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"A JUBILEE SHALL THAT FIFTIETH YEAR BE UNTO YOU"
LEV. 25:11

A COLLECTION
OF
HISTORICAL RECORDS
OF THE
State Street Presbyterian Church
OF ALBANY, NEW YORK

Compiled in connection with the
SEMI-CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

By
ROBERT C. JAMES

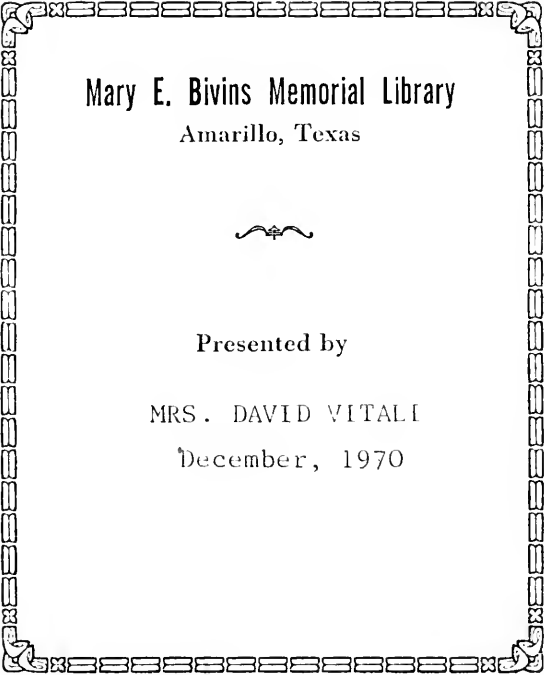
1861—1911

James, Robert C

Collection of Historical
records of the State Street
Presbyterian Church of Albany
New York, 1861-1911

Amarillo

1954245

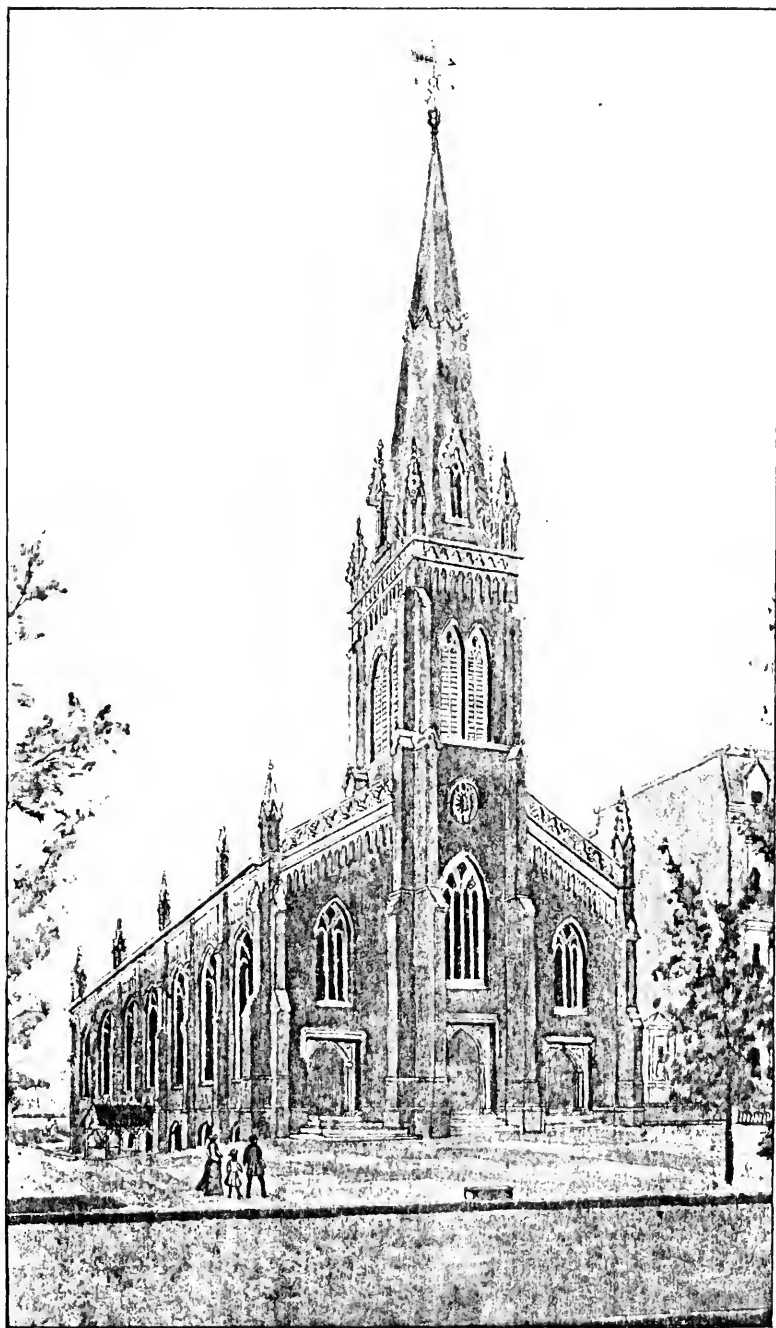


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NOTE

In collecting these annals many items of interest have necessarily been omitted. It is hoped, however, that what has been written will prove of interest to its readers, and perhaps of use to future historians of the Church. The material has been largely culled from "Munsell's Annals," the "History of the Bi-Centennial of Albany" and the Church Records; and valued assistance has been received from the pastor, Rev. Charles G. Sewall, Charles Irving Oliver and officers of the women's societies.

On behalf of the Church, it is requested that if any one notes an important omission in these annals, or is reminded of a letter or document in his possession, which might be of value in some future collection, he will place the information or material at the disposal of the Church.

MARCH 28, 1911

R. C. J.

Historical Records

of

The State Street Presbyterian Church

Rev. Dr. William B. Sprague, a former Pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, writing to Dr. James in 1871, speaks thus of the inception of The State Street Presbyterian Church:

“You know of course that the nucleus of your congregation was from the Second Church. I was so deeply impressed with the importance of having another Presbyterian Church in Albany that I expressed a wish from the pulpit that a sufficient number might withdraw from our Church to form it; but there were some who objected to it, and, on the whole, no movement was made in that direction. After waiting what I deemed a suitable time, I renewed the request with still greater urgency, and the consequence was, that, contrary to the expressed wishes of several individuals, a goodly number determined to withdraw and form a new Church. If you will come and see me, as I hope you will, I will show you a magnificent chair, with a very kind inscription upon it, which came to me, I think on the second New Year’s day after the Church was formed, as a token of good will from those who had been under my pastoral charge. I rejoice that you are now among them, and it is my earnest desire and prayer that the relation between you and them may be crowned with the richest blessings.”

It was on the fifth day of November, 1859, that a meeting of those in the Second Presbyterian Church favorable to the formation of a new Presbyterian Church, was held. There were present, Rev. Dr. Sprague, who presided, Thos. W. Olcott, Joel Rathbone, Frederick J. Barnard, James Edwards, Archibald McClure, Jas. H. McClure, Dr. S. D. Willard, M. H. Bright,

A. McClure, Jr., and David Murray. Various plans were discussed, and finally a committee was appointed to act in connection with similar committees from other Presbyterian Churches to consider the means necessary to carry the project into execution and to report to a meeting to be called by the committee.

Those appointed were: Thomas Olcott, A. McClure, Jr., and David Murray. Subsequently, there were associated with them, the following gentlemen: from the First Presbyterian Church: William Wendell, Richard M. Strong and Henry March, and from the Third Presbyterian Church: John Rodgers, John F. Prentice and Austin H. Wells.

This committee of nine called a meeting of those friendly to the erection of a new Presbyterian Church for the accommodation of the inhabitants of the ninth and tenth wards, which was convened on Monday evening, November 21, 1859, in the lecture room of the First Presbyterian Church, and presented a report, in which the need was clearly set forth by statistics and argument, and which concluded with the text:

"The God of Heaven He will prosper us;
therefore we His servants will arise and build"

and with the submission of the following plan of operations: =

"(1) That a suitable lot be secured immediately, situated between State St. and Hudson, and between Swan St. and Lark.

"(2) That a subscription be taken up, for a sum of money, not less than \$30,000; and that the subscriptions be binding only when \$20,000 of the whole sum shall have been subscribed.

"(3) That an edifice capable of containing 1,000 people, with a suitable Lecture and Sunday School room be erected.

"(4) That the title to such lot and edifice be transferred to such (O. S.) Presbyterian Society as shall be organized for that purpose.

"(5) That these provisions be carried out under the direction of a committee of fifteen, appointed at this meeting; this committee having full power to fill vacancies in its own numbers."

The report was unanimously adopted, and a committee of three, Howard Boyd, Dr. Willard and Wm. B. Sprague, Jr.,

was appointed to nominate a committee of fifteen provided for in the report. The following were nominated and unanimously ratified:

Thos. Olcott,	Chas. Frothingham,
Thos. P. Crook,	Henry March,
Robert L. Johnson,	J. F. Prentice,
Wm. Wendell,	Archibald McClure, Jr.,
Adam Van Allen,	J. T. Rice,
Geo. B. Hoyt,	Richard M. Strong,
Austin H. Wells,	David Murray.
Richard J. Grant,	

This committee was subsequently changed by the resignation of Messrs. Crook, Frothingham and Rice, and the appointment, in their places, of John S. Putnam, J. R. Herrick and Charles G. Clark. The following letter from the clergymen signing it, was read and ordered printed, in connection with the foregoing report:

"ALBANY, *November 21, 1859.*

"The undersigned, believing that the time has arrived for the erection of a Presbyterian Church, for the accommodation of the inhabitants of the ninth and tenth wards of the City, hereby express their hearty approval of the effort now in progress to procure the necessary means for the accomplishment of such an enterprise.

"W. B. SPRAGUE,

"J. N. CAMPBELL,

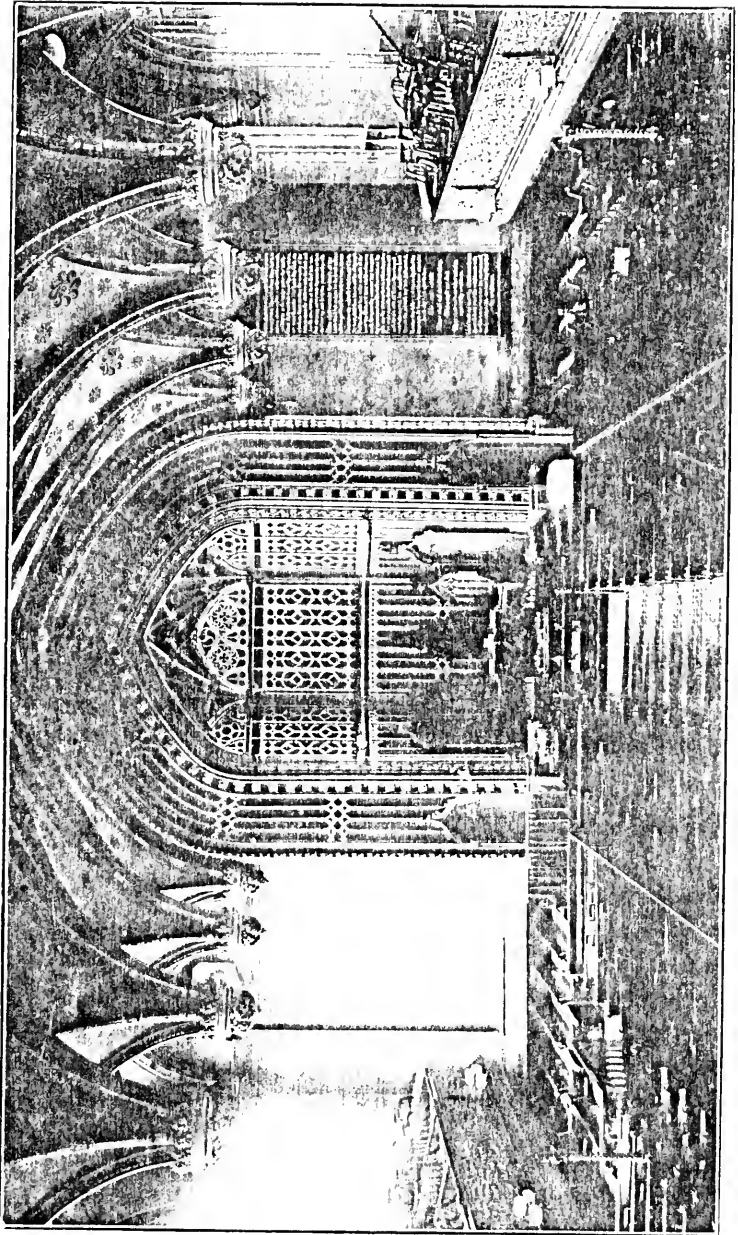
"EBENEZER HALLEY."

At the time that the report was framed, it stated that "the ninth and tenth wards comprise all that part of the City lying West of Eagle Street and South of the Canal Street Valley. They include, therefore, those important avenues, Washington, State and Lydius (now Madison) and the thriving, beautiful and accessible streets lying between."

The report and the proceedings of the committee were printed and distributed among the Churches on Thanksgiving Day, November 24, 1859. Immediately thereafter a subscription list was opened, and in July, 1860, had reached the requisite \$20,000.

The following is a list of the first subscribers, their subscriptions aggregating \$21,225:

Erastus Corning,	G. C. Davidson,
Joel Rathbone,	H. D. Hawkins,
Thomas W. Olcott,	Richard M. Strong,
Archibald McClure,	John S. Putnam,
Archibald McClure, Jr.,	Daniel Leonard,
Thomas Olcott,	Wm. H. McClure,
Isaac W. Vosburgh,	W. B. Sprague, Jr.,
William Wendell,	W. C. Smith,
Robert L. Johnson,	David Murray,
S. H. Ransom,	James H. McClure,
Alex. Marvin,	Chas. H. Strong,
Robert Boyd,	Benjamin Wilson,
Fred. J. Barnard,	John C. McClure,
J. G. Cotrell & Son,	Geo. B. Hoyt,
G. C. Treadwell,	J. F. Taylor,
R. J. Grant,	Joel Munsell,
Jeremiah Waterman,	B. R. & R. L. Spelman,
James Edwards,	G. & E. C. Batchelder,
A. Ransom,	Wm. J. White,
John Winne,	John F. Batchelder,
Lyman Chapin,	S. Munson,
J. R. Herrick,	R. P. Wiles,
Samuel W. Barnard,	J. T. Rice,
George B. Steele,	H. J. Hastings,
David I. Boyd,	John N. Parker,
Wm. N. Strong,	Jas. Goold & Co.,
E. Wickes,	S. B. Hamilton,
E. P. Prentice,	Mills & McMartin,
E. D. Morgan,	E. R. Herrick,
Chas. G. Clark,	I. N. Bullock,
B. R. Wood,	H. Townsend,
W. J. Cook,	James Wilson,
S. P. Jermain,	Philip Spencer,
Chas. Van Benthuisen,	L. H. Tucker,
David Orr,	A. Van Vechten,



W. J. Gibson,	L. M. Palmer,
Wm. James,	Chas. G. Craft,
R. C. Martin,	W. F. Cochrane,
H. G. Gilbert,	Beebe & Boyd,
C. B. Redfield,	E. & H. L. Dickerman,
Geo. Anderson,	A. E. Brown,
B. W. Wooster,	Robert Strain.
Jas. W. Eaton,	Wm. & J. Williamson,
D. W. Lawyer,	Chas. E. Burton,
E. Townsend,	Thomas Austin,
R. H. Wells,	H. R. Rathbone,
S. McKissick,	Andrew White,
E. Winne,	Misses Welch,
W. H. Reed,	W. Cumming,
S. E. Stimson,	A. A. Griffin,
S. D. Willard,	Jacob Vanderzee,
C. Foster,	A. M. Gibson,
A. A. Rankin,	Brayton & Thorburn,
John Rodgers,	Ten Eyck Lamoure,
J. W. Tillinghast,	John Bridgford,
J. W. Herrick,	Earl L. Stimson,
J. Penniman Smith,	Isaac A. Chapman,
I. L. Judson,	A. Bleecker Banks,
Dr. H. March,	G. L. Vandenburg.

The committee, at this stage, proceeded to negotiate for a lot, and entered into an agreement with James Dexter, agent of the Banyer Estate, to purchase 110 ft. fronting on State St. and running thence through to Chestnut St. 181½ ft.

They also hired from the Trustees of the German Lutheran Church (now the Law School), on State St., the privilege of using the church for a weekly Sunday evening service and the lecture room for Sunday School and other purposes.

The first of these services was held on the evening of Sunday, Sept. 23, 1860, Rev. Wm. B. Sprague, D. D., officiating, his discourse being from the text, "Despise not the day of small things." The services were continued regularly, and the enterprise was largely indebted during its infancy, to the ready and

gratuitous services rendered by the following clergymen of the City and elsewhere, viz.:

Rev. Wm. B. Sprague, D. D.,	Rev. Dr. Westbrook,
Rev. Ebenezer Halley, D. D.,	Rev. Mr. Dana,
Rev. S. T. Seelye, D. D.,	Rev. Mr. Hinsdale,
Rev. J. N. Campbell, D. D.,	Rev. Wm. Alexander,
Rev. Ray Palmer, D. D.,	Rev. Belville Roberts,
Rev. E. S. Stearns,	Rev. V. D. Reed, D. D.,
Rev. J. T. Duryea,	Rev. Wm. James, D. D.,
Rev. Wm. Frothingham,	Rev. Jacob Pearse,
Rev. Dr. Van Santvoord,	Rev. Dr. Stewart,
Rev. Stephen Bush,	Rev. Frank Zabriskie,
Rev. E. Whittlesey,	Rev. Philip Phelps, Jr.,
Rev. L. C. Seelye,	Rev. L. H. Lee,
Rev. F. E. Butler,	Rev. E. J. Hamilton,
Rev. David Tully,	Rev. C. H. Hubbard,
Rev. Mr. McIntyre,	Rev. Robert Strong,
Rev. Mr. Johnson,	Rev. Robert Cruikshank,
Rev. Mr. Rollo,	Rev. Lewis H. Reid,
Rev. Dr. Brown,	Rev. Hugh Alexander,

At a regularly called meeting held Oct. 16, 1860, at which Thomas Olcott and John S. Putnam, presided, and H. L. Dickerman, was secretary, a resolution was passed, designating the society as the "State Street Presbyterian Church in the City of Albany;" and nine trustees were elected to take charge of the temporal affairs of the congregation. These were:

Chas. G. Clark,	Archibald McClure, Jr.,
James Williamson,	Richard J. Grant,
Richard M. Strong,	John S. Putnam,
Robert L. Johnson,	David Murray.
Thomas Olcott,	

The board organized by the election of Robert L. Johnson, President, Richard M. Strong, Secretary, and Archibald McClure, Jr., Treasurer.

Thereafter, the Trustees completed the purchase of the lot on State St., which was conveyed by deed dated October 27,

1860, the purchase price being \$11,000; a building committee was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Johnson, Olcott, Clark and Murray with Wm. Wendell associated; Wm. Hodgins was employed as architect; and the contracts were let to James W. Eaton, mason, \$17,965, and John N. Parker, carpenter, \$12,689.

The Trustees also made application to the Presbytery of 'Albany, on Feb. 12, 1861, for the organization of the congregation as a Church under its care. Accordingly, at a meeting held in the German Lutheran Church, on Thursday evening,

MARCH 28, 1861

before the Committee of Presbytery, consisting of:

Rev. Dr. Wm. B. Sprague, minister, and A. McClure, elder, Rev. Dr. John N. Campbell, minister, and Dr. J. P. Boyd, elder, Rev. Dr. Ebenezer Halley, minister, and Walter Ferguson, elder, came forty-two persons, members of other churches, who presented their letters of dismission, and were in due form received, recognized and set apart as the

STATE STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1. Richard J. Grant, from the First Presbyterian Church.
2. May M. Grant, from the First Presbyterian Church.
3. Richard M. Strong, from the First Presbyterian Church.
4. Rowena Allen (wife of Wm. A.), from the Second Presbyterian Church.
5. Theodore S. Bailey, from the Second Presbyterian Church.
6. George C. Benedict, from the Second Presbyterian Church.
7. Jesse Buell and
8. Mary C. Buell (his wife), from the Second Presbyterian Church.
9. Walter R. Bush and
10. Rebecca C. Bush (his wife), from the Second Presbyterian Church.
11. Fannie M. Bush, from the Second Presbyterian Church.
12. Carrie A. Bush, from the Second Presbyterian Church.
13. Edgar Cotrell, from the Second Presbyterian Church.
14. Mary E. Cotrell, from the Second Presbyterian Church.
15. Ezra Dickerman, from the Second Presbyterian Church.

