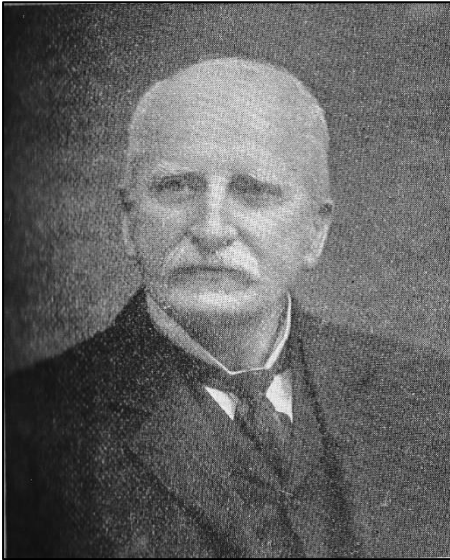


John MacFarlan (1836 - 1914)



Trinity's first Treasurer

John MacFarlan was one of the leading personalities in Trinity's early life. An early church magazine describes him as, 'A man of prayer he lived his religion, finding delight in his home and in the church he loved.' Writing after his death Trinity's Minister wrote, 'Did you ever know anyone more really and genuinely good so humble, so consistent, so utterly unselfish, so kind, so true.'

In addition, he was exceedingly generous. This generosity was a huge help to the infant Trinity as it built first the Hall, then the Church and then purchased the freehold. A year or two before his death he suggested that a Manse Fund should be set up with a view to purchasing Trinity's first Manse, and Mr MacFarlan offered to personally double any amount raised by the congregation!

John MacFarlan was born in India in 1836, and was educated at Edinburgh Academy, Cheltenham and the East India Company's college. He went out to India as a member of the Civil Service in 1859 and remained until 1879 serving as Postmaster General, first at Bombay and Calcutta. He married Anne MacNair and they had three daughters and two sons.

A quiet man he must have been a model administrator.

On retirement the MacFarlans came to live at a large house called Invermay in Lake Road, and in 1884 he helped found the Trinity congregation, being ordained as an Elder that year.

For thirty years he served as Treasurer and 'watched with deep and generous interest over every branch of the congregation's work until the last.'

He died on 5 September 1914 whilst on holiday at Elie in Fife and is buried in Wimbledon (Gap Road) cemetery.