served St. James's and St. Philip's, Brunswick, until about the year 1735. Mr. Marsden served only about one year, when his appointment as missionary was withdrawn by the Venerable Society, and Mr. Moir was made missionary to the parish. Mr. Moir's labors were arduous, but his service was most successful. He served the entire parish, from the Cape Fear to the Neuse River, and during his first year baptized 210 persons, in his second year, baptizing 316 others. In 1742 he was placed in charge of St. Philip's, Brunswick, in addition to St. James's, and between 1742 and 1745 he reported 1,316 persons taken into the church through baptism. It will be seen, therefore, that his labors bore much fruit. This good man served the parish until 1747, when, because of ill health, he removed to St. Mary's Chapel, near Tarboro, in Edgecombe County, where we find record of his further faithful and loving service as late as 1765.

Prior to the year 1751 the congregation of St. James's had no church building, and used the county courthouse as a place of worship. In Dr. Drane's *Historical Notices* of St. James's parish, it is stated that the lot for the original church was given by Michael Higgins, "a tried and true churchman." It is recited, however, by Colonel Waddell, in his *History of New Hanover County,* that the lot was conveyed by Higgins to James Smallwood, in June, 1745, in consideration of 200 pounds, and that Smallwood conveyed it to John Rutherford and Lewis DeRosset, wardens, together with the adjoining lot, the following year. The lot secured, located near the corner of Fourth and Market Streets, was not sufficient in size for a church and burying ground, and to remedy the situation an act was secured from the colonial Legislature, in 1751, authorizing the church to use thirty feet of Market Street for its purposes.

There were three commissioners appointed by the act to build the church. Evidently great difficulties were encountered, for it was nineteen years after the passage of the act before the church was completed, in 1770.

The church as built could lay no claims to architectural beauty. It was of brick and extended thirty feet into Market Street—a large square building, with neither steeple nor belfry. There were three entrances, one fronting the river, one opening on Market Street, and another leading into the graveyard. The aisles were wide, paved with large square brick, and the

pews were of the old English style—"double pews" that would seat a large family, though compelling some to sit with their backs to the chancel. The furniture was plain, with a high reading desk and higher pulpit, surmounted by a sounding board. It was used by the parish until 1839, and was endeared to the parishioners by its sacred character and associations.

It has been noted that Mr. Moir left St. James's in 1747-48. After an interval of about seven years, he was succeeded by Rev. Mr. McDowell, who served the parish until 1763, the year of his death. In 1765 the Venerable Society sent Rev. Mr. Barnett to serve St. James's and St. Philip's. He was succeeded in 1766 by Rev. Mr. Wills. An extract from the contract made with Mr. Wills by the vestry throws a side-light on the times and the work of the parish. His stipend was 185 pounds proc. money, and he agreed to officiate at St. James's eighteen Sundays during the year, at Rocky Point six Sundays, at the sound six Sundays, at Long Creek six Sundays, at Black River six Sundays, and at Welsh Tract six Sundays—the remaining four Sundays to be at his disposal.

Another incident, noted in the records of the vestry, throws an interesting side-light and shows the temper of the times. Under the English law, the Crown had the right of presentation and induction of a rector in those cases where a church or chapel was built or endowed at the expense of the Crown. In 1770, four years after Mr. Wills's ministry began, Governor Tryon wrote the vestry that he proposed giving him letters of presentation and induction into the parish of St. James. The vestry replied courteously that they esteemed Mr. Wills, and were well satisfied to employ him, but they denied that the power of presentation and induction existed within the province, and would not agree thereto. Governor Tryon, thereupon, for the time withdrew the proposition. Mr. Wills served the parish, and had the respect and affection of the people, until 1775-76, when he resigned. He was the last rector under the colonial government.

The Revolution of 1776 put an end to the activities of the parish for fully twenty years. Clergymen of the Church of England, even those that remained neutral, were generally regarded as in sympathy with the Government of England, and were, rightfully or wrongfully, viewed with suspicion during the early Revolutionary period. During this long interval many persons formed affiliations with other denominations, but some