16. Henry L. Dickerman and
17. Esther Dickerman (his wife), from the Second Presbyterian Church.
18. Ella Fairchild, from the Second Presbyterian Church.
19. Levi S. Gates and
20. Mary E. Gates (his wife), from the Second Presbyterian Church.
21. Archibald M. Gibson, from the Second Presbyterian Church
22. Alfred Gorham and
23. Ellen Gorham (his wife), from the Second Presbyterian Church.
24. Rebecca Hand, from the Second Presbyterian Church.
25. Samuel Jackson, from the Second Presbyterian Church.
26. Robert L. Johnson and
27. Charlotte Russell Johnson (his wife), from the Second Presbyterian Church.
28. Harriet M. Jones (wife of John), from the Second Presbyterian Church.
29. Ten Eyck La Moure and
30. Sarah La Moure (his wife), from the Second Presbyterian Church.
31. Daniel Leonard, from the Second Presbyterian Church.
32. Archibald McClure, Jr., from the Second Presbyterian Church.
33. Emma McClure, from the Second Presbyterian Church.
34. James H. McClure and
35. Catherine A. McClure (his wife), from the Second Presbyterian Church.
36. David Murray, from the Second Presbyterian Church.
37. Thomas Olcott, from the Second Presbyterian Church.
38. Charles D. Rathbone, from the Second Presbyterian Church
39. Philip Spencer, from the Second Presbyterian Church.
40. Austin H. Wells and
41. Martha H. Wells (his wife), from the Third Presbyterian Church.
42. Isabella Williamson (wife of James), from the Third Presbyterian Church.

At the same meeting the following were elected, and were set apart and solemnly ordained to their respective offices by Dr. Sprague:

Elders, Walter R. Bush,
David Murray and
Austin H. Wells.
Deacon, James H. McClure.

On April 1, 1861, a call was extended to the Rev. Dr. Westbrook of Philadelphia, but withdrawn upon his declining to consider it.

THE SABBATH SCHOOL

was organized on April 7, 1861 with one hundred and ten scholars, and thirty-nine officers and teachers whose names follow:

1. David Murray, Superintendent.
2. Archibald M. Gibson. Assistant Superintendent.
3. Robert L. Johnson, Librarian.
4. Wm. H. McClure, Assistant Librarian.
5. Wm. J. White, Treasurer,
6. Wm. G. Rogers, Secretary.
7. Miss Emma Wygant, Superintendent, Infant Department.
8. Walter R. Rush, Bible Class, Young Women.
9. James Edwards, Bible Class, Young Women.
10. Archibald McClure, Bible Class, Young Men.
11. Miss Kitty Batchelder,
12. Miss Fannie Bush,
13. Miss Carrie Bush,
14. Mrs. H. L. Dickerman,
15. Miss Ella Fairchild,
16. Miss Frisbie,
17. Mrs. Levi S. Gates,
18. Miss Gomph,
19. Miss Lawyer.
20. Miss Emma McClure,
21. Miss Jane Skerritt,
22. Miss Elizabeth Strong,
23. Miss Van Zandt,
24. Mrs. James Williamson,
25. Miss Wilson,

26. Mr. Geo. C. Benedict,
27. Mr. W. H. Bowman,
28. Mr. W. R. Bush, Jr.,
29. Mr. W. B. Church,
30. Mr. Edgar Cotrell,
31. Mr. H. L. Dickerman,
32. Mr. Levi S. Gates,
33. Mr. Alfred Gorham,
34. Mr. Archibald McClure, Jr.,
35. Mr. James H. McClure,
36. Mr. John C. McClure,
37. Mr. Richard M. Strong,
38. Mr. S. E. Stimson,
39. Mr. James Williamson.

Ground was broken for the new church on

APRIL 17, 1861

Robert L. Johnson digging the first spadeful of earth, and various members of the congregation, and some little children, taking part in this interesting ceremony.

The corner-stone of the church edifice was laid, with appropriate ceremonies, on July 18, 1861.

The address was by Rev. E. Halley, D. D.

The laying of the stone by Robert L. Johnson, President of the Board of Trustees.

And the contents of the stone were:

1. Historical sketch of the Church,
2. Impression of seal of Church Corporation,
3. Copies of Religious papers,
4. Copies of Daily papers of the day,
5. Albany City Directory, 1861,
6. Presbyterian Church Historical Almanac,
7. Red Book of 1861,
8. Ancient Coins,
9. American Flag.

The first admissions to membership, following the organization of the Church, were at the October, 1861, Communion, when Rev. Joseph T. Duryea, of Troy, afterwards of New York, officiated. There were received upon certificate:

Mr. Asa S. Wygant, from First Presbyterian Church of Kingston, N. Y.,

Mrs. S. M. Weed from the Presbyterian Church of Schenectady, N. Y.,

Mr. Wm. B. Church and Mrs. Fanny M. Church, his wife, from the Presbyterian Church of Valatie, N. Y.

Mr. Matthew Noyes, and Mrs. Julia T. Noyes, his wife, from the Second Presbyterian Church of Troy, N. Y.; and upon confession:

Mrs. Charlotte Cotrell, wife of Edgar,

Mr. James Williamson,

Mr. Wm. H. Bowman and Mrs. Elsie Bowman, his wife.

During the second week in December, 1861, the ladies of the Church held a fair, the proceeds of which were to furnish the lecture room and audience room when finished. The amount realized was \$1,252. This sum was exclusive of a subscription, which was raised by the ladies for furnishing the church, amounting to \$1,470.36. In addition to this, the Church was at this time the recipient of a beautiful Communion service of solid silver, the gift of Mrs. William Wendell. As the membership increased, in December, 1865, an additional service was presented by Mrs. Robert L. Johnson, and, in 1877, additional plates by Mrs. Archibald McClure, Jr.

War's alarms intruded here, for we find this significant entry in the minutes of the Board of Trustees, of December 30, 1861: "The Secretary having stated that Charles G. Clark, one of this Board, had left for the seat of war, as Major of the 91st Regiment N. Y. S. Volunteers, on motion the Secretary was directed to communicate with Mr. Clark, expressing the regret of the Trustees at the necessity which calls him away, and saying that their prayers and kind wishes will accompany him in his absence."

The lecture room of the church having been completed, services were held in it on

FEBRUARY 23, 1862

at 10.30 A. M., and 7 P. M., and the Sunday School session at 1.30 P. M. Rev. A. S. Twombly of Cherry Valley, N. Y., preached at both services.

Calendar of Services and Meetings

FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING DECEMBER 16, 1923

TODAY—10:30 a. m. Morning Service.
10:30 a. m. The Beginners Class of the Sunday School.
12:00 m. Sunday School and Bible Classes.
2:30 p. m. Sunday School at Sprague Chapel
6:00 p. m. Meeting of the Young People's Society. All young people of the church are cordially invited to attend.
7:45 p. m. Evening Service.

WEDNESDAY—10:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m. Regular meeting of the Woman's Guild.

THURSDAY—7:45 p. m. Christmas Entertainment for the Main Department of the Sunday School. Parents are cordially invited to accompany their children.

FRIDAY—8:00 p. m. Prayer Meeting. Dr. Moldenhawer will give the third of a short series of talks entitled "The Stories of Three Kings." The underlying theme will be the Hebrew ideal of the righteous ruler.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Georgine Avery Lasher, contralto, will sing at the evening service.

On Sunday evening, December 23rd, a special program of Christmas music will be given by Miss Grace Moldenhawer, soprano; Mrs. Clarence T. Weaver, contralto; Everett T. Grout, tenor; Roger H. Stonehouse, bass; Margaret Anna De Graff, harpist, Earl Hummel, violinist, and J. Austin Springer, organist.

On Sunday evening, December 30th, the Rhondda Welsh Male Choir, will give a special program.

For some years past **Mr. and Mrs. Arthur C. Boyce** have represented Westminster Church on the foreign field. They are now spending their year of furlough in the United States and we are to have the pleasure of entertaining them personally and hearing their own reports of their work for a few days between Christmas and New Year. Members of the Sunday School have been accustomed in former years to send a special Christmas offering to Mr. and Mrs. Boyce for such use in the work as they might choose. This year it is our desire to take advantage of this special opportunity to make them a personal Christmas gift. We are sure that many members of the congregation who are not connected with the work of our Sunday School will wish to have a share in this expression of our appreciation. Contributions may be handed to Mr. Islay F. McCormick, Chairman of the Missionary Committee, or to any other officer of the Sunday School.

The Mothers' Council of the Albany Central Y. M. C. A. cordially invites you to hear Dr. George M. Wiley, Jr., Assistant Commissioner of Education on Tuesday, December 18th, at 3 p. m. in the Boy's Department of the Y. M. C. A. Dr. Wiley's subject will be "The Boy and His Education."

In Memoriam

—

Same as a memory, the inspiration of which will not pass away, the earthly life of Robert C. James ended December 1st. His long and upright career in this community has called forth other memorials; we are moved to make this out of our deep appreciation of the place he held in this his church, precious among all his associations.

Born in Scotland in 1848, he was son of a pastor who fifty years ago led faithfully this flock; and for these long years has lived his life among its people, contributing devotedly to its work with wisdom and vitality, with a warm heart animated by the indwelling spirit of the Heavenly Father. From his constancy of service others have found stimulus and guidance; individuals have been led to higher living and service by his friendly counsel and companionship. His confident trust in the life of the Spirit made it more real to us his associates; and carried into the business world gave honor to the church and the Master. He became deacon in 1889. At the time of his death he had been an elder for twenty-four years and active in the duties of this office. The spell of his personality and sincerity was felt in Session meetings. As he assumed the duty of preparing the bread for its use in our Communion Service he did it with clean hands and a pure heart breathing and uttering to himself consecrating prayers. We and all the church give thanks to God for this noble life whose memory we will always retain. We give our warm sympathy to Mrs. James and his family; may they find comfort and support in the Source real to them as it has been to him.

J. W. Moldenhauer,

Frederic C. Curtis,

For the Session of Westminster Presbyterian Church.

On June 10, 1862, the congregation presented a call to Rev. Alexander S. Twombly of Cherry Valley, N. Y., which he accepted, and his installation as pastor took place on Sunday evening, June 22, 1862; the following ministers taking part in the services:

Rev. Ray Palmer, reading scriptures and prayer,
 Rev. Dr. Halley, sermon—Eph. I, 22,
 Rev. B. H. Pitman, constitutional questions,
 Rev. Dr. Sprague, charge to pastor.
 Rev. Dr. Goodale, of Amsterdam, charge to people.

As a result of his labors, there was a growth from a membership of 54, which was reported to Presbytery in February, 1862, to 251, which was the membership when he resigned his charge.

The following Covenant, which was adopted in 1862, and which was signed by all the members of the Church, and assented to by all those who joined it during the early years, will be of interest, as showing the ideals which have guided its history:

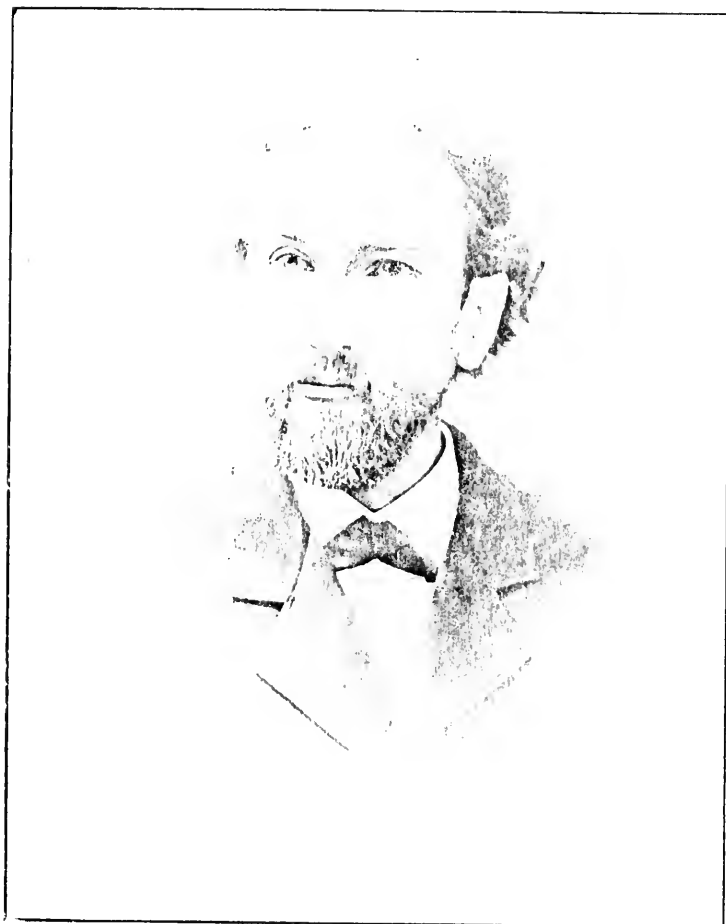
COVENANT

Believing in one God, the Supreme Creator and Governor of the Universe, you do now cheerfully and solemnly acknowledge your obligation to obey Him, by renouncing all the ways of sin, and devoting yourself to the Infinite God through Jesus Christ.

Believing in the Holy Trinity of the Godhead, you do voluntarily choose the Lord Jehovah, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, to be your God and the God of yours.

Accepting the Divine Inspiration of the Scriptures, you now take the strict and simple word of God, to be your only rule of Faith and Practice, and you will endeavor, by the help of God's Spirit, sincerely to conform to it, in all the ways of holy living.

Believing in Jesus Christ as the only and sufficient Saviour of the World; and the Holy Spirit as the Inspirer of every righteous thought and purpose, you rely with affectionate truth on Christ's atonement, for pardon and acceptance with God; and you hope by the Spirit's sanctifying aid, which in its Sov-



REV. ALEXANDER S. TWOMBLY

PASTOR 1862-1867

ereignty you believe has chosen you to everlasting life, to be presented without spot before the Throne.

Believing also, that "Faith without works is dead," you purpose diligently to attend on all the Institutions of the Gospel, especially public and social worship, and the strict observance of God's Holy Sabbath.

And it will be your special care to maintain secret (and family) religion; to lead a holy life of prayer; to administer to the necessities of the poor; to instruct and govern your children and all under your charge, according to God's word; and by the beauty, excellency and joy of your example, lead them to the Saviour.

Acknowledging in like manner, Christ's appointment of a visible Church on earth, with all its Holy Sacraments, you covenant to walk in brotherly love with this Church; to submit to its righteous discipline; and to enter with alacrity and joy upon all its precious privileges and obligations.

Thus in the presence of God and these assembled witnesses you do solemnly and gladly promise, that you will labor to recommend our Holy Religion to all, by your strict and constant practice of justice, goodness, mercy, temperance, patience, charity and godliness.

These vows you now record, in humble dependence on Jesus Christ; praying that He will enable you to be steadfast in this covenant and faithful to the end.

Do you also express your assent to the belief and covenant now read?

COVENANT ON PART OF THE CHURCH

In consequence of these professions and promises, we, the officers and members of this Church, affectionately receive you to fellowship with us in the blessings of the Gospel.

We solemnly engage, on our part, to walk with you and watch over you, as the heirs with us of a common faith and hope.

We will endeavor, by the various means of God's appointment, to promote your present and eternal welfare; we welcome you to the communion and to all the rich provisions of our Father's House.

We beseech you to remember the covenant vows you have

this day recorded, and we charge you by the love of Christ and by the future judgment, to observe them faithfully unto the end.

And may the God of love and peace be with us all. Amen.

The Church building was at last completed, and was dedicated on Sabbath evening,

OCTOBER 12, 1862

A sermon on the occasion was preached by the pastor, and the exercises were participated in by Rev. Drs. Campbell, Halley, Seelye and Palmer. The building answered to the expectations formed of it, in being a beautiful, convenient and appropriate house of worship, with its acoustic properties all that could be desired. "It is in the style of architecture usually denominated perpendicular Gothic, which prevailed in England from the fourteenth to the sixteenth centuries. The building is 111 by 69 feet over all, exclusive of a semi-octagonal apsis in the rear, containing in the basement the Sunday School library, entrance to the lecture room and staircase to main floor, and above, a pastor's study and organ room. The audience room is 84 by 60 feet in the clear, and with the galleries will seat 1,000 persons. In the basement are a large lecture room, infant school room, trustees' room, furnace and coal cellar. The gallery is in the form of a horse shoe, and is supported on light cast iron columns, with open floriated brackets, hatched shafts and rich foliated capitals. The gallery front is of open iron tracery of mediæval pattern. The ceiling is groined in three bays, the centre ribs terminating in ornamental pendants.

"One of the chief novelties of the building is the mode of lighting. The principal burners are placed in parabolic reflectors in the ceiling, occupying the places of bosses in the plaster work. A hemispherical screen of ground glass protects the eyes from the intense reflected light, and diffuses it in softened masses over the floor of the church. The effect is very beautiful and agreeable, and has the additional advantage of displaying the ornamental ceiling in an unusual degree. The idea of thus lighting the building was borrowed from a church in Washington, said to have been suggested by Gen. Meigs,—and was elaborated and improved in arrangements and details by the architect and others."

The organ is built in behind the pulpit, the pipes being con-

cealed by a tracery of wooden work. The keyboard is placed at one side of the pulpit, and the organist faces the audience.

The organ was built by William Johnson of Westfield, Mass., at a cost of \$2,600.

The bell was procured by a committee consisting of James M. Horton, Charles D. Rathbone and Jesse Buell, who raised by subscription \$500, and got a grant from the Common Council of \$500 more. It was purchased from Mr. Meneely of West Troy; weighs about 3,200 pounds; and bears the inscription—"State St. Presbyterian Church, July 4th, 1862, 'Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound,' Ps. 89-15."

The beautiful weather vane on the spire of the church was the suggestion of A. M. Strong who with William Wendell supplied the means for its erection.

The artistic marble baptismal font was a gift from Thomas Olcott and was executed after designs furnished by E. D. Palmer, the sculptor.

The handsome carved pulpit chairs were executed by Mr. Ware of Boston, and presented to the Church by Robert L. Johnson.

The pulpit Bible was the gift of Frank H. Little. This Bible is now in use in the lecture room, a new one for the pulpit having been presented by Mrs. William H. Monroe in 1883.

The cost of the edifice and its principal equipments may be put down as follows:

Lot 110 ft. front by 181½ ft. deep.....	\$11,000 00
Building complete	41,049 62
Furnishing church and lecture room.....	3,976 51
Organ, by Johnson, Westfield.....	2,600 00
Bell, by Meneely, West Troy.....	1,000 00

Total. \$59,626 13

Of this amount the Church had already paid all but \$15,000 which they borrowed from the Liverpool & London Fire and Life Insurance Com., for a term of five years, giving a bond and mortgage on the lot and building as security.

Special mention is here made of the generous liberality shown to this new Church by the members of Dr. Sprague's congrega-

tion. From the first it received cordial sympathy and support from pastor and people. The larger part of the first subscription for the erection of the building was obtained among them.

On Monday evening immediately succeeding the dedication, the church was opened for a sale of pews, and on the following evening for the renting of those remaining unsold, "pew No. 111 being set apart for the use of the pastor's family, pew No. 79 for the use of the sexton's family, and pew No. 144 for the use of the police of the Fourth Precinct, free of rent." Eight of the pews were removed, about the year 1900, in order to widen the passageways across the front and rear of the audience room of the church.

The pews were sold subject to annual rentals by the purchasers, and the large sum thus obtained, about \$15,000, was applied in payment of building expenses.

About a month after the church dedication, the Session met to consider the subject of systematic benevolence, and resolved that "the time had fully come for this Church to commence contributing to the principal religious enterprises for the spread of the Gospel," and that annual collections should be taken—

In February, for Board of Education.

In April, for American Bible Society.

In June, for Foreign Missions.

In August, for Presbyterial Expenses.

In October, for Domestic Missions.

In December, for Albany City Tract Society.

So now the Church may be said to be fairly launched upon its mission of extending the Kingdom of Christ in the World. It was a time of din and discord and the angry passion of Civil War. There was need for the faithful preaching of the "Gospel of Peace" and "Good will to men."

But even this new Church was not to be free from war's sadness. Reference has been made to the departure of Charles G. Clark, but there were others still to go. It was in this same month, November, 1862, that the Tenth Regiment, N. Y. S. N. G., volunteered for nine months' service, was accepted and sent to New Orleans. In this regiment went a large number of the members of the Church and congregation, among whom were three members of the Board of Trustees, viz.: Charles D. Rath-

bone, Richard M. Strong and James Williamson, who volunteered as officers in the regiment.

In addition to these, several others who were members of the Sunday School, volunteered, among whom was almost the entire class of Lieut. Strong. The regiment, which was now the 177th New York State Volunteers, was encamped for a long time at Bonnet Carré near New Orleans, and much sickness prevailed. At this place, Richard M. Strong, the Adjutant of the regiment died of fever, May 12, 1863, in the 28th year of his age; lamented alike in his regiment, home and church. He was universally beloved and esteemed; the idol of the regiment, he looked after their interests, physical and spiritual, as long as life and health lasted.

