon	
District 3 or miscellaneous		list of George Copping junior	
George Copping jr	5	pd in shingles by G. C. Sr	Vestry
John Mitchell	2/6	pd 8 th April 44	
James Booth	5	pd. 29 Dec 42	
Henry Peyton	5	pd 5 April 43	
William Steele	2/6	pd 14 April 43	
Samuel Anderson	5		a founder of Rawdon Methodist Church
Mrs. ? Putman	2/6		not known
Hezekiah Burbidge	5	pd. 1 Feb 43, 1 ¾ bu. Wheat	
Hugh McMaster	7 / 6	pd 10 Dec 41	
John Eveleigh	5	pd 16 Dec 42	Vestry
Wm. Wade	5	2/6 on account Dec 42	pd 2/6 in potatoes to W. Bagnall
Henry Copping	5	pd. in shingles	

Thomas Grey	2/6	pe 16 March 1843	
George Copping sen'r	5	pd. in shingles	Vestry
Andrew Irwin	5		
George Sharp 2 ½ oats	2/6	pd 14 April 1843	
Thos. Sharp 2 ½ oats	2/6	pd 14 April 1843	
Frank Morgan 1 ½ oats ½ ?	2/6	pd 14 April 1843	
Richd Boyce 2 ½ bu. peas	5	pd 14 April 1843	
W. Delahunt 2 ½ oats	2/6	pd 17 April 1843	
P. Melrose	2/6	pd 24 April 1843	
J. Pollock	2/6	pd 26 June 1843	
William Copping	5	pd 2/6 June 1843 balance 27 Dec.	
J. Sadler sen'r	2/6	pd 15 June 1843	
J. Jeffries	5	pd 12 July 1843	
J. Lindsay	2/6	pd 21 Sept 1843	
James Gray sen'r	5	pd Jan. 1844	
John Gray	2/6	pd credited 11 Jan 1844	
Geo. Swift	5	pd 4 Feb 1844	

9 August 1842 Meeting of Select Vestry at the Church.

Resolved unanimously: to petition the Governor General for a grant for the Glebe land for the use of the Episcopal clergy, that a committee be appointed to carry this out and that _____ and _____ be appointed. *The names were omitted.*

Resolved the burying grounds be surveyed & lots numbered, and cedar posts put down.⁹

Resolved: that a specification be made for the repairs of the Parsonage House and Mr. Bourne named to make them and that advertisement for repair contract for August 30 the day subscription list closes.

Adjourned until 30 August at 12:00 o'clock.

30 Aug. 1842 Contracting meeting for repairs to the parsonage. No contractors appeared.

Resolved 1) that "a mechanic should be employed to view the premises" to ascertain the expense of repairs. 2) subscribers be noticed to come forward so that the work should begin without delay. Present: Mr. Bourne, Edward Tighe, George Copping, Robert McGowan, William Holtby

6 Sept. 1842 Vestry meeting: R. H. Bourne, John Eveleigh, William Copping, James McEvoy

Determined "to obtain at the different mills a statement of the price at which timber could be furnished for the building of a parsonage and the making of a contract was referred to a fuller meeting."

15 Sept. 1842 present at the church: Mr. Bourne, George Copping, John Eveleigh, William Holtby.

John Eveleigh was appointed senior church warden until Easter Monday 1842 [sic 1843] "in the room of Lt. Col. Griffith" *Was Griffith going to be away. His position as agent was*

⁹ 1849 Sentence of Consecration in Diocesan files for: 1 acre burying ground, by Bishop George Jehoshaphat Mountain with the Rev. Charles Rollit.

under review Mr. Bourne had received the estimates of John Booth and Mr. Neville for repairs of the parsonage and received a letter from the Bishop of Montreal offering to apply to the Society for Propagation of the Gospel for a special grant to aid in the building of the new parsonage provided the Congregation do their part. It was felt advisable to defer further business until a fuller vestry meeting could be obtained.

- 17 Sept. 1842 Select Vestry at the church, present R. H. Bourne, John Eveleigh, Thos. Scales, George Robinson, William Copping. Henry Nightingale, Elias Burbidge, David Manchester Proposals for timber for parsonage from Major Bagnall and Mr. Rood. Resolved to accept Major Bagnall's and a committee be approved to "enter into contract" with him on behalf of Vestry to furnish materials for the building, agreeable to his proposals. Committee: Bourne, Burbidge, Manchester, W. Copping were authorized to contract for raising of the frame. Congregation to be called upon to pay subscriptions as soon as possible in cash or produce at the current price to be left with vestrymen of their district.

Vestry meeting was scheduled to meet again on 9 January 1843. See [Christ Church Vestry Minutes 1843-1846](#) 1843 Subscription List and the Completion of the Parsonage.

ⁱ This was addressed "to the Church Wardens of the Mission of Rawdon," from Quebec 19 May 1842.

Gentlemen: Bishop's words "on the indispensable necessity" of "an immediate provision for a Parsonage House in the mission of Rawdon" and that they will "profit the Congregation to an active movement on this behalf." "The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel make a certain allowance to the missionary and have acquired lands for the church in the Township, which may at some distant day yield an addition to the emoluments of the Pastor. These circumstances however, so far from releasing the Congregation from doing their own share in the same work, constitute a particular ground of claim upon them to make whatever exertions and sacrifices for the object, may be fairly within their power. It is not the intention of the above named society to assure the entire support of the clergy to whom they give stipends in the colonies. But to do such part as, with the contributions received on the spot, may enable a minister to live although frugally, yet in some sort of decency and comfort. This Mr. Bourne cannot do, as he is now circumstanced, being a family man and having his time and thoughts too much occupied by his duties to attach to farming and other worldly pursuits. That he should pass another winter in the Parsonage house now affords him shelter (and can but only be said so to do) is what the Congregation, I am sure cannot expect; & what I, most certainly, ought not to permit for I am persuaded that it would be risking the health of a valuable servant of the Lord. If, therefore, nothing is done to have a more suitable residence ready for him before the winter I shall be compelled to withdraw him from the place, & to appoint him to some other charge. I will not however, anticipate any such painful necessity but will rather indulge the pleasing hope that immediate and effectual steps will be taken to provide for the want that is so severely felt. The Congregation will feel it to be their pleasure, as is plainly their duty required by God, to honor Him with the substance, and to give some little portion of their worldly things for the benefit of his servant who sows unto them in spiritual things.

He writes that he has delayed his plan to organize "throughout the diocese a system of contributions" for churchmen to support their religion and "with divine permission, I shall put it in train this year." Rawdon "and other quarters" will be called on for their "stated contributions according to their ability to a general fund. But while they are engaged in the work of the Parsonage house, another burden will be imposed upon them." *The plan, in future this suggests, would release the people from the many separate subscriptions but the predating parsonage plan appears to be outside the yearly subscription being imposed.* He requests the favor of an answer "at your earliest possible convenience." (signed) I am gentlemen, Your very obt. & humble servant GJ Montreal.