

**SHORT HISTORY OF THE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE  
DOMINION OF CANADA. FROM  
THE  
EARLIEST TO THE PRESENT TIME**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649704187

Short History of the Presbyterian Church in the Dominion of Canada. From the Earliest to the Present Time by William Gregg

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**WILLIAM GREGG**

**SHORT HISTORY OF THE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE  
DOMINION OF CANADA. FROM  
THE  
EARLIEST TO THE PRESENT TIME**



SHORT HISTORY

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN THE

DOMINION OF CANADA

FROM THE EARLIEST TO THE PRESENT TIME.

BY

WILLIAM GREGG, M.A., D.D.

*Professor of Church History, Knox College, Toronto.*

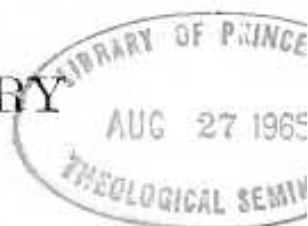
---

SECOND EDITION, REVISED.

---

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR.

1893



ENTERED, according to the Act of the Parliament of Canada, in the year  
Eighteen Hundred and Ninety-two, by the REVEREND WILLIAM GREGG, D.D.,  
in the office of the Minister of Agriculture,

PRINTED BY  
C. BLACKETT ROBINSON,  
TORONTO,

## PREFACE.

---

A hundred years ago, there were in the Provinces of British North America, which now constitute the Dominion of Canada, about 20,000 Presbyterians and twenty-two Presbyterian ministers. The Presbyterians of the Dominion now number 755,199 and the number of Presbyterian ministers, including settled pastors, professors, ordained missionaries and retired ministers, is about 1,058. Of these ministers all but twenty-five belong to what is called "The Presbyterian Church in Canada," which was constituted by the union, in 1875, of previously separate branches of the Presbyterian Church. Fifty years ago, the Presbyterians of British North America had not undertaken any independent Foreign Mission work. Now, the Presbyterian Church in Canada not only carries on extensive Home Mission operations in the Provinces and Territories of the Dominion, but has established Foreign Missions of its own in the New Hebrides, in Trinidad, in Demerara, in Central India, and among the Chinese in the island of Formosa and the province of Honan; it has also undertaken a Mission to the Jews. Until the year 1842, there was in British North America no educational institution for the training of students for the Presbyterian ministry, with the exception of the Pictou Academy, which was opened in 1817. Now there are in the Dominion six Presbyterian colleges, one in Halifax, one in the city of Quebec, one in Montreal, one in Kingston, one in Toronto and one in Winnipeg. There are, moreover, three Foreign Mission Colleges of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, one in Formosa, one in Trinidad and one in Central India.

Considering that it was due to the memory of those who planted the Presbyterian Church in British North America and of those through whose labours it has, by God's blessing, grown from small beginnings to its present extent, it seemed proper that its history should be recorded. Accordingly, a few years ago the author of the present "Short History" published a large volume containing the history of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, brought down to the year 1834.

He intended to publish one or two similar volumes bringing down the history to a later time. This purpose, however, he will, very probably, not be able to accomplish. Meanwhile, he has thought it would be useful to publish an outline of the leading particulars in the history of the Presbyterian Church in the Dominion from the earliest to the present time. Such an outline he has endeavoured to give in this little volume.

TORONTO, *August, 1803.*



# CONTENTS.

## CHAPTER I. THE HUGUENOTS.

	PAGE.		PAGE.
The Huguenots.....	1	The Kirks.....	4
Charvin.....	2	The De la Tours.....	4
De Monts.....	2	Huguenot Merchants.....	5
The De Caens.....	3	Revocation of Edict of Nantes.....	5
The One Hundred Associates.....	4	Descendants of Huguenots.....	5

## CHAPTER II. EASTERN PROVINCES—1713—1817.

Cession of Nova Scotia.....	7	Dutch Reformed Church.....	11
Deputation of Acadians.....	7	Presbytery of Truro.....	12
Protestant Settlers.....	8	Presbytery of Pictou.....	14
Rev. Messrs. Lyon and Kinloch.....	8	Presbyterian Union—Synod of Nova Scotia.....	15
Rev. James Murdoch.....	9	Unions in Ireland and Scotland.....	17
Protestant Dissenters' Church.....	9	Statistics.....	17
Rev. Mr. Fraser.....	10		