Lieut. James Williamson, Co. D., was killed at the storming of the fortifications of Port Hudson, May 26, 1863, while he was gallantly leading his company. Like Mr. Strong he had been a trustee of the Church from its commencement. He was most devoted to its interests, and with great intelligence, good judgment and undeviating alacrity, labored for its advancement.

The loss of these men was deeply felt by the Church, and brought home to it, in this bitter way, the sad results of this terrible Civil War. Suitable memorials to both are entered upon the minutes of the Board of Trustees.

The list following, gives the names of those who volunteered who were members of the congregation or Sunday School:

Capt. W. Crouse,	John Brown,
Lieut. Wm. Diamond,	Chas. Gompf,
Capt. E. H. Merrihew,	Daniel D. Grovesteen,
Capt. Chas. D. Rathbone, Quar-	James Gurley,
termaster,	Chas. E. Hungerford,
Lt. A. H. Bronson,	Samuel Jackson, Jr.
Lt. Brooke,	John T. Kane,
Major C. G. Clark,	Edward Lindsey,
Dr. Boulware, Asst. Surgeon,	Herman Loper,
Lt. W. G. Rogers,	Dusenbury Rancour,
Lt. Richard M. Strong,	Henry Rehl,
Lt. James Williamson,	John A. Van Loeven.
Lt. Theo. S. Bailey,	Curtis M. Wadleigh,
Joseph Bradly,	Douglas Pratt.

It is also recorded that the pastor, Mr. Twombly, visited the Army of the Potomac as a delegate of the U. S. Christian Commission.

Among the interesting events of Mr. Twombly's pastorate, we remark a discussion in the Session as to whether the Church should be closed during the pastor's vacation, and an expression of the opinion of the Session that Sunday services should never be suspended except from necessity. With but one exception this custom has been followed during the fifty years. The pastors of the Church have been careful to secure the best supply available, during their vacation absences, and in this way the congregation has been privileged to hear very many of the most eminent and godly preachers of the time. Brevity forbids a recital of their names; but we mention one of them with affection, the late Dr. John L. Withrow of Boston, who for more than twenty consecutive years supplied the pulpit in the summer.

On March 11, 1864, an election of elders and deacons was held, resulting in the choice of James H. McClure and James M. Horton as elders, and Edward P. Durant as deacon. They were ordained to their respective offices on March 20th. In the same year, however, by the removal of Elder David Murray to New Brunswick, N. J., where he was connected with the faculty of Rutgers College, and by the resignation and removal of Elder A. H. Wells, the first clerk of Session, the number of the Session was reduced, so that in October, 1866, an election of elders and deacons was held, resulting in the choice of James Erwin and Edward P. Durant as elders, and Levi S. Gates as deacon. Their ordination, however, was delayed until January 20, 1867, during which time Mr. Twombly resigned as pastor of the Church, and the pastoral relation was dissolved by Presbytery. These gentlemen, therefore, were ordained by the Moderator of Presbytery, the Rev. M. L. R. P. Hill of Little Falls.

In the fall of 1867, Rev. George C. Heckman, D. D., of Indianapolis, Ind., was called to be the pastor of the Church.

In the first few months of his pastorate, a considerable effort was made to liquidate the debt which still remained on the church, resulting in a contribution amounting to \$15,910. On December 18, 1868, a congregational meeting was held for the purpose of electing elders and deacons, when Archibald McClure,



REV. DR. GEORGE C. HECKMAN

PASTOR 1867-1870

Jr., Henry L. Dickerman and Daniel J. Pratt were chosen as elders, and Edgar Cotrell, Thomas Olcott, Nathan B. Perry and Joseph Henry Snow as deacons, all of whom, with the exception of Mr. Olcott, who declined to serve, were ordained to their respective offices on January 3, 1869. At the same time it was decided to adopt the plan of electing elders and deacons for a term of service not to exceed six years, an election being held every two years, and the existing boards being divided into classes, so that a portion of each board should be chosen at each election. This system, called the "rotary system" of choosing elders and deacons, was followed by the Church until 1873, when the action was rescinded, and the unlimited term of office for elders and deacons was adopted.

On December 13, 1869, the pastor presented to the Session a draft of a constitution for a Young People's Society, which was fully discussed and adopted, and the pastor was requested to present it to the youth of the congregation. The result of this action will be seen in the chapter entitled "Young People's Organizations."

In the summer of 1870, Dr. Heckman was called to the Presidency of Hanover College, and at his request, the congregation reluctantly joined with him in requesting Presbytery to dissolve the pastoral relation, which was done on September 4, 1870. During his pastorate of only three years the membership of the church had increased from 251 to 388, the Sunday School had increased from 612 to 1,027, and the Church in every way had prospered.

Resolutions were adopted by the Sabbath School and the Young People's Society, and, as a further token of their love and esteem, the officers and teachers of the Sabbath School presented to Dr. Heckman a valuable gold watch and chain.

The following resolutions were adopted by the Church and congregation:

"WHEREAS, Our Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Heckman, has signified his acceptance of the Presidency of Hanover College, and has requested the Church and congregation to unite with him in an application to Presbytery for a dissolution of the pastoral relation; and

“WHEREAS, Our Pastor has also positively declined our unanimous application for a withdrawal of such request; therefore,

“*Resolved*, That but for our confidence that He who has planted and hitherto abundantly prospered this goodly vine, will not now leave it to droop and languish, we should regard our Pastor’s departure as a great and irreparable calamity to this Church and congregation.

“*Resolved*, That in the review of what has been accomplished during his brief pastorate among us, including the fact that nearly two hundred members have been added to the Church, under his ministrations, we have reason to be profoundly grateful to the Great Head of the Church for the signal favor with which He has been pleased to crown the earnest and faithful efforts of the under-shepherd, in behalf of the flock entrusted to his care.

“*Resolved*, That while we had hoped and expected that this relation which has been productive of much fruit among us, would be perpetuated, we are constrained, in view of his deliberate wish and purpose, as publicly expressed, to accede to his request; and we therefore engage to appoint two commissioners to represent us in Presbytery, for the purpose of asking that the proposed dissolution be granted.

“*Resolved*, That in the election of our Pastor to the Presidency of Hanover College, and in the overtures received by him from other important fields, we recognize high and deserved tributes to his learning, ability and fidelity in the work of the gospel ministry.

“*Resolved*, That we will ever hold in grateful remembrance his many labors of love among us, and will follow him and his family with our prayers and best wishes for their welfare and usefulness, in whatever field he may be called to labor.

“*Resolved*, That in token of our appreciation of the earnest and faithful labors of our Pastor, the Trustees of the Society be authorized to add to his salary for the year the sum of \$500.”

During the interim between the close of Dr. Heckman’s pastorate and the commencement of that of Dr. James, the Session on February 10, 1871, authorized Elder Durant to organize and conduct a class for the study of the Westminster Catechism, on Saturday evenings, at private houses within the bounds of the

congregation; and on April 10th, authorized the formation of "The Ladies Foreign Missionary Society of the State St. Presbyterian Church" as auxiliary to "The Women's Board of Foreign Missions of The Presbyterian Church of Albany." The history of this society will be found in a subsequent chapter.

On June 7, 1871, a unanimous call was extended by the congregation to the Rev. John James, to become the pastor of the Church, and he was installed by the Presbytery on July 11th. At the installation service, Dr. Upson, Moderator of Presbytery, presided; the sermon was by Rev. Wm. Ormiston, D. D., of New York City, an old friend of the pastor; prayer by Rev. J. M. Allis; the charge to the pastor by Rev. Dr. Woodbridge of Saratoga; and to the people by Rev. Dr. Halley.

The circumstances connected with the coming of Dr. James to this Church were so clearly a manifestation of the leadings of God's providence, that they seem to be worthy of note. It happened that near the end of a week, the committee, disappointed in obtaining pulpit supply for the Sabbath, applied to Dr. Irvine of Troy, who said that he knew of no one; but that he had met a Scottish minister who, returning from Britain on his way to Canada, was then visiting friends in Brooklyn; perhaps he would wait over and preach for them. A telegram was sent, and, in response, Mr. James came, and the people, who up to this time had been unable to agree upon a minister, were so favorably impressed by his preaching that they persuaded him to remain for another Sabbath, and thereafter tendered him a unanimous call. He took it to be a call from the Lord, and so, turning aside, he accepted it and became the pastor of the Church. The honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon Mr. James, by Union College, about three years after this time.

In the fall of 1871, the church was recarpeted and the exterior repainted, and otherwise put in complete order, at an estimated cost of about \$3,000. On December 10th a special collection amounting to \$700 was taken for the Chicago Presbyterian Churches which had suffered by the great fire.

The year 1872 opened with the Week of Prayer, which was followed by special services lasting into February, and in this year, also, the plan of taking a collection every Sunday morning

for the several Boards of the Presbyterian Church, was adopted, in place of the occasional collections which had heretofore been taken. This new scheme of systematic beneficence was, in short, that the pew rents and evening collections should pay all expenses of the Church, and the whole of the Sabbath morning offerings should be devoted to benevolent objects. In July of that year, the Young People's Society resolved to secure the services of a city missionary, and with the consent of the Session, Mr. Alvah Phelps was engaged, and labored under their direction for one year with marked success.

In February, 1873, an election of elders and deacons was held, resulting in the choice of Benjamin B. Merchant, Josiah H. Gilbert and Whiting G. Snow, as elders, and Isaac V. W. Grant and Edward M. Carpenter as deacons. At the same time, as we have before noted, the rotary system was abandoned, so that the new elders, with those who had heretofore been elected, were chosen to serve for an unlimited term. These new officers were ordained on March 2d, the services being peculiarly solemn and impressive.

In the same month, we find that the efforts made to clear off the debt of the Church had been crowned with success, the following extract from the report, February 15, 1873, of Thomas Olcott, President of the Board of Trustees, showing the spirit which animated those gentlemen:

"That as a congregation we may be able to remain free from all debts, we feel that on our part as Trustees, the utmost economy must be used consistent with the proper necessities of our position as one of the representative churches in our city, and on the part of the congregation there should be a cordial sustaining of these necessary expenses, both by means of pew rentals and by the Sabbath evening collections. These, fully maintained, will enable us to continue free from the burden which a debt imposes upon any church.

"It is with deep gratitude to God that we are permitted to bring to you a report so full of interesting facts which should make the heart of every one in our congregation rejoice in our financial prosperity. May it be the true sentiment of every heart that to God alone all honor, praise and thanksgiving is due, for He alone has placed in our hands the means and opened our

hearts to use them in such a manner as to enable us to accomplish this happy result, viz.: A church free from all debt.

"Humility becomes us amid our blessings, and prayer that the Holy Spirit may bring to us still richer measures of prosperity, in the spiritual evidences of the presence of God in our Sanctuary."

It was at one of the entertainments of the Young People's Society this year that a pleasant surprise awaited the pastor, when, during the exercises, Elder Whiting G. Snow called all the elders and deacons to the platform, and, in a very happy speech, presented to the pastor a handsome and costly gold watch and chain bearing the following inscription on its case: "A memento of affection, confidence and regard—Rev. John James— from the Elders and Deacons of the State St. Presbyterian Church, Albany, N. Y., 1873."

In August, the Session and Trustees adopted a memorial on the death of Thomas Olcott, speaking of "his consistent Christian character and his exhibition of the fruits of piety in all social and business relations."

In September of the same year, as a result of the evangelistic work of the city missionary, Mr. Phelps, with the co-operation of the Young People's Society, whose constitution had just been revised, an extended scheme of work in the parish was outlined and carried out with good results.

The parish was divided into four districts, which were assigned to committees of the Session for supervision, and in these various districts local prayer-meetings were held and house to house visitation was conducted. These prayer meetings were continued with success for several years.

In April, 1874, we find the following minute upon the records of Session:

"WHEREAS, Mr. Walter R. Bush has been an active member of the Session of the State St. Presbyterian Church since its organization; and

"WHEREAS, He now with his family has removed to Troy, and purposes to unite with the First Presbyterian Church of that city; be it

"Resolved, First, that his brethren in the Session express their sense of the loss sustained by his removal from among

them; and also the regret of the whole congregation at the removal of a family which was so much respected and beloved."

"*Resolved*, Second, that whilst thankful to the Lord of the Vineyard for the valuable services and support rendered to this congregation for so many years by Mr. Bush, we sincerely commend him and his family to the Christian love and fellowship of the First Church of Troy, and pray that their usefulness may not be diminished but may continue to be efficient and appreciated as it has ever been here."

In June of the same year, the collection on Sunday morning, the 14th, was devoted to a fund which was being raised under the supervision of the Trustees for the purchase of a parsonage. By means of this and other special collections, with subscriptions from individuals, funds were raised sufficient for the purchase, for \$9,000, paying \$3,000 down and assuming the mortgage of \$6,000 which was paid at a later date, of the premises at No. 91 Lancaster street, at that time occupied by the pastor's family, and which remained until 1907 the parsonage of the Church.

In 1875, the first meeting of the congregation, to be known as "The Church Annual," was held on the second Friday of April. At this meeting, after devotional exercises, reports were read of the work of the various organizations of the Church, which were listened to with great interest by a large number of the members. This custom, with few exceptions, has been maintained annually since that time.

At a meeting of the Session held on January 20, 1876, the pastor reported a recent interview with the secretaries of the Mission Boards in New York, and, as a result, the Session voted to recommend the formation of a Ladies' Home Missionary Society for the support of a Home Missionary in the West. The history of this society will be found in a separate chapter. At the same time, the pastor also stated that the executors of the estate of the late Prof. Chas. H. Anthony had agreed, pursuant to the recommendations of an advisory committee of which he was a member, to apply \$3,000 of the residue of the estate to establish a scholarship fund for the aid of candidates for the Gospel Ministry. The conditions under which this fund should be administered were drawn up by a committee of Session, of which the pastor was chairman, and submitted to the

executors of the estate. Being adopted by them, the bequest was later accepted in trust by the Session and Trustees under the same conditions. A copy of the conditions follows:

CONDITIONS

OF THE CHARLES H. ANTHONY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

“WHEREAS, The late Charles H. Anthony, of the City of Albany in the State of New York, did by his last will and testament provide as follows, to wit:

“‘Section 9th—All the rest, residue and remainder of my estate is to be distributed by a committee composed of the following persons: my executors, the Pastor of the Church to which I belong, and William Young, my former nurse, with a request that they distribute it for religious and charitable purposes;’

“AND WHEREAS, The said executors find themselves in possession of the sum requisite to carry out the provisions hereinafter set forth;

“Now therefore we, the aforesaid committee, under the authority above recited, do hereby set apart and assign a part of the residue and remainder of the said Charles H. Anthony’s estate, viz., the sum of Three Thousand Dollars, to be paid to the Trustees of the State Street Presbyterian Church of Albany, and to be held in trust perpetually by said Trustees, on the following conditions, to wit:

“1. The Fund of Three Thousand Dollars derived from the estate of the late Charles H. Anthony, of Albany, shall be forever held in trust by the Trustees of the State Street Presbyterian Society of Albany, and shall be known and designated as ‘The Charles H. Anthony Scholarship Fund of the State Street Presbyterian Church of Albany, for the Education of Candidates for the Gospel Ministry.’

“2. The said Scholarship Fund shall always be invested in United States Securities, or in New York State Securities, or in Bonds of incorporated cities of this State, issued under special authority of the Legislature, or in first Bonds and Mortgages on productive real estate assessed at not less than double their amount.

" 3. No change of the securities of said Fund shall ever be made without the concurrence of the Session of said Church, recorded on their Minutes; and no receipt for the principal of said Fund shall be valid without a certificate of said Session endorsed thereon, to the effect that they are cognizant of the transaction.

" 4. The income of said Fund shall be held by said Trustees for the use and subject to the order of said Session, and shall be applied to the education of such candidates for the gospel ministry in the Presbyterian Church as shall from time to time be designated by said Session, under a system of rules and regulations to be by them adopted for this purpose.

" *In witness whereof*, we, the undersigned, have hereto affixed our names and seals, this twenty-second day of January, eighteen hundred and seventy-six.

" [L. S.]	AUSTIN H. WELLS	}	<i>Executors.</i>
" [L. S.]	DR. WM. HAILES		
" [L. S.]	JOHN JAMES, <i>Pastor</i> ,		
" [L. S.]	WILLIAM YOUNG.		

" Signed and sealed in the presence of

" DANIEL J. PRATT."

After the acceptance of this trust, a committee of Session was appointed to formulate rules for the administration of the Fund. These were not adopted until the following year (September 27, 1877). They are as follows:

SYSTEM OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

adopted by

THE SESSION OF THE STATE STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF
ALBANY,

to be observed in the selection of

BENEFICIARIES OF THE CHARLES H. ANTHONY SCHOLARSHIP
FUND

" WHEREAS, the Conditions of the Charles H. Anthony Scholarship Fund (recorded on the Minutes of Session, pp. 238-240) direct that the income of said Fund " shall be applied to the education of such candidates for the gospel ministry in the Presbyterian Church as shall from time to time be designated

by said Session, under a system of rules and regulations to be by them adopted for this purpose;'

"The said Session do therefore establish the following system of rules and regulations:

"1. Beneficiaries of the said Fund shall be selected, if practicable, from the male membership of the State Street Presbyterian Church of Albany; or otherwise from the male membership of some other Church belonging to the Presbytery of Albany.

"2. As a further condition, such beneficiaries, before receiving any portion of the income of said Fund, shall have placed themselves under the care of Presbytery as candidates for the Gospel Ministry, and shall have been received as such, by Presbytery.

"3. Every such beneficiary shall have entered upon a regular classical course of study, and shall have certified to said Session his intention in good faith to complete a full Collegiate Course, and also a full Theological Course in one of the Seminaries under the direction of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States.

"4. Every beneficiary shall give a receipt for every payment from the income of said Fund.

"5. These Rules and Regulations may be altered or amended by the Session at any regular meeting, all proposed alterations and amendments having been submitted at a previous regular meeting."

At a meeting of the Session held on December 5, 1906, due notice having been given, these rules were amended as follows:

Rule 1. Beneficiaries of the said fund shall be selected if practicable from the male membership of the State Street Presbyterian Church of Albany, or from the membership of a Presbyterian Church in the Presbytery of Albany. If, however, no candidates apply for aid from the membership of a church within the Presbytery of Albany and the accumulated income from such fund amounts to more than the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) then the Session may use the said income in excess of \$500 to assist any candidate who has duly entered upon a Classical or Theological course in a seminary under the direction and supervision of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the Synod of New York.

Rule 2. Is annulled and made ineffective after this date.

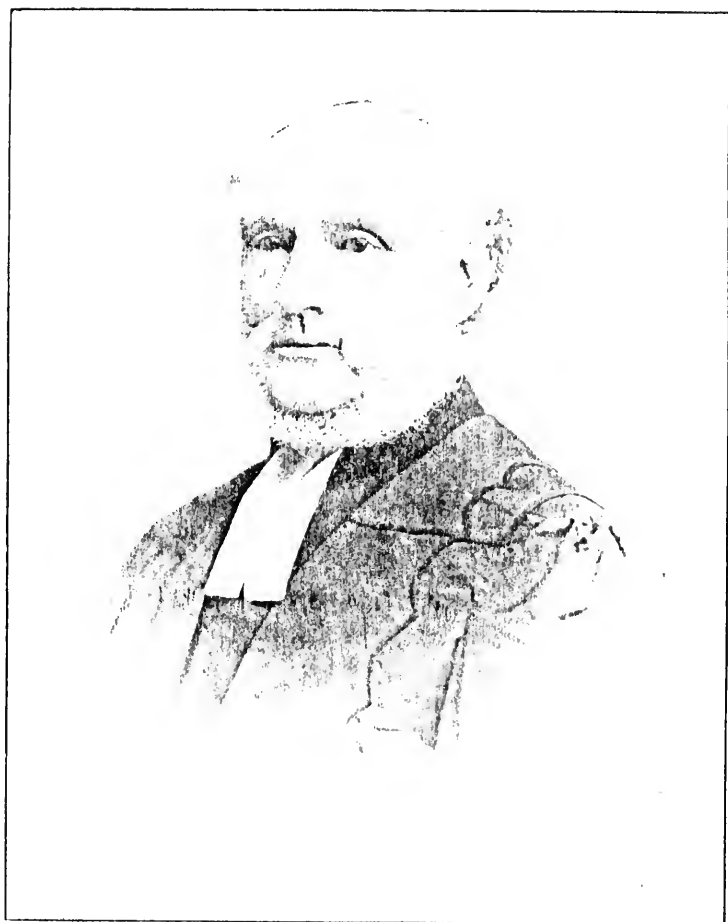
This being the nation's centennial year, in compliance with the request, of the Presbyterian Historical Society, for Presbyterian Centennial Historical discourses, the "Church Annual" was observed on a larger scale. It was held on Monday evening April 11th, in the audience room of the church, Rev. Dr. Halley and Rev. James G. K. McClure, assisting. All the reports were made more full and extensive. These were afterward printed in pamphlet form, and constituted the Church's contribution to the centennial history.

