

Moments in Our History

(Excerpts from the Dissenting Church of Christ at St. John's 1775 – 1975)

A Sufficiency of Land (Part 3)

In addition, a chimney for the Vestry, costing £ 20 “by reason of the extreme severity of the weather in the winter season will be absolutely necessary.” Then, there was the question of lumber. “Notwithstanding this country is very woody” a sufficiency of wood “of the superior sort” was only to be found seven miles away and would have to be hauled “by the strength of men, the roads being impracticable for Horses.” Carpenters cost as much as masons, and “even a common labourer costs two shillings and six pence per diem.”

Thus, the committee concluded (as have all church building committees since) “swells a little work to a large sum.”

The week before Christmas 1786, a Day of Fasting and Supplication was observed by the congregation that God would “shine upon the applications sent forth” and that the Dissenters of the old country would “stretch out liberal hands for perfecting the designs to His glory.”