## CHAPTER III. WESTERN PROVINCES AND RED RIVER—1759—1818.

Capture of Quebec.....	18	Rev. Daniel W. Eastman.....	22
Rev. Geo. Henry, Quebec.....	18	Presbytery of the Canadas.....	23
Rev. John Bethune, Montreal.....	19	Statistics.....	24
Rev. John Young, St. Gabriel Street Church.....	19	Red River Settlement.....	25
Separation between Upper and Lower Canada.....	20	Lord Selkirk.....	25
Rev. Jabez Colver.....	21	North-West Company's Opposition.....	26
Rev. Robert Dunn.....	20	Massacre of Governor Temple and party.....	27
Rev. J. L. Broeffle.....	21	Lord Selkirk's visit to Red River.....	27
Applications for Ministers.....	21	An Elder sent to preach, baptise and marry.....	28
Rev. R. McDowall, Dutch Reformed.....	22		

## CHAPTER IV. EASTERN PROVINCES—1817—1844.

Synod of Nova Scotia. Ways of pro- moting religion.....	29	Organisation of Free Church of Scot- land.....	40
King's College exclusiveness.....	30	Synod of Nova Scotia adopts a new name.....	40
Dr. Thomas McCulloch.....	30	Fraternises with Free Church and Presbyterian Church of Ireland.....	42
Pictou Academy.....	31	Dissent.....	42
Synod's Claim to Equal Rights.....	31	Synod and Presbytery of New Bruns- wick in connection with Church of Scotland.....	43
Statistics.....	32	Secession, organisation of a Synod in sympathy with Free Church.....	43
Glasgow Colonial Society.....	33	Rev. Donald McDonald.....	45
Synod of Nova Scotia in connection with Church of Scotland.....	33	Reformed Presbyterian Church.....	46
Union Negotiations.....	34	Statistics.....	47
Disruption of Church of Scotland.....	36		
Case of Auchterarder.....	36		
Case of Marnoch.....	37		
Ordination in Marnoch by suspended Ministers.....	38		

## CHAPTER V. WESTERN PROVINCES—1818-1844.

PAGE.	PAGE.		
Presbytery of the Canadas.....	48	Synod of (Free) Presbyterian Church	
Appeal for Help.....	48	of Canada organised.....	65
Efforts to train Ministers.....	49	Pastoral Address.....	65
Synod in connection with Church of		Negotiations regarding Property and	
Scotland.....	50	Re-union.....	67
United Presbytery organised as		Missionaries from United Secession	
United Synod.....	50	Church, Scotland.....	68
Government Grant.....	51	Missionary Presbytery of United Se-	
Union of the two Synods.....	51	cession Church organised.....	69
Clergy Reserve Controversy.....	53	Missionary Presbytery becomes Mis-	
Queen's College.....	55	sionary Synod.....	70
Sympathy with non-intrusion party.....	56	Divinity Hall of Missionary Synod.....	70
Discussions and Resolutions in 1844.....	57	Niagara Presbytery.....	71
Disruption, Dissent and Protest.....	59	Presbytery of Stamford.....	71
Outline of Draft Answer to Protest		Congregations connected with U.	
and Dissent.....	60	States.....	72
Proceedings of Synod in Sept., 1844.....	61	Statistics.....	72

## CHAPTER VI. EASTERN PROVINCES—1845-1875. SYNODS IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

Introductory.....	73	Synod of New Brunswick.....	76
Synod of Nova Scotia and Prince		Synods unite as the Synod of the	
Edward Island.....	74	Maritime Provinces.....	78
Progress.....	74	Home Missions.....	79
Dalhousie College.....	75	Theological Education.....	79
Foreign Missions.....	79	Foreign Mission.....	81

## CHAPTER VII. EASTERN PROVINCES—1845-1860. SYNOD OF NOVA SCOTIA AND FREE CHURCH SYNOD OF NOVA SCOTIA. UNION.

Synod of Nova Scotia.....	82	Rev. Messrs. Matheson and John-	
Home Missions.....	82	ston in Tanna.....	88
Colportage.....	83	Free Church of Nova Scotia.....	91
Training of Students for Ministry.....	83	Theological Hall and Academy.....	91
Foreign Mission.....	84	Home Work.....	92
Rev. John Geddie, First Missionary.....	85	Foreign Mission in Turkey.....	93
Labours in Anetiteum.....	86	Union Negotiations.....	94
Rev. Geo. N. Gordon in Erromanga.....	87	Basis of Union.....	95
		Union consummated.....	95