In November of this year the pastor notified the Session that he had received a call to become the pastor of the Knox Presbyterian Church of Hamilton, Ont., Canada, and at his request a meeting of the congregation was called for December 4. The congregation met on the evening appointed, and after hearing Dr. James's reasons for desiring to accept the call, voted reluctantly to join with him in a request to Presbytery for the dissolution of the pastoral relationship. A committee was appointed, to draft a resolution to be presented to Presbytery, consisting of Elders A. McClure, Jr. and W. G. Snow, Deacons E. Cotrell and E. M. Carpenter, Trustees S. Munson and S. Palmtree, and from the congregation at large Supt. F. W. Munson and Dr. Wm. F. Winne.

The resolution which was prepared and adopted by the congregation, follows:

"The State St. Presbyterian Church and Congregation having at the urgent solicitation of their Pastor, The Rev. John James, D. D., appointed commissioners to unite with him in a request to the Presbytery of Albany to dissolve the pastoral relation existing between them, in so doing, desire to place on record the following minute, as expressive of their views and feelings on this occasion:

"We desire first to say, while we cannot, as yet, see that it is for the best good of all concerned that the separation should take place, yet such is our confidence in him, and our faith in his ability to interpret the Divine Voice in thus calling him to another field of labor, that we are constrained most reluctantly and sorrowfully to admit that we see no alternative but to accede to his request.



REV. DR. JOHN JAMES

PASTOR 1871-1876

“ We desire further to express our appreciation of the purity of life, the high character and attainments, and the zeal for the service of Christ, which characterize our beloved Pastor. Leaving a profitable mercantile business and going forth at the call of the Master to preach “ Christ and Him crucified ” in a strange land ; content to “ count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus ; ” during the twenty years of his ministry his “ delight ” has ever been “ in the law of the Lord, ” and he is a living testimony of the faithfulness of God. Coming into our midst an entire stranger, nearly six years ago, at a time when we were greatly depressed and wandering as sheep without a shepherd, our hearts were at once led captive by his eloquence and earnestness in preaching the gospel, and he was unanimously called and consented to become our Pastor. An earnest and thorough student and expounder of the Divine Word, gifted by nature with talents of a commanding order, and possessing a cultivated and polished eloquence, he has not only fed us with the true bread of life, but has made our Church a chief centre of attraction to the lovers of a pure gospel.

“ Words would fail us should we attempt to recite the many ways in which he has endeared himself to us, but we cannot forbear to speak of his peculiar fitness for, and his many visits of comfort and consolation to our homes, at the bedside of our sick and dying, and ministering the last sad offices to our beloved dead. He has, indeed, like his Master, “ borne our griefs and carried our sorrows, ” and we have reason to rejoice if we have been permitted in any measure to minister like comfort to him and his family in the sad affliction so recently sent to them by our Heavenly Father.

“ We feel that we would be untrue to our instincts as to our duty as a Church and congregation, did we not put on record some distinct expression of our thankfulness to our Heavenly Father for the blessings which have crowned the labors of Dr. James during the brief period he has been with us,—blessings, we believe and trust which will long continue to flow to us and to our children even though he is separate from us ; and we feel that we cannot be sufficiently thankful to our Divine Master for so graciously ordering our affairs in this matter and permitting us to enjoy the ministry of this great and good man.

"We dare not trust ourselves to say what more is in our hearts on this occasion. Our hearts and homes will be ever open to him. Our love, our sympathy and our prayers go with him to his new field of labor, and we earnestly commend him to the care of our Covenant God, and to the hearts of the people with whom he has chosen to cast his lot."

In accordance with Dr. James's request, thus reluctantly acceded to by the congregation, Presbytery granted a dissolution of the pastoral relation, and on January 14, 1877, the Rev. T. G. Darling, D. D., of Schenectady, declared the pulpit vacant. Thus ended a most fruitful pastorate. In six years, the Church had increased in membership from 388 to 533, and the largest enrollment in the history of the Sunday School, 1,084, had been attained. But, more important than these statistical results, there remained a deep and permanent influence of spiritual uplift which the years have not yet effaced.

At a meeting of the congregation held on December 22, 1876, a committee of thirty on Pulpit Supply and Church Work, was appointed. This committee consisted of the elders and deacons, the trustees, with the following persons chosen from the congregation at large:

Daniel Leonard,	John P. Radley,
Fletcher Barber,	Dr. William F. Winne,
George C. Benedict,	Jeremiah Whitehead,
Horatio N. Snow,	Charles A. Holbrook,
George C. Riggs,	Patrick H. Mann,
Edward E. Mack,	Fred W. Munson.

This committee conducted the affairs of the Church with vigor during the brief interval between the pastorate of Dr. James and that of his successor, so that when a call was extended to the Rev. John McClellan Holmes, D. D., of the Reformed Church of Hudson, N. Y., the Church was still in a prosperous and healthy condition.

A series of prayer meetings, held at this time, under direction of Rev. Charles Reynolds, were fraught with gratifying results.

On April 24, 1877, the congregation met pursuant to the call of the Session, and, at the nomination of the committee on Pulpit Supply and Church Work, unanimously voted to call Dr.

Holmes to be the pastor of the Church. Dr. Holmes accepted the call, and on June 3rd he was installed by the Presbytery, Rev. Edward Stratton, the Moderator of Presbytery, Dr. Anson F. Upton. Dr. T. G. Darling and Rev. J. McC. Blayney taking part in the service.

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The pastorate of Dr. Holmes, which extended over a period of twenty years was not only the longest, but in many ways the most prosperous of the history of the Church thus far. On the occasion of the second anniversary of his installation, a special service was held, which was commented upon by the city papers. We quote from one of them: "The church was filled—floral decorations in excellent taste—and the congregational singing, for which this Church is noted, was exceptionally fine." During the year the weekly meetings for prayer had been larger than ever before in the history of the Church. The audience numbering, at times, nearly or quite four hundred.

During the early years of Dr. Holmes's pastorate, there were several young men who went from this Church to study for the gospel ministry, there being in 1883, as many as five candidates under the care of the Church at one time. Those studying under the regulations of the Anthony Fund were:

Raymond H. Stearns,
George M. Makely,
Charles H. Tyndall,
George S. Duncan,

Henry M. Tyndall,
Arthur W. Peters,
Irving D. Wildey,
Leonard V. C. Mytton.

In June, 1877, James A. Whitney, for more than ten years a Trustee of the Church, was called to his reward. A resolution was passed by the Board of Trustees, which says: "He was always found prompt in his engagements, while with rare Christian courtesy he ever manifested in his own quiet persistent manner, a sincere love for the Master."

That the Church was diligent in good works, is shown by the following letter which was received from the Sixth Presbyterian Church in 1880:

THE SIXTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN ALBANY

To the Congregation of the State Street Church, with the Pastor, Elders and Deacons: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God, our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

We thank our God upon every remembrance of you, for your good work, whereby, for the first time, on this Lord's day we are able to worship in a house free from debt, and are relieved of the fear lest this Church should be lost to the cause of the Redeemer through our lack.

We rejoice in the Lord greatly, that your care of us hath so generously flourished. And we thank our God, even with tears of joy and praise, that by your bounty this house may henceforth be truly called the House of the Lord. Our gratitude remembereth also how greatly our present joy is due to those Saints among you who have been rich in their prayers for us to the Giver of every good and perfect gift.

Our petitions shall ever seek the blessings of God to reward you.

Brethren, pray for us, that we may be found faithful to enter the door of usefulness in the Master's service, which the mercy of the Lord hath now opened.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

The salutation of the Sixth Church, on this Lord's day, the 28th of March, A. D., 1880; by the hands of our servants,

WILLIAM DURANT,
Minister.

E. A. ROSS,
Clerk of Session.

W. G. WINNE,
For Deacons.

LAWSON ANNESLEY,
For Congregation.

JAMES VINT,
For Trustees.

ALBERT H. SLITER,
For Sunday School.

During this year the lecture room and the session room, used also for Sabbath School purposes, were thoroughly renovated at a cost of about \$2,000.

In the same year, and again in 1886, a collection was taken in the Church to aid in liquidating the debt on the West End Presbyterian Church of this city.

While considering an appropriation by the Session to the Synodical Missionary Fund, it was remarked, as an item of interest, that all the Elders of this Church, with a single exception, were originally members of rural churches.

On May 9, 1881, the Hymn Book entitled, "Spiritual Songs "

by the Rev. Chas. S. Robinson, D. D., was adopted for use in the Church.

On Nov. 11, 1881, the Session passed a resolution on the death of Isaac V. W. Grant, this being the first time since its foundation that the Church had been called upon to mourn the death of one of its spiritual officers. "Of commanding personal appearance, of superior judgment, and discretion, of a pure and quiet spirit, and of a consistent and devoted life, he adorned and illustrated the religion which for so many years he professed."

During the Fall and Winter of 1883, the church was repaired, painted, recarpeted, recushioned and redecorated at an expense of \$10,497.14. The work was carried on under the supervision of a committee of the Trustees, of which W. T. Valentine was chairman, after conference with the pastor and a committee of Session, and the congregation worshipped in the newly decorated auditorium for the first time on the first Sunday of January, 1884. In his pastoral letter to the congregation, Dr. Holmes refers to the year past as "one of exceptional prosperity," and says, "the first Sabbath of the New Year finds us worshipping in our renovated sanctuary, with all our debts paid, and our pews with rare exceptions all rented. In things spiritual we have also been highly honored of God. His presence has been with us throughout the entire year, and sixty new members have been added to our communion." In recognition of the faithful labors of Mr. Valentine in bringing these repairs to a successful conclusion, the Trustees presented him, on Christmas Day, 1883, with a chair, accompanied by a letter of thanks, signed by the Board.

As indicative of the attitude of the people, at this time, towards "popular amusements and customs of social life" the answer to the Presbytery's question: "How have they affected the church?" may be taken, viz.: "These have but slightly affected the spiritual life of our Church—most of our Church members place Christian duty before social pleasure."

On September 14, 1884, the Session adopted a minute on the death of Elder Daniel J. Pratt, Ph. D., "A man full of the Holy Ghost and of faith, honored and beloved by all who knew him."

In 1886 there occurred the celebration of the Bi-Centennial of the City of Albany. On Sabbath, July 18th, which was "De-

votional Day," historical sermons were delivered by ministers of the various denominations. The service for Presbyterians was held in this church, concerning which we quote the following: "One of the most interesting union services held in the city was that of the Presbyterian faith at the State St. Presbyterian Church. Adornment was not necessary, for the handsome Church edifice was brilliant in its myriads of lights and was crowded with devout and reverential parishioners. People flocked to the church very early, and long before the commencement of services, the vast edifice was filled. The ushers had plenty to do, and the chancel platform was occupied by the Presbyterian divines of the city. The organist, Frank Van Derzee, played the various selections with skill and proficiency. The singing, true to the congregational order, was an exceedingly pleasant phase of a most delightful union service. Rev. Horace C. Stanton preached eloquently. The sermon, from the text, Isa. 63:7: 'I will mention the loving kindness of the Lord,' was apropos, filled with thoughtful reflections and was delivered with great force and effect."

Reviewing the histories of the several Presbyterian Churches, and while dwelling upon the history of the State St. Presbyterian Church, he thus spoke of its growth:

"During the five years pastorate of the Rev. A. S. Twombly, installed June, 1862, and the three years' pastorate of the Rev. George C. Heckman, D. D., installed November, 1867, the Church grew strong. Its Sunday School was vigorous. Then from June, 1871, it had six flourishing years under the Rev. John James, D. D., a man of Scottish birth and breeding, positive character, decided influence in many ways. An able preacher, he did good work for Christ.

"In June, 1877, was installed the present Pastor, Rev. John McC. Holmes, D. D., who had received the highest recognition from the Reformed denomination before entering the Presbyterian body. The record of his fruitful pastorate needs no rehearsal. The history of this Church requires few words; but they are pleasant to utter and to hear. From the beginning its career has been marked by spiritual thrift, energy, increasing numbers, abundance of financial resources, prosperity of every kind and widening waves of influence. It is the strongest

evangelical church in Albany. Taken as a whole, in eligibility of location, splendor and commodiousness of sanctuary, its pulpit, its membership of over eight hundred, its school of nine hundred, the completeness of its organization, its benefactions, Presbyterianism can point to no more thoroughly representative church in all Northern New York. We are proud of the State St. Church. Its history is brief; but its future shall be great."

In January, 1888, Dr. Holmes was granted leave of absence of five months, to attend the Pan-Presbyterian Council in London, as delegate from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States. In the same year, on May 4th, at their own request, the following members were dismissed to the Church to be organized under the name and title of the "Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church of Albany, N. Y.":

George H. Redway and	Charles S. Gladding and
Katherine W. Redway, his wife,	Ella B. Gladding, his wife.
Addison White and	Philip Templeton and
Helen M. White, his wife,	Mary E. Templeton, his wife,
Levantia K. Gladding	Alice Templeton,
Mary E. Gladding,	M. Lilian Templeton,
Lucy M. Gladding,	Louis W. Pratt and
Kate L. Simmons,	Geraldine S. Pratt, his wife.

On December 4th the Session and Trustees adopted special resolutions on the death of Elder Archibald McClure, who was also a Trustee of the Church: "One of the originators of this Church, and throughout its history identified with its interests. Ripe in religious experience, mature in spiritual consecration, active in Christian work and abounding in Christian liberality."

In January, 1889, the boards of elders and deacons having been reduced by deaths and removals, an election was held on the 15th, with the following result:

Ruling Elders

Fletcher Barber,
Edward M. Carpenter,
Daniel Leonard,
Nathan B. Perry,
Horatio N. Snow,
Samuel Templeton.

Deacons

Arthur L. Andrews,
Guilford D. Burdick,
Wm. H. McClure,
John Templeton,
Clarence Valentine,
Jeremiah Whitehead.

Ten days later, Deacon-elect Jeremiah Whitehead having declined to serve, Robert C. James was chosen in his place, and on January 27th, these new officers were ordained.

In 1890, the congregation undertook the support of a foreign missionary in India for a term of five years, Mr. Wm. K. Templeton volunteering to collect and administer the special fund for this purpose. The missionary assigned was the Rev. W. H. Hannum, who with his bride shortly thereafter sailed for India.

On January 20, 1890, Deacon John Templeton, who at the time was Church Treasurer, passed away. Appropriate minutes were passed by the Board of Deacons, and Clarence Valentine was appointed to serve in his place. In the same year the Trustees were called to mourn the death of William T. Valentine, "mature in judgment, fertile in expedient and efficient in action, he filled an important place in the work intrusted to our care."

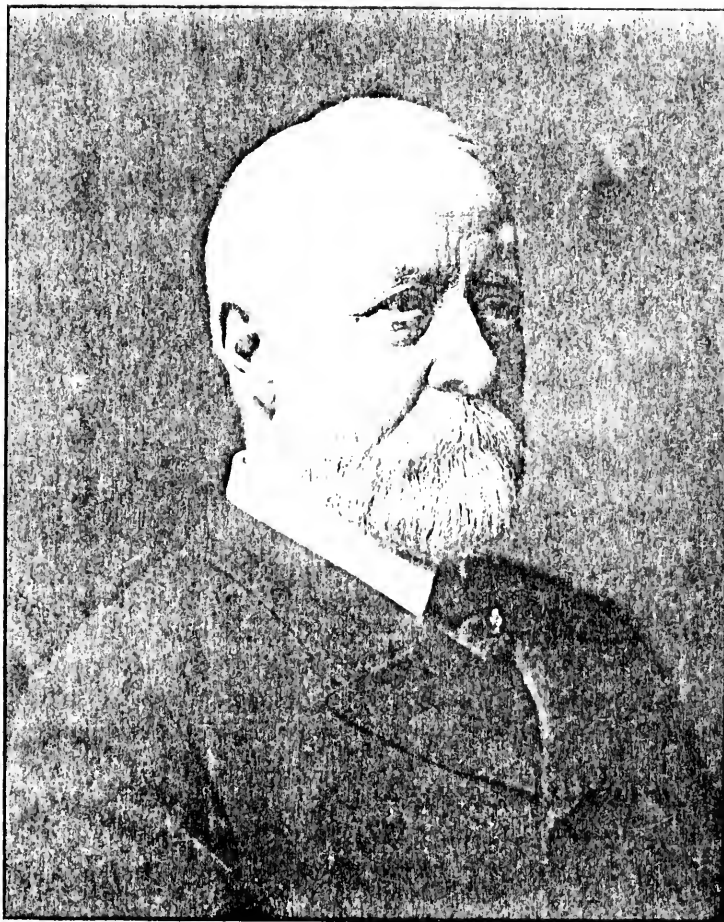
Beginning in 1890, and for several years following, owing to the size of the congregation and the arduous duties of the pastorate the sum of \$500 a year was appropriated by the Trustees. at the request of the Session, for the use of the pastor in securing needed assistance in his work.

On March 13, 1892, the Trustees passed a resolution on the death of William K. Templeton, "of mature judgment, hearty sympathies and of refined feelings, he was developed by Divine Grace, into whatever was truest, purest and noblest in Christian manhood." Elder H. N. Snow was appointed the Treasurer of the W. H. Hannum fund in Mr. Templeton's place.

In the same year the Session mourned the death of Elder Edward P. Durant a man "of commanding personal presence, endowed with rare mental gifts, a leader in the Church, wise in council and efficient in action, consecrated to Christ, known, respected and loved throughout the denomination."

In 1893, a minute on the death of Elder Samuel Templeton was adopted, who was spoken of as "one of our strongest and best members, endowed with a vigorous mind and warm heart, and enriched with a large measure of divine grace and spiritual zeal."

In the Fall of 1897, the pastor, Dr. Holmes, being ill, was granted a leave of absence by the Session. Failing to recover his health he decided to resign his pastorate, whereupon a meet-



REV. DR. JOHN McCLELLAN HOLMES

PASTOR 1877-1897

ing of the congregation was called and a committee appointed to persuade him to withdraw his resignation; but, his decision remaining unchanged, a second meeting was called on November 11th, the resignation was accepted, and commissioners were appointed to join with him in requesting Presbytery to dissolve the pastoral relationship, and the following minute was adopted:

“The State St. Presbyterian Church of the City of Albany with sincere regret and deep sorrow parts with its long time and most beloved Pastor, John McClellan Holmes.

“For more than twenty years he has ministered to us with signal fidelity and marked success.

“A steady growth in membership, liberal contributions for the maintenance of the Church and for the promotion of religion and charity at home and abroad, and earnest activity in every department of church work, have been some of the chief evidences of his successful labors.

“In his pastoral work he has had no superiors and but few equals.

“Naturally gifted with those qualities of mind and heart which make a successful Pastor, his long and varied experience in this branch of Christian work had rendered him well nigh perfect in its performance.

“His genial manner, kindly disposition, sympathetic nature and practical wisdom, added to a wonderful gift of remembering names and faces, placed him at a point of vantage occupied by few ministers of the gospel.

“During his long pastorate the opportunities for the display of these qualities have been a multitude in number, and he never failed to rise to the occasion.

“At one time or another almost every household has been visited by affliction and sorrow, and at such times he never failed to come bearing consolation and cheer and hope.

“It mattered not whether the blow be light or heavy, his interest, his sympathy, his help, was timely and wise.

“He literally partook of the joys and shared the sorrows of his people, until he sank beneath the load of care and responsibility.

“What the Church owes to him collectively and as individuals, will never be known until the day when the books are opened wherein is the true record of every man's work.

“Long after he shall have gone to his eternal rest, the blessed memory of his interest and heartfelt sympathy will come back like the fragrance of the flowers, which lingers and dwells when the blossom is no more.

“As but a slight token of our appreciation of his faithful service, of our sympathy for him in his affliction, and of our wish for his long continued usefulness and prosperity, we present this testimonial to the Presbytery of Albany, and spread the same upon the minutes of the Church.

“Following the action of Presbytery, the pulpit was declared vacant on December 5, 1897.

“Dr. Holmes’s pastorate, the longest in the history of the Church, included the years of its greatest prosperity. During his administration, the membership was increased from 533 to 633, and the Church by reason of its benevolences and its situation held a commanding place in the community.

During the brief interim following the close of Dr. Holmes’s pastorate, the Church was supplied by various ministers, and on June 10, 1898, a call was extended to the Rev. John J. Lawrence of Canandaigua, to become the pastor of the Church.

Mr. Lawrence accepted the call and was installed by the Presbytery of Albany on October 4, 1898, Rev. A. R. Olney, D. D., Rev. Charles A. Richmond, D. D., Rev. William F. Whitaker, D. D., and Rev. Geo. N. Karner participating in the services.

