

ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH, WINDSOR.

The *Australian Churchman* publishes the following interesting memoranda concerning the above edifice:—

“The foundation stone of St. Matthew's was laid by Governor Macquarie on the 11th October, 1817. The following particulars of the ceremony and subsequent events are from the Church Register:—‘A little after sunset on Saturday, the 11th day of October, 1817, the corner stone of St. Matthew's Church, was laid by Governor Macquarie, and after depositing the rim of a Spanish dollar, with the circular bit struck out of its middle, (the currency of the colony, which pass for six shillings and threepence sterling) his Excellency in a very impressive tone of voice, said:—‘God prosper St. Matthew's Church,’ gently striking the stone three times with a mason's mallet. The same ceremony was performed severally by the whole of the gentlemen which accompanied his Excellency from the Government House to the spot. Through indisposition, owing, it was said, to the unusual heat of the weather at this time of year, the resident chaplain (Rev. Robt. Cartwright) was not present.

The corner stone having been removed, and the money stolen early on the evening, in which it was deposited by the Governor, this evening about the same time the corner stone was relaid by his Excellency, and a dollar deposited

underneath it by the Rev. Robert Cartwright (Monday, 13th October, 1817). This transaction was witnessed by his Honor, Lieutenant-Governor Erskine, Major Antill, Mr. D. Allan (Commissary General), Rev. Henry Fulton, Mr. William Cox, chief magistrate at Hawkesbury, Mr. Surgeon Mileham, J.P., several gentlemen, and the most respectable inhabitants of Windsor.

“November 1817. The dollar deposited under the corner stone of St. Matthew's Church, by the Rev. Mr. Cartwright, was again stolen a few nights afterward. This infamous species of theft could not have been practised only through the neglect of the contracting builder not having prepared materials to immediately work over the stone. It is supposed that the corner stone was thrown down, and the money stolen by some of the indigent convicts employed at the public works in the town of Windsor. (Signed) Joseph Harpur.

“The walls of the Church to which the above memoranda refer have been taken down to the very foundation through some defect in the building, and another is now in building on its site by Government of much larger dimensions, and of the very best materials. It is intended, I believe, to retain the name of St. Matthew, given to the first building. (Signed) Joseph Harpur, June 4, 1819.

“Dec. 18th, 1822.—This day the new Church of St. Matthew's was consecrated and opened for Divine worship by the Rev. Samuel Marsden, principal chaplain of the territory, assisted by the Rev. Messrs. Cross, Resident-Chaplain Cartwright, and Hassall.—(Signed) J. Harpur, Windsor, 18th December, 1822.’

“During 1850 the porch was added and the roof of the Church slated.

“The registers of St. Matthew's date from 1810.

“The list of incumbents is as under:—

“1810-1819—Robert Cartwright.

“1819-1828—John Cross.

“1828-1829—Elijah Smith.

“1829-1833—Joseph Docker.

“1833—M. D. Meares. (Seems to have officiated pro tem.)

“1833-1867—Henry T. Stiles.

“1867-1877—Charles F. Garnsey.

" 1833-1867—Henry T. Stiles.

" 1867-1877—Charles F. Garnsey.

" 1877-1878—Henry A. Langley."

"The present incumbent is the Rev. Frederick W. Stretton.

"The following stained glass windows have been erected, three on each side of the church:—North side: The calling of Levi—in memory of John Terry; The Raising of Lazarus—in memory of Edwin Rouse; The Sacrifice of Isaac—in memory of Harriet Elias. South side: The Preaching of St. John the Baptist—in memory of Rev. Henry T. Stiles; The Agony in Gethsemane—in memory of Thomas Wingate; The Women at the Sepulchre—in memory of Harriet Hordern."