## CHAPTER VIII. EASTERN PROVINCES—1861-1875. SYNOD OF LOWER PROVINCES AND NEW BRUNSWICK. UNION.

Synod of Lower Provinces.....	99	Union with Synod of Lower Pro-	
Training of Students.....	100	vinces.....	105
Home Mission and Colportage.....	100	Synod of Lower Provinces, 1861-	
New Hebrides Mission.....	101	1875.....	105
Dr. Geddie's visit to N. Scotia.....	102	Divinity Hall.....	106
Last years of Dr. Geddie.....	103	New Hebrides Mission.....	107
Synod of Presbyterian Church of		Trinidad Mission.....	108
New Brunswick.....	104	Statistics.....	110
Home and Foreign Missions.....	105		

## CHAPTER IX. WESTERN PROVINCES—1845-1875. SYNOD OF CANADA IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

Introductory.....	112	Queen's College.....	116
Synod in connection with Church of		Morris College.....	119
Scotland.....	112	Home Missions.....	120
Clergy Reserves.....	113	Mission to Lumbermen.....	121
Temporalities Fund.....	114	French Mission.....	122
Sustentation Fund.....	115	Jewish and Foreign Missions.....	123

## CHAPTER IX.—Continued.

PAGE.	PAGE.		
Dr. Aiton's collection for Mission to Jews.....	124	Resignation of Dr. Epstein.....	126
A Missionary Appointed.....	124	Co-operation with Parent Church in Jewish and other Missions.....	126
Dr. Epstein at Salonica and Monastir.....	125	Juvenile Mission and Indian Orphanage Scheme.....	127

## CHAPTER X. WESTERN PROVINCES. [FREE] PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA—1844-1861.

Introductory.....	129	French Canadian Missionary Society.....	138
Friendly Deputations to the Free Church Synod.....	129	Red River Mission.....	139
Claim to Share in Clergy Reserves.....	130	Foreign Missions. Visit of Dr. Duff.....	141
Share in Reserves offered and declined.....	131	Rev. Messrs. Stevenson and Laing invited to proceed to India.....	141
Experiment of Sustentation Fund.....	131	Mission to Bancoorah commenced and broken up.....	143
Knox College.....	132	Mission to British Columbia resolved on.....	143
Home Missions.....	136		
Buxton Mission.....	136		

## CHAPTER XI. WESTERN PROVINCES. SYNOD OF UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—UNION WITH FREE CHURCH—1844-1861.

Introductory.....	145	Foreign Missions.....	149
Position and Action of U. P. Synod regarding Clergy Reserves.....	145	Union Negotiations with Free Church Synod.....	150
Divinity Hall.....	150	Preamble and Basis of Union.....	154
Home Missions.....	148	Consummation of Union.....	150
French Canadian Mission.....	148		

## CHAPTER XII. WESTERN PROVINCES, CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—1861-1875.

Introductory.....	159	Red River Settlement.....	175
Knox College.....	160	Mission to Indians. Rev. J. Nisbet.....	179
Presbyterian College, Montreal.....	161	Indian Mission. Rev. Messrs. Vincent and McKellar.....	179
Home Missions.....	165	Manitoba College and Mission.....	179
Buxton Mission.....	165	Mission to China. Rev. G. L. McKay.....	181
French Canadian Mission.....	167	Mr. McKay in Formosa.....	182
French Colony, Kankakee. Rev. C. Chiquy.....	165	Dr. J. B. Fraser in Formosa.....	183
Deputies sent to Kankakee.....	170	Mission to India. Lady Missionaries.....	185
Kankakee Mission.....	171	Statistics of Canada Presbyterian Church.....	186
Amalgamation of French Missions.....	173		
Foreign Missions.....	173		
British Columbia Mission.....	174		
Church of Scotland Mission, British Columbia.....	175		

## CHAPTER XIII. GENERAL UNION, 1875.

Seven Unions.....	183	Consummation of Union.....	193
Dr. Ormiston's Letter—Union Committees.....	183	Dr. Cook Moderator of First Assembly.....	194
Proceedings of Committees.....	189	Social Celebration.....	195
Preamble and Basis of Union.....	190	Congratulations.....	197
Accompanying Resolutions.....	191	Dissenters.....	198