On January 31, 1899, a congregational meeting was held for the election of additional elders and deacons, which resulted as follows:

<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Deacons</i>
Robert C. James,	De Baun Van Aken,
Edward A. Groesbeck,	De Witt C. Slingerland.
Edgar C. Leonard,	Douglas W. Olcott.
Clarence Valentine,	
George S. Munson.	

Of these gentlemen Clarence Valentine and Douglas W. Olcott declined to serve. The others were ordained to their respective offices in March of the same year.

On March 10, the Session passed a resolution on the death of Elder James Erwin, the senior elder of the Session. "A good man, full of the Holy Ghost and of faith,—gathered into the Lord's garner as a shock of grain fully ripe." The Session records its "high appreciation of his Christian character, his consistent godly life, and his constant and untiring service for the Master."

During this year, several changes were made in the musical service of the Church, by the adoption of a new hymn book (the "Church Hymnary," edited by Edwin A. Bedell), and by the employment of a soloist to sing at the Church services.

The days on which Communion services should regularly be held in the church were changed to the first Sundays of October, December, February, April and June.

In 1900, the music in the Church was again considered, with the result that a cornetist was engaged to lead the congregational singing, and a soloist for the evening services. Early in this year, also, the Young People's Society of the Church was, with the approval of the Session, reorganized, and constituted as a Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, which has had a prosperous existence to the present time.

In 1901, Elders J. H. Gilbert and Nathan B. Perry resigned their duties as active elders of the Church, the one on account of failing health, and the other because of long absence from the city.

In July of the same year, Elder Horatio N. Snow passed away. He had been for more than 36 years a member of the Church, and in the resolution passed by the Session at the time of his death he is spoken of as a man "devoted to the interests of the Church and ever responsive to its obligations, with heart and hand open to the call of the distressed, who had filled well the offices of Trustee, Sunday School Superintendent and Ruling Elder." By Mr. Snow's will the Church received a legacy of \$1,000 to augment the Anthony Fund. In December, John G. Myers passed away. For thirty-four years he had been a member of the Church, and for thirty-two years one of its Trustees, and at the time of his death he was the president of that board. "The Church with its many spiritual and benevolent activities lay near to his heart, and to all its work he brought those same

gifts of untiring fidelity, sound judgment and unfailing courtesy which made him during his life one of the foremost citizens of Albany."

In February, 1902, the Session and the Board of Deacons being reduced by these various deaths and resignations, an election was held, resulting in the choice of:

<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Deacons</i>
Arthur L. Andrews,	William D. MacFarlane,
Augustus S. Brandow,	Guy D. Hills,
Edwin W. Ober,	Jason S. Bedell,
William H. McClure,	Daniel L. Markle.
Edward W. Wetmore,	
Norman S. Hoff,	
DeWitt C. Slingerland.	

All of these, with the exception of Arthur L. Andrews and Edward W. Wetmore, who did not accept their election, were ordained on March 23.

In March of this year, the Session received notice of the death of Rev. Dr. Heckman, the second pastor of this Church—an earnest, consecrated, able, Christian minister—of deep spirituality and unselfish life. A tribute to his memory was spread upon the minutes.

During 1901 and 1902 the Church was the recipient of several gifts, among them a set of collection plates from Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Brandow, individual communion cups from Mrs. William Appleton, and silk pulpit gown from Gardner C. Leonard.

In 1903, Elder Henry L. Dickerman, then the senior elder of the Church passed away. He was one of the charter members of the Church, and had been an elder since 1869. Active in religious work, he had been especially zealous in the work of the Sunday School, which he had served as teacher and assistant superintendent. Later in the same year the Session mourned the death of Elder B. B. Merchant, at the time of his death the clerk of the Session, honored and faithful to every duty. He had been for 37 years a member of the Church, and for thirty years one of its elders, superintendent of the Sunday School during the four years of its largest membership, and for more

than eighteen years the clerk of Session. In December, Elder Daniel Leonard resigned his place as an active elder.

In 1904, the present financial system of the Church was adopted, providing for contributions through weekly envelopes, to a fund from which the benevolences of the Church and a portion of its current expenses are appropriated by the Session.

In 1905 Elder William H. McClure, for nearly 42 years a member of the Church and for more than 16 years one of its spiritual officers was called home. He was a man "devoted to all the interests of the Church and universally beloved by its members, of sympathetic nature, spiritual worth and exemplary life." Later in the same year, Elder Fletcher Barber the senior elder of the Church and the president of the Board of Trustees passed away, "for thirty-five years a member of the Church and for sixteen years one of its elders. He was a man of faith and prayer, with judicial mind and exemplary life, who loved the Church and served it faithfully."

During this year also, the Session passed a minute concerning the death on June 2nd, in his 80th year, of the Rev. John James, D. D., who, though he had been pastor of the Church but six years, left behind him a sacred memory. During his pastorate the Church experienced an uplift and a hallowing which has never passed away.

In this same year, Mrs. William H. McClure presented to the Church the beautiful Communion table and bench which now graces our sanctuary, in memory of her late husband, Elder William H. McClure. In dedicating this table the pastor prayed:

"Around this table grant, Holy Father, that the blessing of strength may come to the weak, light to those that are in darkness and hope to all in despair, and here may hundreds make the great declaration of their faith in Thy Son, and enter into the full joys and privileges of Thy Holy Communion."

During the next year Mrs. McClure presented to the Church 200 new chairs, which are now in use in the Sunday School room.

In 1906, several minor changes in the customs of the Church were made, including the transfer of the preparatory lecture from the church to the lecture room, and the omission of the Friday evening prayer meeting during the summer vacation.

On September 14th, arrangements having been made for the support of Miss Jean E. James, by the Sunday School and Young People's Societies of the Church, as missionary in India, she departed for her field of labor, with the approval and sanction of the Session, which passed a resolution of which the following is a part:

"The Session expresses its hearty approval; it recognizes the Christian devotion and culture of Miss James and her eminent fitness for the high task to which she has devoted her powers; it appreciates the missionary enthusiasm of the Sunday School and Young People; and it prays that the blessing of God may abundantly rest upon Miss James in her toils in the distant field."

Miss James is a granddaughter of Dr. James, the third pastor of the Church.

In December, 1906, Mr. Lawrence received a call to become the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Binghamton; and, in order to accept the call, asked the congregation to unite with him in requesting Presbytery to dissolve the pastoral relation between him and this Church. At the meeting of the congregation called to act upon this request, the following resolution was passed:

"WHEREAS, Our Pastor, Rev. John J. Lawrence, has resigned his pastorate in this Church, stating that he has been called by God to labor elsewhere; and

"WHEREAS, He has asked the congregation to unite with him in a request to Presbytery to dissolve the pastoral relations now existing between them;

"Therefore, be it resolved, That we hereby express our regret and feelings of personal loss in the event of the severing of the relationship so pleasantly existing between Pastor and People in this Church; that we hereby testify to the faithfulness and acceptable service of our Pastor for upwards of eight years, and that we reluctantly join with him in his request to Presbytery.

"Be it further resolved, That Edward A. Groesbeck, Arthur L. Andrews and G. Dudley Burdick, be and they are hereby chosen Commissioners to Presbytery, and are instructed to join with the Pastor in a request that the pastoral relation be dissolved."



REV. JOHN J LAWRENCE

PASTOR. 1898-1906

Presbytery having acted upon this request, just before the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence a farewell reception was given them in the Sunday School rooms, which were decorated for the occasion with palms and flowers, the arrangements being admirably managed by the Woman's Guild under the leadership of Mrs. Arthur L. Andrews.

The members of the Church, ministers and many friends in the city attended in large numbers to offer a farewell word and to express their sorrow at the separation. Mr. Lawrence was especially fortunate in the character of his Sunday evening services and many who were in the habit of attending these services, though not members of the Church, came to say "Good-bye" and to testify to the help received through his ministry in the city.

A beautiful silver loving cup was presented to Mr. Lawrence on behalf of the Church by Edgar C. Leonard, who expressed the feelings of regard and esteem in which the pastor was held and the best wishes of all the people for a happy and successful pastorate in Binghamton.

Mr. Lawrence replied with emotion and received the gift in a spirit of deep appreciation of the friendly feelings which prompted it and with the assurance that it would always be a highly prized object in his household.

The women of the Church also presented Mrs. Lawrence with a silver tea service.

During Mr. Lawrence's pastorate, which extended over a period of a little more than eight years, the Church sustained greater losses by death than at any similar period of its history. In spite of this fact, however, the membership did not materially decrease, and the work of the Church was maintained at a high level of efficiency, both spiritual and financial.

Following Mr. Lawrence's resignation, on December 14, 1906, a congregational meeting was held to make provision for the selection of a new pastor. As a result of this meeting, a printed letter was sent to each member of the congregation, asking them to record their votes for nine persons to serve as a committee to present a nomination for a pastor. No names were suggested, but the vote was left entirely to the discretion of the congrega-

tion. As a result of this vote, a committee of nine was chosen, consisting of the following:

Edgar C. Leonard,	Edwin W. Ober,
Arthur L. Andrews,	George S. Munson,
Clarence Valentine,	Augustus S. Brandow,
Edward A. Groesbeck,	Clifford D. Gregory.
Robert C. James,	

During the interim of about five months, the work of the Church was vigorously prosecuted, the pulpit being supplied by various ministers, and the prayer meetings and other organizations being regularly sustained. No candidates were heard in the church, but the work of selecting a pastor was left entirely to the committee named above.

On March 1, 1907, the congregation met to consider the report of the committee, and at its nomination, voted unanimously to extend a call to the Rev. Charles G. Sewall, of the Presbyterian Church of Rome, N. Y., to become the pastor of the Church. Mr. Sewall accepted the call, and assumed his duties as pastor-elect on the first Sunday of May. He was installed by the Presbytery of Albany on the evening of May 16, his father-in-law, the Rev. A. H. Strong, D.D., of Rochester, his father, the Rev. A. C. Sewall, D.D., of Troy, the Rev. John J. Lawrence, the former pastor of the Church, Dr. Mears, the pastor of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of this city, and Rev. Philip N. Moore, the Moderator of the Presbytery, taking part in the service.

Soon after Mr. Sewall's acceptance of the call to become the pastor of the Church, but before his removal to the city, the premises at 91 Lancaster street, which since 1871 had been occupied as the parsonage, were sold. The proceeds of the sale, \$7,000, were invested and are now held in trust by the Trustees. The house No. 27 Dove street was rented for the use of the new pastor, which was occupied by his family for three years, when the present parsonage, No. 73 Willett street was leased.

On June 18 the Church mourned the death of Elder Edward M. Carpenter, for nearly forty years a member, and for thirty-five years an office bearer in the Church. "A good man, a



REV CHARLES G. SEWALL
PASTOR OF THE CHURCH SINCE 1907

Christian gentleman, kindly, faithful and true, his whole life a noble example of unswerving integrity."

The events of the present pastorate are so recent, and so fresh in the memory of the congregation that a very brief mention of some of the more important will suffice. In the Fall of 1908, Deacons Andrews and Valentine having resigned their places on the Board of Deacons, and the Session being small, an election of elders and deacons was held resulting in the choice of:

Ruling Elders

Daniel L. Markle,
Thomas D. James,
Henry P. Warren,
Leonard-W. Hatch.

Deacons

Gardner C. Leonard,
William H. Fillmore,
Charles C. DeRouville,
Albert M. Reed,
Charles P. Brate.

They were ordained to their respective offices on November 29.

During the year 1909, the Church having received a legacy of \$1,000 from Mrs. J. R. Boulware, a portion of it was appropriated by the Trustees for the purchase of an opalescent glass lantern which now hangs from the ceiling of the church and lights the pulpit. About the same time Mrs. John Pladwell presented to the Church the artistic flower stands which now adorn the pulpit platform. During the fall of the same year, funds having been contributed by members of the congregation, extensive alterations and improvements were made in the basement of the church, providing more adequate facilities and conveniences for the social life of the Church. Early in 1910 a new piano was purchased for the use of the Sunday School.

In the Fall of 1910, a change in the musical service of the Church was effected by the engagement of the present precentor and soloist, L. LeRoy Pickett, to take the place of the cornetist and soloist who had for so many years rendered faithful and acceptable service.

During these four years, besides the death of Elder Carpenter, which has been noted, the Church has mourned the death of G. Dudley Burdick, the president of the Board of Deacons, a man universally respected and beloved, who passed away in May, 1908, and William D. MacFarlane, who succeeded Mr.

Burdick as president of the Board of Deacons, who was called home in January, 1910,—a true and gentle spirit, faithful and honored. In 1909, Elder J. H. Gilbert, who, though he was no longer an active member of Session, was universally honored and beloved by all the congregation, was called to his reward. He became a member of the Church in 1866; was ordained an elder in 1873, and adorned that office until 1901, when, because of impaired health he asked to be retired from its active duties. In a memorial resolution of the Session, he is spoken of as “an optimistic counsellor, a loyal friend and an honored co-laborer, admirably fitted by nature for the profession of an educator, to which he gave his life.”

During the close of 1910 and the beginning of 1911 preparations were inaugurated for the celebration of the Semi-Centennial of the organization of the Church, and committees were appointed to carry these into effect. The names of those appointed will be found in connection with the programme printed at the end of this volume.

It may be of interest here to state that besides those students, already mentioned in another connection, there have gone out from this Church and Sabbath School: Dr. Ira Harris, Medical Missionary at Tripoli, Syria; and Rev. James G. K. McClure, D.D., related to one of the families who were foremost at the founding of the Church and have been prominent and active throughout its history; Rev. David James, a son of the third pastor; and Rev. Samuel V. V. Holmes, a son of the fourth pastor, who are now active ministers of the gospel; and a young son of the fifth pastor of the Church is at present pursuing his studies in preparation for this glorious ministry.

The foregoing pages contain part of the history of the inception and growth of the Church, with a glimpse of the men, and their work, who composed its pastorate and its official boards during the fifty years. Some more of the story is told in the statistical lists and summaries, and in the separate accounts of the various organizations of the Church, which follow, and to which only brief allusion has heretofore been made.

The Sunday School

On March 25, 1861, an informal meeting was held at the house of Mr. Archibald McClure, 158 State Street, to consider the organization of a Sunday School in connection with the State Street Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Mr. Westbrook, the Secretary of the American Sunday School Union, who was supplying the pulpit of the Church at the time, was present, and gave his advice. As a result of the meeting, a printed notice was distributed to every family in the city residing West of Eagle Street and South of Washington Avenue, and on Sunday, April 7, 1861, the School assembled for its first session in the lecture room of the German Lutheran Church (now the Albany Law School). Mr. Westbrook presided at this service and "introduced the custom which has since been uninterruptedly followed of the School and superintendent reading alternate verses. At the same time, he initiated the custom of repeating the Lord's Prayer, the School repeating it with the superintendent." At this meeting an election of officers was held, with the following result:

Superintendent, David Murray.
Secretary, W. G. Rogers.
Treasurer, W. J. White.
Librarian, R. L. Johnson.
Assistant Librarian, Wm. H. McClure.

In the first chapter of this history, appears a list of those who were teachers in the School at its organization.

During the first year of its existence, the School, on February 23, 1862, moved into its present "commodious and elegant quarters," and four days later enjoyed its first festival, when the time-honored custom was inaugurated of giving ice cream and cake to each scholar, with "a paper bag containing an apple, an orange, cake and candy" to take home.

At the first anniversary of the School, which took place on the second Sunday of April, 1862, the superintendent reported

that the School had during the year acquired a membership of about 356, of whom 308 were pupils and 48 teachers.

It is interesting to note, however, that during the brief period of its sessions in the lecture room of the German Lutheran Church, many of the children of that congregation had become interested in its work, so that, after the removal to its own quarters across the street, the German Lutheran Church organized an English-speaking school of its own, to which one teacher and about forty scholars were dismissed with God-speed. This left the actual membership of the School at the end of its first year about 316. The event is typical of the whole history of the Sunday School of the State Street Church, which has always stirred up other schools to good works.

Thus the School was fairly launched upon the half century of useful and honorable activity of which this chapter is a brief and inadequate review. It is impossible, in the small space at our disposal to mention all the faithful officers and teachers, all the self-sacrificing labor, all the notable results of these fifty years. We can merely attempt to give an outline sketch of some of the main features of the long period.

These fifty years of the life of the School have been spanned by the administrations of fourteen superintendents, whose names, with the years when they presided over the affairs of the School, will be found in the statistical survey with which this chapter closes. But there are many other names which should be mentioned with equal honor. It is difficult to select any of them, without recording them all, since in the sight of God we know that some of the faithful teachers who during many years labored with their classes, but whose work does not appear in the written records of the School deserve as great praise as those who appear to have been more prominent. The following, however, must not be forgotten if we are fitly to commemorate our history:

Miss Emma Wygant, Miss Elizabeth Strong (Mrs. A. McClure, Jr.), Miss Carrie Bush, Miss Kate M. Mather, Miss Clara B. Bancroft, Miss Isabella Wilson, Miss Louise Burdick, Miss Mary L. Richman, Mrs. Robert Flemming, and, at the present time, Miss Josephine Mahon, who have presided over the Primary or as it was originally called the Infant Department, have rendered loyal and devoted service. In 1898 a

Kindergarten Department was added to the School, Miss Margaret E. Smith being the first superintendent. She has been succeeded in turn by Miss Grace McHarg, Miss Margaret Deutschbein, Miss Josephine Dodds and Miss Sara Palmatier.

The Sunday School Missionaries also, though salaried officers, gave of the devotion of their hearts far beyond the worth of their slender stipends. They were Mrs. W. B. Church, who labored without compensation during the years from 1865 to 1868, and as the regular missionary of the Church until 1872; Mrs. Benjamin B. Vanderlip, from 1872 to 1877; Miss Maggie McKenzie, from 1877 to 1890, and Mrs. Wm. K. Templeton, from 1893 to 1896. Since that time there has been no regular Sunday School city missionary, but the needed labors have been performed without compensation by the faithful teachers.

The School has supported several missionaries. Its first servant on the field was Mr. Otis Patten, who became connected with the School in 1864, and who was engaged in Home Missionary work in Southern Indiana and in Kentucky. His place was taken by the Rev. J. C. Buchanan, who was connected with the School until 1868. In 1869, the School assumed the support of a native Chinese preacher, Tsiang Vong Kweng by name, and continued to contribute to his salary until 1875. At this time, Rev. Lu Cing Veng, at the suggestion of his predecessor, who resigned his connection with the School for a larger work, took his place, and remained as the missionary of the School until 1888. From this time until 1906, though the School had no missionary of its own, it contributed largely through the Boards of the Church, but in that year one of its own members, Miss Jean E. James, who is now representing the School in India, became its missionary.

With more or less varying success, the School has maintained an adult Bible Class, though the existence of such a Class in the School has not been continuous. The teachers who have led the Bible Class are Prof. C. H. Anthony, Edward P. Durant, Daniel J. Pratt, Prof. E. W. Wetmore. In addition to the so-called adult Bible Class, there have been at various periods of the history of the School, Bible classes for young men and young women, for older men and older women, which have been valued additions to its work.

A Sabbath School Prayer Meeting, to which the officers and teachers and adult members of the School were invited, was inaugurated in 1863, being held each Sunday afternoon after the close of the School session. This prayer meeting, although at one period we find it a matter of discussion in the annual meeting of the School, was maintained practically without a break until 1891 and is spoken of by the various superintendents as a source of great help and strength in the work. Meetings of the teachers and officers were held from time to time for the transaction of business, and in 1878 the first teachers' meeting for the study of the lesson and the first "Teachers' Sociable" were held. The annual festival for the scholars of the School, inaugurated, as we have seen, on the occasion of the first occupancy of the present room, has been provided every year since that time. Until recent years, this festival was held in the latter part of February or the first of March, and sometimes, owing to the size of the School, occupied two days. For a few years it became the custom to hold it at the Christmas season, but this year we again returned to the old custom and enjoyed our festival in March.

In 1876 a "Teachers' Association" was formed and a constitution adopted. Since that time the provisions of this constitution have been somewhat modified, but, on the whole, its plan has been followed.

As to its material equipment, the years have not brought much change in the condition of the School. The "commodious and elegant" quarters into which the School moved in 1862 shelter it still. In 1881, however, we find in the report of the superintendent that by that time the Sunday School rooms had become "quite uninviting from long use." The officers of the School petitioned the Trustees for improvements, which, with the co-operation of the School itself, were made during the summer, including a new floor, new carpets, new gas fixtures, painting, kalsomining, new chairs and new pictures. In 1891 it again became necessary to provide for improvements, and a considerable sum of money having been raised by private subscription, new hymn books, and Bibles, a new carpet, a new piano, and books for the library, were secured. Again, in 1904 extensive improvements were made, including electric lights,

new heaters, painting, etc., and two years later, by the liberality of a member of the congregation, the room was provided with a complete equipment of new chairs.

In 1909, through the liberality of several members of the congregation, the room in the northwest corner was completely remodeled, transforming it into a kitchen and a cloakroom for ladies, while the space formerly used as a kitchen was turned into a coatroom for gentlemen, with adequate toilet accommodations. In the same year a new piano was provided for the School.

A general review of the development of the School reveals that it attained its largest size during the decade between 1870 and 1880, the largest enrollment being in 1874, when there were 1,084 names on the roll. The same year shows the largest average attendance, which was 617. Beginning with the year 1880, however, the School steadily decreased in numbers. This came about through causes for which the School was not responsible. For instance, in 1887, the Presbyterian Mission Sabbath School on Madison avenue was formed, Mr. Louis W. Pratt, with seven other teachers and officers of this School being instrumental in its formation; and the superintendent, in his annual report, while bidding the new school God speed, remarks upon the number of scholars who left his own school to attend the new one. During this period, also, several churches of other denominations moved into the vicinity and the growth of the city in the Pine Hills district took place. It is quite to be expected, therefore, that we should discover this decrease in membership to be constant and regular until 1907. At this time, when the Home Department of the School was organized, we notice a decided increase in the reported membership while the average attendance of the School at the regular sessions remains about the same.

When, therefore, we read in the report of the superintendent for 1872 the complaint that nothing but the restricted quarters of the School prevented it from increasing its membership anywhere from fifty to one hundred per cent., basing his statement upon the fact that in the section of the city immediately surrounding the church there were estimated to be not less than a thousand nominally Protestant children of school age not at-

tending any Sunday School, who might be gathered into the School if there were room to receive them, we realize that in forty years the conditions have materially altered. It is probable, at the present time, that there are not two score Protestant children in the same area not attending some Sunday School.

A radical change in the habits of the School was effected in 1900, when the hour of meeting was changed from two o'clock in the afternoon, which had been the hour of meeting since the foundation of the School, to twelve o'clock. In the same year the first summer vacation was taken, to obviate the discouraging and nearly useless struggles to keep the School in some semblance of activity during the heated period, which every superintendent for the last twenty years had remarked. At the present time it is our custom to close the School during July and August.

A perusal of the records of the School during the period of fifty years reveals many matters of interest which can hardly be included in this brief sketch, but which have been of great interest to the author of it. For instance, the sad echoes of the Civil War which sound in the records of the first few years, when officers, teachers and scholars are sent to the front with gifts of "Bibles and India rubber blankets,"—when the girls of the School made "little housewives" for the soldiers,—when Bibles and hymn books were presented to the Tenth Regiment,—and later, when the School mourned the death of three of its soldier-scholars—E. Lindsay, C. Gomp and John Brown—with two of its former teachers—Lieut. James Williamson and Lieut. Richard H. Strong. It is interesting to note that in 1864 the superintendent inaugurated a system of regular pledged offerings from the School to "ensure a certain and reliable revenue on which to base our calculations for future needs, and to engender in the scholars the habit of charity." This plan was supported with much the same arguments and had much the same satisfactory result as our own present plan of Church support through the envelope system, and indeed, except in the one item of the use of envelopes, was much the same in principle.

In the records of the School we find formal memorials to the blessed memory of many who, at the time of their death, were officers or teachers in the school. Among them are John N. Heron, Archibald McClure (1872), Joseph L. Snow, Miss Jeanie

Dalton James, Mrs. B. B. Vanderlip, Archibald McClure (1889), John Templeton, William K. Templeton, Edward P. Durant, William H. McClure. In addition to these names mentioned, we find each year the names of scholars who during the year passed were taken from the school, which are too numerous here to be recorded.

This brief sketch, supplemented by the statistical table which is appended to this chapter, and to which the reader is referred, must suffice to indicate to the imagination what these fifty years have meant for the Kingdom of God. Who can recount the lives that have been moulded and influenced, the wide wanderings of workers whom this School has trained, the unchronicled devotion of the multitude who have contributed to its success? These matters can only be known when eternity reveals the hidden secrets of the heart. The days of large numbers are probably gone, never to return; but we believe that in the quality of the work accomplished and in the devotion of the workers, the Sunday School of the State Street Church does not need to look at the past with regret, but can look forward to the future with great confidence and hope.

C. G. S.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATIONS

The history of the young people of the Church has always been so closely interwoven with that of the Church itself that it is difficult to read the latter without learning the former. Statistics and details may be instructive, but certainly are not interesting. The data and tables, prepared with great care and labor for the Church History, should satisfy the most exacting statistician, and we may be pardoned for giving but a birdseye view of the organization and execution of Church work by the young people.

As the Church, immediately upon its organization in 1861, realized the wisdom and necessity of a Sabbath School, so only a few years later both Church and School saw the advantage of giving the young people a more ample opportunity for service in the formation of societies and bands which, while closely associated with and under the general supervision of the Church, were to a very large extent independent. Almost from the be-

ginning, the Church had established a prayer meeting on Monday evening for the younger members of the congregation.

On December 13, 1869, at a meeting of the Session, it was proposed to organize a YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY for the purpose of maintaining the Monday evening prayer meeting and interesting the young people in the missionary work of the Church and creating a more cordial and intimate acquaintance among them. A draft of a constitution was accordingly prepared and submitted to the "youth of the congregation." Early in 1870 the Society was organized with Mr. B. B. Merchant as president, Messrs. Charles E. Rancour, John A. Richardson and Russell Lyman, vice-presidents; Mr. George D. Fearey, recording secretary; Mr. Josiah H. Gilbert, corresponding secretary, and Mr. Samuel L. Munson, treasurer. The membership was divided into regular (25c.) and sustaining (50c.), and committees were appointed as follows: canvassing, visiting, entertainment, temperance, tract and devotional. Thereafter the Society was intrusted with the conduct of the Young People's Prayer Meeting and maintained it with great success during its entire existence.

On July 28, 1872, the Society employed Mr. Alvah Phelps as an evangelical missionary, and a complete census was taken of that portion of the city which was the Church's field of activity, and so successful was this work during the ensuing year that the report thereof as submitted was directed by the Session, on September 24, 1873, to be published in the local newspapers.

In the year 1873, as the services of the missionary were no longer available, the Society organized district prayer meetings, and the Church delegated a member of the Session to each district to assist. During this year the constitution was amended and the pastor of the Church was made permanent president to more effectively direct and promote the work of the Society, the other officers remaining elective.

In 1874 the Society broadened so that it engaged in missionary activity, both at home and abroad.

The Society, which at this time consisted of 193 members, held monthly business meetings at which it is amusing to note the members were limited by a provision of the constitution to five

minutes in their remarks. Quarterly entertainments were held at which no limit was placed on conversation and these meetings were quite a feature of the life of this Society.

A manual published in July, 1876, on the occasion of the fifteenth anniversary of the Church contains an annual report of the Society from which it appears that the Monday evening meeting had grown to be more of a teachers' prayer meeting due to the weekly consideration of the Sunday School lesson for the ensuing Sabbath and it was suggested that the Society return to its original idea and thereafter other provision was made for the devout social study of the Sunday School lessons and the Monday meeting was continued strictly as a young people's meeting. It also appears that during this year "The Young People's Society Record" was established as a manuscript quarterly periodical to which contributions of short articles were solicited from the members and which was read at the quarterly meetings. The list of officers for this year contain many familiar names. Rev. John James, D. D., was president ex-officio, Messrs. Horatio N. Snow and James S. Webster, vice-presidents; Mr. Homer E. Vilas, secretary; Mr. Edward J. James, treasurer, and Messrs. Daniel J. Pratt, Fred W. Munson, Charles C. MacKay, Archibald McClure, Clarence Valentine, John E. Pladwell and Charles A. Holbrook, managing committee.

It is impossible within the space and time allotted to make mention of the various officers of the Society or refer in detail to the great work done not only in the Church but also in the various mission fields at home and abroad. During all its history though the constitution was frequently amended, the business meetings were maintained and officers elected annually, the Society early reverting to the original plan of electing its president as well as other officers from its own membership. The quarterly entertainments were regularly given and largely attended. The crowning glory of the Society, however, was its Young People's Prayer Meeting. During the year 1896-1897 the average attendance from January 1 to July 1 was over 100 and at times was upwards of 140 and during these six months each Monday evening meeting was presided over by one of the young men of the congregation, no one being called upon to preside more than once.

Shortly after this time a desire was manifested on the part of some of the members to change the form of the Society into that of the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor and an active campaign to accomplish this result was carried on until on February 5, 1900, with the consent of the Session the name of the Society was changed. The time of the prayer meeting was changed to Sunday evening prior to the Church service, but the purposes of the Society remained the same.

The Young People's Society did not, however, afford sufficient scope for the zeal for service on the part of the younger members of the Church and from time to time other bands and circles and societies were formed. Many of these had some special interest which led to their formation and oftentimes when the desired result was accomplished or the special labor ended, they disbanded, to be re-formed either under the same or a different name for the accomplishment of some other work.

Most prominent among these societies in results accomplished and length of service are the Band of Earnest Workers and The Helpers Circle of King's Daughters, both of which are still active.

On April 8, 1881, Miss Estelle Haight's class in the Sunday School organized into a missionary band known as the "EARNEST WORKERS" and during the first year by accessions from other classes grew to a membership of 38. Meetings of the band were held in the church and at members' houses. Its aims were for assisting the work of the Church in the foreign field exclusively and during the first winter of its existence the Band raised and applied \$120.88 to the mission work in Syria disbursing \$60 for the education of two boys and the balance for school helps for the church missionary, Miss Bird. The work thus commenced has been maintained ever since and the contributions of this band toward the support of the mission work of the Church have averaged upwards of \$150 for each year of its history.

Its membership has necessarily been limited but in 1888 it was deemed wise to encourage the formation of a BAND OF YOUNG EARNEST WORKERS whose members would later become members of the senior band and this junior society continued for many years. The mission work was subdivided; the senior band contributing to foreign missions and the junior band to domestic

missions. Later it was deemed advisable to consolidate the two bands and as united they are continuing their labors, apportioning the gifts between the foreign and domestic missions of the Church.

On October 21, 1888 the HELPERS CIRCLE OF THE KING'S DAUGHTERS was organized by members of class eight in the Sunday School with their teacher, Miss Mary J. Matthews as leader, Miss Emma Breakenridge, secretary, and Miss Tillie Branion, treasurer. On October 7, 1890, Miss Matthews as leader organized the Golden Rule Circle, with Miss Alice Featherly, secretary, and Miss Sadie Capron, treasurer. In 1897 the two circles united under the name of the United Circle of King's Daughters, but some years after it was decided to return to the original name. During the first nineteen years of its history the circle maintained three scholarships in the Home Industrial School in Asheville, N. C., and during the past three years in the Normal Collegiate School. It has also assisted in the work in China and Persia and among the mountain whites and the miners. For four years it supported one of the Indian orphans under the Rev. Robert Henderson of the Irish Presbyterian Church in Borsad, India and it has contributed toward work in our own city. The circle's contribution to the work of the Church at home and abroad during its existence has averaged upwards of \$225 a year.

In 1888 under the direction of Miss Wilson, superintendent of the Primary Department of the Sunday School, the children were organized into a band of "LITTLE VOLUNTEERS" and a banner was presented to them bearing this name in golden letters. During this first year they gave \$90 for the Hainan mission and a similar contribution was made by the band each year for some special missionary object. During the last ten years of its life the band maintained a scholarship for an Indian boy in the Manual School at Albuquerque, New Mexico. During the reorganization of the Sunday School in 1907, however, the band was merged in the Primary Department and lost its individuality.

Many other bands appear to have been organized for mission work and study from time to time such as the "LITTLE BUILDERS" formed in 1883; the "HELPING HANDS" in 1888; the "GIRLS' HOME MISSION BAND" in 1890; the "HOME TEN OF

"KING'S DAUGHTERS" formed in 1891 for home visiting; and the "TEMPLE BUILDERS" which was organized in 1900, was disbanded in 1905, and reorganized by Miss J. Annette Gilbert in 1906 and later merged into the Band of Earnest Workers; the JUNIOR CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY organized in 1901, by Miss Aurelia Hyde among the very small children for Bible and mission study whose average membership was 25, and yearly contribution \$50 given by the members and in addition to which money was raised by entertainment and donated by the society to the Sunday School for the picture "Christ in the Temple" and the bulletin for attendance; the KNIGHTS OF KING ARTHUR, a band established in 1908, to arouse enthusiasm among the boys in the work of the Church.

From the foregoing brief resumé of the various societies among the young people of the Church it will readily appear that while some have kept alive these organizations and have held their title yet most of them have changed from time to time. 'Tis but the great law of nature again made manifest—change—ever the desire appears to accomplish some new object in some new manner and when the goal is reached we seek new achievements and new roads to attain them. Yet the purpose is one; the results are identical. 'Tis the great work of the Church in the persons of its younger element. The mighty course of the Church itself is plainly marked as its rivers run to the sea, but the fresh water rivulets and brooks and streams of its young children and youths must wander here and there with winding course and varying eddy seeking some happy way to exert their energy but nevertheless they run at last into the greater stream of the Church's activity. The joy of service leads them here and there. The zeal for service forces them ever onward. So at last do young and old meet in the river of life and flow onward to the sea carrying forward God's word and God's work.

C. I. O.

THE WOMAN'S HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY

At the close of the prayer meeting on the evening of February 4, 1876, a meeting of the women of the congregation was held at the call of the pastor, Rev. John James, D. D., to consider the needs of the Home Mission Field, and to form plans for some

definite work along that line. The result of that meeting was the organization of the "Woman's Home Missionary Society" and the election of Mrs. I. V. W. Grant as its first president.

As no Woman's Board of Home Missions existed at that time, with special objects for women's societies under its care, the newly organized society pledged itself to contribute the sum of \$250 annually toward the salary of a Home Mission Pastor in some field in the West with whom the Society should be in correspondence and who should be known as its Missionary.

After consultation with the officers of the Board of Home Missions, Rev. J. F. Watkins was accepted as the representative, he being the pastor of a newly organized church in Weatherford, Texas, then on our far Southwestern frontier. Much interest was aroused in Mr. Watkins' work, and several valuable gifts were sent to the church among them a silver Communion Service, a Pulpit Bible, a Sabbath School library, and funds for repairs and improvements. The contributions to this church were continued for a number of years, and during the pastorates of several ministers who succeeded Mr. Watkins, but eventually changed conditions in the town made it seem advisable to discontinue the work, as the Southern Presbyterian Church was conducting a large and flourishing church, and the Board felt that other fields were in greater need of assistance.

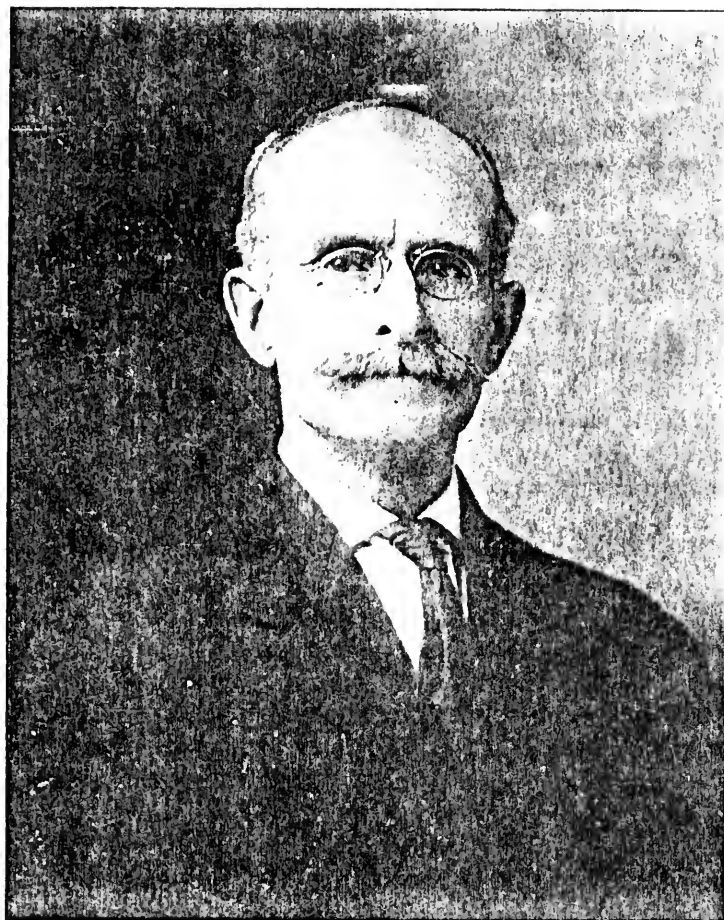
From Weatherford the Society transferred its interest and its gifts to a number of other fields, all equally in need of religious privileges. Churches in Kansas and in Indian Territory were assigned, and gifts sent to them, and also to two interesting churches in new towns in Dakota, one at Devil's Lake and the other at Parker, South Dakota. The support of Rev. T. B. Boughton at Parker was continued until the church became self-supporting. Very interesting and delightful relations existed between Mr. Boughton and the Society as his home before entering upon Home Mission work, had been in Troy, and on one or two occasions during visits to his former home, he was present at meetings, and gave much inspiration by his account of the encouraging work in which he was engaged.

As time passed, appeals reached the Society from the newly organized Woman's Executive Committee of Home Missions for objects to which they were pledged, and funds were appropri-

ated to assist them. The needs of the Mormons in Utah and the natives of Alaska being remembered in these gifts. In 1883 at the suggestion of the Board of Home Missions the Society decided to work through the Albany Presbyterian Society, then a new organization, still continuing the support of a Home Mission Pastor, but in addition contributing to the educational work carried on by the Woman's Board to which all other women's societies were auxiliary.

After some years, the general reorganization of the work of the Boards made necessary an entire change in the methods of the Society. All salaries were then assumed by the Assembly Board of Home Missions, and the educational work was assigned to the Woman's Board, working through the Presbyterian societies, and so reaching each individual church. From a desire loyally to co-operate with the policy outlined by the Board, the Society transferred its entire gifts to the mission schools under the care of the Albany Presbyterian Society, and they have since that time been proportionately divided between the salaries of teachers among the Mountaineers, Freedmen, Alaskans, Indians, Mormons, and Porto Ricans.

During each year of its history work of a philanthropic character has been done, such as the sending of boxes and barrels of clothing and household comforts to needy ministers, some in the far western part of our country and others in destitute sections of this State, and frequently large boxes of clothing, books and toys to mission schools under the care of the Board. Several times furnishings for rooms in new buildings erected for educational work have been supplied. A room in the Normal and Collegiate Institute at Asheville, North Carolina bears the name of Jennie Van Duzen Holmes, having been furnished and named for the wife of Rev. John McClellan Holmes, D. D.; and at the Mary Potter School at Oxford, North Carolina, a room in the Helen A. Wells building is a memorial to a beloved member of the Society, Miss Anna Pittman Erwin. Contributions have also been made at several different times to the teachers home at Embudo, New Mexico, which was erected by the Albany Presbyterian Society to commemorate its silver anniversary and named in honor of Miss Augusta H. Lockwood, for many years its efficient treasurer. The records of the Society show many



HENRY D. CARPENTER

SIXTON SINCE 1883

other gifts which space will not permit mentioning but all for extension of the cause of Christ in our land, or for the relief of the temporal needs of some faithful worker. Since its organization over \$15,000 has been contributed and the funds have been raised by the same method as that adopted by the Foreign Society, and have changed from time to time as conditions have demanded. At present the women of the Church very generally contribute to the work, and all are considered by virtue of their membership in the Church as members of the Missionary Society. It has been the aim of the Society since the beginning to share in whatever work has been suggested by the Boards and to be loyal to the policies outlined by them.

As the history of these years is reviewed the names of many devoted workers who have faithfully labored for the interests of the Society are recalled; but none with more affectionate regard than that of Miss Julia E. Van Vliet who for many years devoted the best energies of an unusually gifted nature to its work, and since she has passed to her reward, the memory of her beautiful life will long remain as an inspiration to all who knew of her devotion to the cause of missions both at home and abroad. Others have served in the capacity of president with loving and unselfish devotion, Mrs. I. V. W. Grant, its first president, Mrs. William T. Valentine, Mrs. Edward M. Carpenter and Mrs. Charles G. Sewall, its last president and who now holds the office of president of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Church, present conditions having led the officers to feel that the best interests of the work will be furthered by merging both Home and Foreign Societies into one organization whose object shall be the advancement of Christ's kingdom in every part of the world. H. M. C. B.

THE WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY

On the ninth day of April, in the year 1871 as a result of interest and enthusiasm aroused in connection with the departure of several missionaries for the African Field, a Society called the "Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church of Albany" was organized, The following day, April tenth, as an auxiliary to this Board, and authorized by the Session, the "Woman's Foreign Mission-

ary Society of the State St. Presbyterian Church," began its existence. The president was Mrs. Daniel J. Pratt, and the missionaries to whose support the Society contributed, were the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Stocking of Urumia, Persia, whose daughter Miss Anna W. Stocking, represents our "Woman's Presbyterial Society" in that country at the present time. Later Mrs. James T. Bassett became the missionary at Urumia, and in 1874 the Society assumed the support of Farrha Haddad, one of a class of three girls graduated from the Seminary at Beirut who were the first women to receive a diploma in Syria. Farrha Haddad became a teacher in that institute, and represented the interests of the Society there until the year 1890, when the Seminary becoming practically self-supporting, the money subscribed for her salary was devoted to the general work of the Board.

In 1879 Mrs. Bassett having been obliged to return to this country, Miss Emily Gordon Bird was chosen as the Society's representative abroad. Miss Bird was the daughter of the late Rev. William and Sarah Gordon Bird, of Abeih, Syria, and was especially fitted by inheritance and education for the work to which she so nobly gave her life. For thirty-one years, the women of the State Street Church have kept in sympathy with her work, as one and another have received her kindly messages while with a charm peculiarly her own she brought them in close touch with their sisters in far away Lebanon. Through her influence in 1881 the "Band of Earnest Workers" under the leadership of Miss E. Estelle Haight was formed among the young girls of the Church, and encouraged by her example and deep personal interest, has done most efficient work in the educating of girls in the Syrian schools. This band celebrated its silver anniversary in 1906. Miss Bird was called to higher service August 14, 1910. We cannot think of her as dead, for, "in the way of righteousness is life, and in the pathway thereof there is no death."

In 1879 Mrs. Pratt was succeeded as president of the Society by Mrs. I. V. W. Grant, who remained in office two years. Mrs. Helen K. McHarg was then elected in 1881 and continued president until 1887.

In 1886 the Woman's Presbyterian Foreign Missionary Society of Northern New York, having pledged \$3,000 for the erection of Mission buildings in the Island of Hainan, a number of shares were taken by this Society and issued at the rate of twenty-five cents a piece. As a result the sum of fifty dollars was contributed to this object. The Society then decided to assume the salary of Rev. Mr. Jeremiassen, the native pastor at Hainan, and continued this support for several years.

In 1887 Mrs. Archibald McClure was elected president and continued as such until 1896.

The following have held the office of president during the succeeding years:

Mrs. Helen K. McHarg.....	1896-98
Mrs. Baxter T. Smelzer.....	1898-01
Mrs. John J. Lawrence.....	1901-05
Miss Emma Van Denburg.....	1905-09
Mrs. Robert C. James.....	1909-11
Mrs. Charles G. Sewall.....	1911-

During the first twelve years of the Society's existence the money required for carrying on the work, was raised by dividing the congregation into bands, a collector being appointed for each band, so that every woman connected with the Church was given an opportunity of contributing to the work. In 1883 the plan suggested "that our subscriptions take the form of a free-will offering, and be deposited in the missionary boxes placed at the entrance of the Church" was carried out, and has continued to be the plan until the present time, with but one innovation in 1905, when a number of our women pledged themselves to monthly subscriptions, and envelopes were furnished, in which these offerings are placed and deposited in the boxes near the vestibule doors. The amount contributed by this Society during the forty years of its existence, amounts approximately to the sum of \$17,000.

At the last annual meeting held March 11, 1911, it was decided to unite the Home and Foreign Societies, under the broader title of "The Woman's Missionary Society of the State Street Presbyterian Church" and the earnest desire of all connected with the Society is that these united forces may "in His

name" accomplish still more efficient work in the great cause of missions. E. F. J.

THE WOMAN'S GUILD

The Woman's Guild has nearly completed its first decade, having been organized in December, 1901.

The presidents who have directed its work are the following:

Mrs. Arthur L. Andrews,
 Mrs. Arthur W. Elting,
 Mrs. DeWitt C. Slingerland,
 Mrs. William McDonald,
 Mrs. James F. McKown.

The past presidents each served for two terms, and the present incumbent, Mrs. McKown, has just been elected to her third term. Since its organization the Guild has distributed thousands of garments to the needy, the number sent out during the year just closed being 321, of which 142 were made by the Guild and 179 were from the "Emergency Box." Valuable aid has also been rendered to families in sickness and distress.

The money contributed to the Guild since its organization amounts to \$1,119.96, of which \$947.94 has been disbursed.

"Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of the least of these, ye did it unto Me."

THE MEN'S CLUB

The Men's Club was organized on February 19, 1907, as the "Brotherhood of the State St. Presbyterian Church of Albany," its object being to promote a spirit of good fellowship and mutual improvement among the men of the Church. Its first officers were:

Gardner C. Leonard, president;
 Albert M. Reed, vice-president;
 Noel S. Bennett, secretary, and
 Benjamin R. Hoff, treasurer.

The meetings are held monthly from October to May, usually in the Session room, but sometimes in the houses of the members.

Very many instructive and entertaining lectures and talks, often illustrated by lantern slides, have been given, both by

outsiders and by members, the initial one being "A Cruise in the Mediterranean," by Rear-Admiral Strong.

The Club also, in the summer of 1909, raised the sum of \$350 for the Vacation School which was carried on in conjunction with the Men's Club of the Emanuel Baptist Church.

Its later presidents have been: Albert M. Reed, Albert H. Moore and Kenneth C. Ogden.

THE FLOWER COMMITTEE

For many years it has been the custom to place fresh flowers in the pulpit on the Sabbath. The funds for their purchase were formerly provided by the Trustees, and frequently by individuals, one member of the Church at one time generously donating the amount regularly for a number of years. They are now contributed by members of the congregation. The work was done by groups of the young people, sometimes known as the "Flower Committee." The present one was organized in 1909, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Wm. B. Aspinwall, with an enrollment of twenty-five young lady members, who, each in turn, take supervision of the arranging of the flowers for the pulpit and of their distribution among the sick of the congregation.

On the occasion of the Lincoln Centenary Celebration, in February, 1909, this Committee presented to the Church a large and beautiful American flag, which gracious courtesy was appreciated, and the flag has been used for decorative purposes upon several patriotic and social occasions.

MINISTERS OF THE STATE STREET PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH, 1861 to 1911

	Installed	Dismissed
Rev. Alexander S. Twombly.....	June 22, 1862	Jan. 16, 1867
Rev. George C. Heckman, D. D.....	Feb. 12, 1868	Sept. 2, 1870
Rev. John James, D. D.....	July 11, 1871	Jan. 2, 1877
Rev. John McClellan Holmes, D. D....	June 3, 1877	Nov. 29, 1897
Rev. John J. Lawrence.....	Oct. 4, 1898	Dec. 11, 1906
Rev. Charles G. Sewall.....	May 16, 1907	

ELDERS OF THE STATE STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
1861 TO 1911

	Ordained or installed	Dismissed or ceased to act	Died while in office
Walter R. Bush.....	Mar. 28, 1861	Apr. 6, 1874	
David Murray.....	" " "	Jan. 5, 1864	
Austin H. Wells.....	" " "	May 6, 1864	
James H. McClure.....	Mar. 20, 1864	Jan. 5, 1867	
James M. Horton.....	" " "	Apr. 17, 1866	
Edward P. Durant.....	Jan. 21, 1867		July 28, 1892
James Erwin.....	" " "		Mar. 4, 1899
Henry L. Dickerman.....	Jan. 3, 1869		Mar. 16, 1903
Archibald McClure, Jr.....	" " "		Dec. 4, 1888
Daniel J. Pratt.....	" " "		Sept. 12, 1884
Josiah H. Gilbert.....	Mar. 2, 1873	{ Feb. 6, 1901 Excused from active duty }	
Benjamin B. Merchant.....	" " "		Aug. 20, 1903
Whiting G. Snow.....	" " "	Feb. 13, 1880	
Fletcher Barber.....	Jan. 27, 1889		Sept. 16, 1905
Edward M. Carpenter.....	" " "		June 18, 1907
Daniel Leonard.....	" " "	{ Dec. 4, 1903 Excused from active duty }	
Nathan B. Perry.....	" " "		Mar. 29, 1901 Excused from active duty
Horatio N. Snow.....	" " "		July 24, 1901
Samuel Templeton.....	" " "		Nov. 18, 1893
Edward A. Groesbeck.....	Mar. 10, 1899		
Robert C. James.....	" " "		
Edgar C. Leonard.....	" " "		
George S. Munson.....	" " "		
Augustus S. Brandow.....	Mar. 23, 1902		
Edwin W. Ober.....	" " "		
William H. McClure.....	" " "		Jan. 26, 1905
DeWitt C. Slingerland.....	" " "		
Norman S. Hoff.....	Apr. 20, 1902		
Daniel L. Markle.....	Nov. 29, 1908		
Thomas D. James.....	" " "		
Henry P. Warren.....	" " "		
Leonard W. Hatch.....	" " "		

DEACONS OF THE STATE STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
1861 TO 1911

	Ordained or installed	Dismissed or ceased to act	Died while in office
James H. McClure	Mar. 28, 1861	{ Mar. 20, 1864 } To Eldership	
Edward P. Durant	Mar. 20, 1864	{ Jan. 21, 1867 } To Eldership	
Levi S. Gates	Jan. 21, 1867	July 3, 1868	
Edgar Cotrell	Jan. 3, 1869	April 14, 1877	
Nathan B. Perry	" " "	{ Jan. 27, 1889 } To Eldership	
Joseph Henry Snow	" " "	June 7, 1874	
Edward M. Carpenter	Mar. 2, 1873	{ Jan. 27, 1889 } To Eldership	
Isaac V. W. Grant	" " "		Nov. 7, 1881
Arthur L. Andrews	Jan. 27, 1889	{ Nov. 8, 1908 } Resigned	
Guilford D. Burdick	" " "		May 10, 1908
William H. McClure	" " "	{ Mar. 23, 1902 } To Eldership	
John Templeton	" " "		Jan. 20, 1890
Clarence Valentine	" " "	{ Nov. 8, 1908 } Resigned	
Robert C. James	" " "	{ Mar. 10, 1899 } To Eldership	
Dewitt C. Slingerland	Mar. 10, 1899	{ Mar. 23, 1902 } To Eldership	
De. Baun Van Aken	" " "	Mar. 29, 1901	
Wm. D. Macfarlane	Mar. 23, 1902		Jan. 13, 1910
Guy D. Hills	" " "	Apr. 30, 1909	
Jason S. Bedell	" " "		
Daniel L. Markle	" " "	{ Nov. 29, 1908 } To Eldership	
Gardner C. Leonard	Nov. 29, 1908		
Wm. H. Fillmore	" " "		
Charles C. DeRouville	" " "		
Albert M. Reed	" " "		
Charles P. Brate	" " "		

TRUSTEES OF THE STATE STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
1860 TO 1911

	Date of entering upon the office		Date of entering upon the office
Richard J. Grant	Oct. 16, 1860	D. D. T. Charles	Oct. 7, 1873
John S. Putnam	" " "	Alden Leonard	Oct. 20, 1874
David Murray	" " "	Wm. T. Valentine	Oct. 19, 1875
Robert L. Johnson	" " "	S. Palmateer	Nov. 7, 1876
Thomas Olcott	" " "	Charles Bridge	Oct. 16, 1877
Archibald McClure, Jr.	" " "	Horatio N. Snow	Oct. 28, 1879
Charles G. Clark	" " "	Fletcher Barber	Oct. 19, 1880
James Williamson	" " "	Louis Dietz	Nov. 13, 1883
Richard M. Strong	" " "	Rufus H. King	Oct. 18, 1884
Charles D. Rathbone	Oct. - 1861	Wm. K. Templeton	Oct. 19, 1886
Jacob Van Derzee	Oct. 9, 1862	Wm. H. McClure	Oct. 15, 1889
Wm. J. White	Oct. 9, 1863	Daniel Leonard	Oct. 13, 1891
John C. McClure	" " "	Robert W. Shannon	Oct. 11, 1892
James Wilson	" " "	Robert Olcott	Feb. 4, 1898
Albert M. Brumaghim	" " "	George S. Munson	Nov. 15, 1898
Charles H. Strong	" " "	Clifford D. Gregory	Dec. 13, 1899
Jeremiah Austin, 2d.	Oct. 8, 1864	Clarence Valentine	Oct. 9, 1900
Edgar Cotrell	" " "	Arthur L. Andrews	Oct. 15, 1901
Jeremiah Whitehead	Oct. 9, 1866	Frank C. Herrick	Oct. 21, 1902
James A. Whitney	Dec. 19, 1866	Theodore H. Waterman	" " "
Nathan B. Perry	Oct. 8, 1867	Peter Kinnear	Oct. 10, 1904
John G. Myers	Oct. 9, 1869	Daniel C. Bennett	Oct. 20, 1905
Stephen Munson	Oct. 11, 1870	Edgar C. Leonard	" " "

SUPERINTENDENTS OF THE STATE STREET PRESBY-
TERIAN CHURCH SABBATH SCHOOL, 1861 TO 1911

	Term of office		Term of office
David Murray	1861-1863	Horatio N. Snow	1882-1891
James M. Horton	1863-1865	Arthur L. Andrews	1891-1892
Archibald M. Gibson	1865-1866	De Baun Van Aken	1892-1897
Archibald McClure, Jr.	1866-1871	Edgar C. Leonard	1897-1902
Benjamin B. Merchant	1871-1875	Charles Irving Oliver	1902-1906
Fred W. Munson	1875-1877	Thomas D. James	1906-1910
Daniel J. Pratt	1877-1882	Albert P. Mills	1910-....

ORGANISTS AND PRECENTORS, STATE STREET PRESBY-
TERIAN CHURCH, 1861 TO 1911

Organists	Precentors
1861 Charles H. Strong, who served gratuitously	1861 Archd. M. Gibson, who served gratuitously
1863 Levi S. Gates	1867 Edwin Tracy
1866 Mr. McKown	1870 Thomas G. Christie
1867 Levi S. Gates	1871 Jesse B. Wooley
1868 Edward Graves	1881 Alex. S. Thompson
1873 Frank Van Derzee	1882 John V. Burr
1890 Miss Nellie Veeder	1890 George E. Knowles
1890 Miss Irene Embler	1891 George R. Underhill
1891 John C. Miller	1898 Miss Gardiner, solo singer
1894 Ferdinand Duncley	1900 O. A. Robertson, cornet player
1896 J. Austin Springer	1902 Ben Franklin, solo singer
	1901 Wm. T. Wendell, cornet player
	1910 T. Le Roy Pickett, precentor and soloist
	Choristers, for Sabbath School
	1895 George Edgar Oliver
	1901 Ernest Livingston Miller

SEXTONS OF THE STATE STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
1861 TO 1911

1861 William B. Church	1877 William P. Wilson
1872 William McAuley	1883 Henry D. Carpenter

For more than half of the fifty years of the Church's history, Mr. Henry D. Carpenter has faithfully and efficiently performed the duties of his office, and, as a mark of esteem, the people of the Church presented him with a beautiful gold watch at the expiration of twenty-five years of his service.

Present Church Members

NAMES CHRONOLOGICALLY ARRANGED ACCORDING TO ADMISSION

1861

George C. Benedict

Daniel Leonard

1862

Elizabeth McClure, Mrs. Arch., Jr.,
Mary E. Valentine, Mrs. Wm. T.

Caroline Pladwell, Mrs. John
Ann Kinneer, Mrs. Peter

1863

Mary Louise Burdick

Harriet M. Carpenter, Mrs. E. M.

1864

Mary Bronson Church

Charlotte Radley (née Whitehead),
Mrs. J. S.

1865

Russell Lyman

1866

George H. Knowlton
Eleanor Knowlton

Jeremiah J. Austin
Abbie E. Gilbert, Mrs. J. H.

1867

Mary Augusta Lyman

Eugene R. Hartt

1868

Isabel Hare (née Armstrong), Mrs.
J. H.
Catharine B. J. McClure, Mrs. Wm. H.

Josephine R. Templeton (née Bur-
dick), Mrs. W. K.

1869

Eliza B. Grant, Mrs. I. V. W.
Susan I. Riggs, Mrs. Geo. C.
Alvaretta Schmidt (née Gorham),
Mrs. Bernard

Mary E. Fisk (née Merchant), Mrs.
F. H.
Kate A. Wing
Anna M. Heron, Mrs. J. H.
Edgar Pangburn

1870

Harriet H. Palmatier
Kate Palmatier
Harriet E. Prentice

Ella Bennett (née Sisson), Mrs. D. C.
Margaret Pierce (née Trainor), Mrs.
Jos.

1871

Robert C. James

1872

Emma Estelle Haight
George S. MunsonWilliam H. Gladding
Anna M. Wilson

1873

Cora E. Pangburn (née De Wille-
ger), Mrs. Edgar
Elizabeth ErwinJohn McNeil
Sarah McNeil, Mrs. J.

1874

Martha Bradt, Mrs. J. P.
Robert Conkey
Mary Jane Conkey, Mrs. R.
Emma Cook
Mary Fitch
Julia A. Gilbert
Isabella McAllister
Anna L. MitchellCornelia M. Fanning (née Murray),
Mrs. F.
Matthias Taylor
Clarence Valentine
Ida Fazackerly (née Haines), Mrs.
Thos., Jr.
Edwin W. Ober
Harriet A. Springham, Mrs. S.
Homer E. Vilas

1875

Mary Hillenbrandt (née Geisel),
Mrs. Joseph
Jane Gaffers
Elizabeth E. James, Mrs. Robert C.
John A. WeidmanCatherine Weidman, Mrs. J. A.
Elmira Clute, Mrs. John
Barbara Lawrence (née Face), Mrs.
Wm.
Anna La Grange

1876

Kate La Grange
Jane McCombe, Mrs. Jas.
Edgar C. Leonard
DeWitt C. SlingerlandLilly C. Slingerland, Mrs. D. C.
Margaret Sim (née Young), Mrs.
David

1877

Sarah A. Birch, Mrs. G. A.
Frank C. Fanning
Ann R. Kennedy, Mrs. Francis
Emma Kennedy
Mary L. Whitehead
Retta L. Blessing (née Whitehead),
Mrs. F. E.
Ella Lochner (née Henderer), Mrs.
G. P.
Ada Mitchell
Ella F. Gregory (née Appleton),
Mrs. C. D.Carrie L. Brainard (née Bruma-
ghim), Mrs. W. H.
Mary E. Capron, Mrs.
Abbie Gladding, Mrs. W. H.
Mary J. Matthews
Daniel C. Bennett
Frank H. Fisk
Lena Cook
Betsy McCombe (née Wilson), Mrs.
Jas., Jr.
Margaret Tierney (née Conkey),
Mrs. P. J.

1877

(Continued)

Mary L. Griffith, Mrs. E. H.
Clifford D. Gregory

Margaret A. Candlish (née Hilton),
Mrs. David

1878

Mary E. Goffe, Mrs. J. H.
James D. Palmatier
William H. Brainard
Carrie Cook
Lizzie Face
Julia R. Ward
David Sim
Lizzie D. Ogden (née Kinnear), Mrs.
Chas. G.

Magdalene L. Weir
Mary S. Munson (née Downing),
Mrs. G. S.
Beth C. Fuller (née Downing), Mrs.
Duncan McN.
Martha J. Van Duzer, Mrs. Samuel
Kate Stoneman
Mary L. Richman

1879

William B. Harris
Agnes Kilpatrick

Margaret Kilpatrick

1880

Robert Olcott
Arthur L. Andrews
Alice A. Andrews, Mrs. A. L.
Robert Flemming

Emma Williams (née McClure),
Mrs. C. P., Jr.
John Prentice Dodds

1881

Katharine A. McKown, Mrs. Jas. F.
Anna J. Blessing (née McKown),
Mrs. E. A.

Jemima Cruickshank (née Wilson),
Mrs. Jas.

1882

Charles E. Baker
Ida M. Baker, Mrs. C. E.
Mary C. Lord, Mrs. E. J.,
Mary Secor Markle, Mrs. Peter S.
Daniel L. Markle
Harriet Josephine Dodds
Justina Ensminger, Mrs.
Adele L. Dillenbeck (née Whitaker),
Mrs. G. V.

Harriet M. Brandow (née Carpen-
ter), Mrs. A. S.
Gardner C. Leonard
Jennie A. Bacon (née Mather), Mrs.
A. H.
Ella B. Phillips
Ellen Slingerland, Mrs. J. H.
Norman S. Hoff
Harriet M. Hoff, Mrs. N. S.

1883

Lizzie Dorwaldt (née Dinger), Mrs.
E. C.
Libbie A. Brate (née Rose), Mrs.
W. C.
Belle Sherman
Hector A. Flemming

Emma Mann, Mrs. P. H.
Henry McCulla
William A. Dodds
Eliza A. Deutschbein, Mrs. Jos.
Ann Laura Valentine, Mrs. C.

1884

Mary E. Carpenter, Mrs. H. D.
 Margaret McDonald, Mrs. D.
 Estelle M. Reid, Mrs. V. H.
 Annie W. Dubois (née Hill), Mrs.
 L. H.
 Sarah Hill

Harriet B. Kemsley (née Abbott),
 Mrs. J. E.
 Mary R. Brumaghim
 Isabella Cook Templeton
 Eva C. Vilas, Mrs. H. E.

1885

Margaret Elizabeth Abbott
 Juliette H. Burdick, Mrs. G. D.
 Mary Jones
 Mary L. Leonard
 Kate Norris
 Albert Rider
 Agnes M. Templeton

Eliza T. Murphy
 Kate E. DeRouville
 Mary J. Flemming (née Fotens),
 Mrs. R.
 Frances L. Graves, Mrs. A.
 Retta Reid (née Herman), Mrs. A.
 G.

1886

Robert W. Shannon
 Elsadie C. Shannon, Mrs. R. W.
 Rebecca J. Ham, Mrs. R. C.
 Ithamar Spencer
 Julia A. Spencer, Mrs. I.
 Harriet M. Heinmiller (née Spen-
 cer), Mrs. L. E.
 Mary L. Mead, Mrs. H. L.
 Charlotte P. Cole, Mrs. F. W.

Kittie Brainard (née Updegrove),
 Mrs. L.
 Chauncey P. Williams, Jr.
 Jennie B. Mayell (née Brooksby),
 Mrs. J.
 Ella V. A. Lyman, Mrs. Russell
 Caroline S. Van Loon (née Phillips),
 Mrs. A. B.
 Anna Sutherland

1887

Emeline Sisson Bennett
 Kate McC. De La Vergne, Mrs. R. L.
 Jennie M. Lawyer
 Annie Middleton
 Henry G. Nodine
 Anna Louise Gottschalk

Anna Louise Weidman
 Lillie E. Knapp (née Whish), Mrs.
 J. G.
 Jemima Leonard, Mrs. J.
 Harriet Bull, Mrs.
 Carrie J. Diamond, Mrs. W. H.

1888

John E. Shannon
 David Williamson
 George Flemming
 Mary Agnes Huver
 Emma Jane Lyon, Mrs. W. H.

Susan Oliver, Mrs. J. H.
 Anna M. Oliver
 William F. Antemann, Jr.
 Annie R. Robie (née Dubois), Mrs.
 G. R.

1889

Harriet Ellen Brandow
 Eliza W. Rudd (née Groesbeck),
 Mrs. W. J.
 Mame Hotaling

Elizabeth Leib, Mrs. Louis
 Mary C. Young (née Leib), Mrs.
 Bessie W. Morse (née Leonard),
 Mrs. Stanley

1889

(Continued)

Ella W. Mull (née Van Steenberg), Mrs. B. H.	John Hall Vint Tynie E. Van Derzee (née Vint), Mrs. W. S.
Augustus S. Brandow	Jemima Conkey, Mrs. W. J.
Emma A. Brumaghim, Mrs. J. M.	William H. Erwin
Jean T. Macfarlane, Mrs. W. D.	Hester V. W. Erwin, Mrs. W. H.
Archibald J. McClure	Grace M. Bedell (née Armatage), Mrs. J. S.
James Vint	Elizabeth C. Shaffer (née Bennett), Mrs. G.
Christina Vint, Mrs. J.	Emma H. Gilbert
Martha J. Vint	
Elizabeth S. Lochner (née Vint), Mrs. J. L.	

1890

Harriet R. Martineau	Lena L. Dansinger
Catherine Veeder, Mrs.	Elizabeth Myers
Theodore H. Waterman	Ella A. Norris, Mrs. H. B.
Benjamin R. Hoff	Bertha H. Lansing (née Wilson), Mrs. C. E.
Julia C. Hills, Mrs. W. R.	Anna G. Wood, Mrs. F. E.
Jean E. James	Lucretia Hungerford, Mrs. J.
Justina M. Ensminger	Cornelia Sutherland (née Hunger- ford), Mrs. D. M.
Lillian M. Estabrook (née Goffe), Mrs. W. R.	
Walter E. Baker	

1891

Maud V. Erwin	Caroline Hungerford, Mrs. Isaac
Bessie W. Leonard, Mrs. E. C.	Hattie A. Andrews
Harmon S. Patten	Mary Hewitt
Dorothea J. Patten, Mrs. H. S.	

1892

Harriet B. Palmatier	Elizabeth Kingsley Lamb
Hannah E. Williamson (née Mc- Culla), Mrs. J.	George R. Underhill
Chauncey W. Posson	Carrie C. Underhill, Mrs. G. R.
Elizabeth C. Posson, Mrs. C. W.	Cora Clark Lyon, Mrs. M. L.

1893

Charles Irving Oliver	Margaret W. Hoffman
Anna Girvin Branion	George Ireland
Charles Girvin	Susan Flemming
Carl R. Hoffman	Martha Cox Wetmore, Mrs. E. W.

1894

Minetta M. Kirkland, Mrs.	Clementina S. Montignani, Mrs. J. F.
Carrie Harris, Mrs. W. B.	Margaret Williamson, Mrs. D.

1894

(Continued)

Mabel Down MacCormack	Bertha W. Haskell (née Groesbeck), Mrs. C.
Lula Ann Wooley	Edward Center Groesbeck (L. 1911)
Edward A. Groesbeck	Mary Alice Featherly
Letitia Groesbeck, Mrs. E. A.	Albert M. Reed

1895

Mary E. Knowlton	James Ramsey McBride
Effie Jane Ranney (née Reid), Mrs.	Margaret Sipple, Mrs. E.
Alice E. White	Margaret Sipple
Nellie Leslie White	Clarence M. Zeh
Elizabeth Emeline Brown, Mrs. W. J.	Lottie S. Eagan (née Zeh), Mrs. Chas.
Jennie E. Brown	Hester McChesney
Edward Christian Dorwaldt	
Charles E. Lansing	

1896

Hester Winnie	Mary M. La Grange, Mrs. A.
Catherine E. DeRouville, Mrs. John	Carrie Muckridge, Mrs.
Mary Ferguson	Lucy T. Smelzer, Mrs. B. T.
William H. Fillmore	Jason S. Bedell
Jennie D. Fillmore, Mrs. W. H.	C. C. B. Holroyd, Mrs. Simeon
Aurelia Aspinwall (née Hyde), Mrs. Wm. B.	Melville W. Dorn
Franc S. Knapp (née McCombe), Mrs. F. C.	Mabel Dorn
Dora Springham	Grace Dorn
Sarah Barker	George S. DeRouville
Maria Hawley (née Guthrie), Mrs. H. R.	Lillie May LaRose (née Graves), Mrs. A. W.
	Samuel G. Schreiner
	Mary F. Schreiner, Mrs. S. G.

1897

Henry P. Warren	Mary Louise Gallup (née Burdick), Mrs. E. H.
Anna L. Warren, Mrs. H. P.	Georgiana S. McDonald (née Hunt), Mrs. F.
Constance Warren	Janet Noble, Mrs. J.
Jettie Louise Moore (née Ensminger), Mrs. Chas. S.	Charles Austin Peck
Julia A. Fleming, Mrs.	Myra E. Peck
William J. Rudd	J. Austin Springer
Anna E. Knapp (née Sim), Mrs. A. J.	Olive G. Springer, Mrs. J. A.
Sarah E. Blickfeldt (née McNeil), Mrs. J. H.	

1898

Hester A. Carpenter	Mary Walker, Mrs. A.
George G. Underhill	

1899

Katharine E. Wirshing (née Gottschalk), Mrs. C. W.	Bessie May Fanning
Mary Etta Seddon (née Hill), Mrs. R. C.	Maud Hotaling
Samuel C. McNeill	Margaret C. Thom, Mrs. Robt.
Henry B. Norris	Jessie May Thom
Louis A. Palmatier	Helen M. Degenaar (née Thom), Mrs. H. H.
James Stanley Robinson	Caroline Slocum (née Wasserbach), Mrs. C. M.
Eleanor M. Bennett	Leonard W. Hatch
Florence Estelle Thorn (née Fazackerly). Mrs. R. P.	Jennie M. Hatch, Mrs. L. W.
Ella DeRouville (née Spawn), Mrs. W. C.	Christina Williams, Mrs. B.
	May Moore (née Williams), Mrs. J. M.

1900

Harold F. Andrews	Mary J. Smith (née McCulla), Mrs. E. H. H.
Mabel Stephens (née Crouse), Mrs. G. S.	Elizabeth W. McComber
Appleton Gregory	Sarah E. Ventor
Elizabeth Mitchell, Mrs. E. J.	James W. Williams
Kenneth C. Ogden	Ann Coulter
Goldsmith C. Stephens	Laura E. Byron (née Ensminger), Mrs. H.
Grace V. A. Waterman, Mrs. Theo.	Martha Kearsing (née McFarland), Mrs. E.
Wm. Van Antwerp Waterman (L. 1910)	Vestina Jane Andrews
Harriet Roma Green	Marguerite H. Hartt
Harold F. Hovey	Joseph V. S. Morrison
Ronald Kinnear	Dorothy Waterman
Elizabeth Laible	

1901

Louis E. Heinmiller	Alfred J. Lussier
Grace Ensminger	John Wesley Haywood
Carrie Wooley	Sarah M. Haywood, Mrs. J. W.
Abbie Bell (née Chapin), Mrs. H. S.	Adelaide L. Haywood
Ernest D. Jansen	Grace E. Haywood
James McCombe	Nellie M. Haywood
Ella Fredith Norris	Mabel Welch (née Hotaling), Mrs.
Thyra I. Toren	Anna C. Heinmiller, Mrs. H.

1902

Gladys Abbott	Wilhelmina McLane (née Brown), Mrs. I. E.
Henry Lewis Graef	Bessie D. Austin (née Erwin), Mrs. A. H.
Emma C. Graef, Mrs. H. L.	Charlotte M. Fisher
John Myers Taylor	
Emma E. Vandenberg	

1902

(Continued)

Carrie Franklin, Mrs. H. Bertha Thom
 Natalie Green

1903

Adelaide V. Van Wormer (née Samuel Warren
 Bauer), Mrs. W. H. Jr. Louise B. Diamond
 Edna Christine Bauer Mary Child
 Harriet A. Flansburgh Agnes E. Jansen, Mrs. E. D.
 Lora A. Rose, Mrs. R. J. Ida McDonald, Mrs. Wm.
 George E. Deutschbein Grace Mabel Rider, Mrs. Albert
 Hazel Wright (née Hutchinson), Bessie I. Loucks
 Mrs. F. M. Schuyler McC. Martin
 Margaret I. Hutchinson Wilbur Taylor-Roberts
 Gertrude J. Hutchinson, Mrs. C. E. Margaret Cook (née Springham),
 Thomas D. James Mrs. W. A.
 Agnes Park James, Mrs. T. D. Jean Mitchell, Mrs.
 Everett M. Kirkland Louis Smurl

1904

Sarah L. Palmatier Charlotte Brate
 Freda Robinson Carl E. Anderson
 Gertrude C. Valentine Carrie Cole, Mrs. A. K.
 William T. Wendell Jessie G. Cole
 Victoria Travers, Mrs. J. J. Charles C. DeRouville
 Kathryn M. Denegar Eleanor F. DeRouville, Mrs. C. C.
 Julia C. Herrick William C. Herrick
 Emma M. Kattrein Esther B. Mayer (née Hoy), Mrs.
 Ethel A. Patten W. T.
 Dorothy L. Warren Helen Craig James
 Charles F. Toren Helen Marguerite James
 Laura B. Hendrickson Eleanor Lyman
 Peter Kinnear Archibald B. Wheeler
 James A. Norris Lois E. Wands, Mrs. R. J.
 John M. Johnson Lois Edmonds Wands
 Mary W. Johnson, Mrs. J. M. Gertrude Gladys Wands
 Charles P. Brate Margaret Ireland
 M. Frances Brate, Mrs. C. P.

1905

John A. McCormick Edward C. Dorwaldt
 Agnes L. McCormick, Mrs. J. A. Laura B. Hiller
 Elizabeth H. Anderson, Mrs. W. E. Helen M. Lawyer
 Henry D. Carpenter Kathryn A. Lawyer
 Emily Crouse, Mrs. James McCombe, Jr.
 Fennie Crouse Robert W. Shannon, 2d
 Carl E. Dorwaldt

1905

(Continued)

Elizabeth B. Nelson (née Young), Mrs. C. A.	Carroll J. Waddell
Maud Belcher	Mary C. Waddell, Mrs. R. J.
Alice P. Hicks (née Robinson), Mrs. C. J.	Annie M. Hovey, Mrs.
Emily J. Scoles, Mrs.	Ruth Woolworth Leonard
Josephine Dunlap Mahon	Katharine Leonard
	Sarah L. Osterhoudt

1906

Mary Bailey	Ruth E. Waterman
Charles F. Brate	William H. Franklin
Milton B. Crouse	Sarah A. Leavitt
Sarah E. Crouse, Mrs. M. B.	Isaac D. Worrall
Henry J. Crawford	Emma Stuart Worrall, Mrs. I. D.
Mabel A. Crawford, Mrs. H. J.	William B. Eddy
LeRoy M. Fanning	George R. Eddy
Blodwen C. Jones	Grace S. Leonard, Mrs. G. C.
Edna M. Lynk	Mary E. Van Order
Beth D. Munson	Alfred J. Lussier
Minnie M. Robinson	Philomena Lussier, Mrs. A. J.
Frank N. Slingerland	John I. Lussier
Eva A. Schoonmaker	John Dalton James
Samuel H. Taylor	Frank J. Palmatier
Harriet Griswold Taylor, Mrs. S. H.	Bessie Anderson Roosa, Mrs. P. G.
Arthur E. Vilas	

1907

Stewart H. Burnham	Jane Miller (née Cruickshank), Mrs.
Alfred Hoyt Austin	J. F.
Edith M. Hotaling	Anna Cruickshank
Mabel E. Carpenter, Mrs. C. B.	Margaret Knapp McCarthy, Mrs.
Annie E. Newell	J. J.
Joan Montignani Rezzemini, Mrs. L. J.	Kate Strong Sewall, Mrs. C. G.
Arthur M. Wright	Lulu S. Lipes, Mrs. H. J.
Ellen Reynolds Wright, Mrs. A. M.	Isabella Newell
Margaret I. Black	Charlotte Mayberry (née Perry), Mrs. T.
	Emma L. Dansinger, Mrs. R.

1908

Mildred E. Bauer	Susan O. Giffen
Gladys M. Chapman	Helen D. Lawrence
Harvey N. Earing	Harriet M. Patten
Evan Edwards	Franklin F. Schimpf
Ella Erickson	Alida DeR. Schimpf, Mrs. F. F.
Marion F. Fleming	Gertrude A. Schimpf

1908

(Continued)

Alfred I. Schimpf	Rebecca C. McLeish
Helen M. Shepard	Edward Springstead
Amy M. Toren	Arabella S. Springstead, Mrs. E.
Albert M. Sachs	Clara Bell Springstead
Henry P. Warren, Jr.	Grace W. W. Reed, Mrs. A. M.
Ida J. Anstead	Albert H. Moore
Mildred C. Earing, Mrs. H. N.	Mabel B. Moore, Mrs. A. H.
Julia B. Brown, Mrs. W.	Violet M. Haggart, Mrs. C. N.
Henry J. Noerling	Margaret L. Campbell, Mrs.
Cecil N. Haggart	Mary J. Campbell
Charlotte M. Lawrence, Mrs. J. D.	Margaret S. Campbell
Helen L. Conyne	Jessie McF. Patterson
Mildred W. DeTiere	Mary L. Hermann
Joseph T. Pierce	Minnie S. Boice, Mrs. E. L.
Alexander T. Pierce	Sarah H. Johnson, Mrs. W. H.
Robert J. Rose	Margaret Cruickshank
James L. Braman	Elsie M. Fowler
Elizabeth Gibb	Robert O. Armstrong
Margaret Hill	Mae Grube Armstrong, Mrs. R. O.
Albert P. Mills	Fennimore D. Beagle
Abram V. McHarg	Helen C. Beagle, Mrs. F. D.
Jeanie P. McLeish	Ada R. Wright, Mrs. J. W.

1909

Ida S. Brackman	Minnie R. Ferguson, Mrs. F. C.
Emilie E. Hoffman	Ellen G. Gibson
Jane L. Ogden	Samuel A. Strawbridge
William Duncan Macfarlane	Helen C. Bauer
Isabel C. Markle (née Colburn), Mrs. D. L.	Edward C. Brandow
William B. Aspinwall	Jennie B. Dodds
Arthur C. T. Gundlach	Gladys M. Hotaling
Louise M. Gundlach, Mrs. A. C. T	Anna W. Lansing
Edward M. Boice	Bessie M. Reed
Mary H. Pangburn, Mrs. J. S.	Bessie R. Springham
Charlotte Pangburn Reid, Mrs. J. H.	Mary E. Whish
Nina H. Lynk	Lillian Martin Whish, Mrs. J. D.
Frank C. Ferguson	Anna Charlotte Wittichen

1910

William Van Antwerp Waterman (see 1900)	Margaret G. Lawrence
Viola Pearl Sherrill	Clara I. Brewster
Edna A. Reeves (née DeTiere), Mrs. T. C.	Adam Alexander Walker
Anna B. Dickinson	Jessica Lockwood Walker, Mrs. A. A.
	Charles M. Lamb

1910

(Continued)

Emma Merrifield Lamb, Mrs. C. M.	Frederic M. Colvin
Adele Evelyn Lamb	Earl DeRouville
Raymond W. Hine	George E. DeRouville
Dorothy Brate	Ethel L. Lansing
Margaret Brate	Sarah A. Perry

1911

Charles S. Motisher	Emerson H. H. Smith
Edward H. Springsteed	Emilie Melvina Stillman
Holland B. Williams	Joseph R. Whitney
John Myers Gillespie	Erma Sumner Whitney, Mrs. J. R.
Ethel Webster Gillespie, Mrs. J. M.	Edward Center Groesbeck (see 1894)
Frank Huart	Samuel Newton Bacon
Rosalie Repson Huart, Mrs. F.	Catharine Mather Bacon
Maud Virginia Huart	Elizabeth Harlow Bacon
Helena Crum Mills, Mrs. A. P.	Charles Frederick Kosbob

“Oh, may we stand before the Lamb,
 When earth and seas are fled;
 And hear the Judge pronounce our name,
 With blessings on our head.”

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF ANNUAL REPORTS TO PRESBYTERY SINCE 1861, INCLUSIVE.

Date of report	Members received			Membership reported	Baptisms		Sabbath School membership	Funds contributed		
	On examination	By certificate	Total		Adults	Infants		Congregational	Benevolence	Total
1861		42	42	42						
1862	5	7	12	54	2		250	\$1,711	\$240	\$1,951
1863	15	44	59	111	5	13	475	9,845	818	10,663
1864	26	39	65	170	4	17	634	11,543	1,213	12,756
1865	26	15	41	211	9	9	700	9,072	2,014	11,086
1866	28	17	45	252	10	7	700	10,078	2,056	12,134
1867	24	16	40	251	3	10	612	7,571	1,832	9,403
1868	11	16	27	258	7	7	742	21,796	2,586	24,382
1869	25	27	52	296	10	7	915	9,638	6,166	15,804
1870	40	25	65	349	13	12	1,005	5,405	6,430	11,835
1871	26	25	51	388	8	7	1,027	5,390	10,046	15,436
1872	16	20	36	410	8	3	1,038	12,416	5,746	18,162
1873	30	26	56	411	9	3	1,067	12,653	5,762	18,415
1874	30	26	56	453	9	21	1,081	7,635	6,349	13,984
1875	66	43	109	526	29	10	938	10,879	8,372	19,251
1876	9	19	28	512	2	21	1,013	8,034	5,422	13,456
1877	49	20	69	533	19	19	937	7,709	9,661	17,370
1878	73	42	115	622	36	25	950	7,666	9,200	16,866
1879	28	37	65	658	13	29	966	7,313	7,350	14,663
1880	27	23	50	694	12	15	1,037	8,095	8,921	17,016
1881	26	30	56	734	3	12	992	11,145	11,728	22,873
1882	22	24	46	751	10	19	981	8,203	12,563	20,766
1883	34	20	54	762	10	14	804	7,440	13,376	20,816
1884	19	35	54	780	9	20	885	17,277	14,678	31,955
1885	35	21	56	807	16	18	890	10,249	15,038	25,287
1886	26	27	53	753	13	15	900	9,662	13,596	23,258
1887	33	18	51	769	14	18	907	12,576	20,564	33,140
1888	24	13	37	750	10	12	881	11,222	16,300	27,522
1889	41	24	65	770	14	21	845	10,802	14,910	25,712
1890	31	45	76	810	10	27	826	9,548	12,534	22,082
1891	43	13	56	840	25	25	771	10,138	18,051	28,189
1892	24	21	45	845	11	15	650	10,212	13,063	23,275
1893	12	16	28	840	4	20	660	9,588	17,151	26,739
1894	14	18	32	824	10	12	641	9,620	14,308	23,928
1895	15	13	28	818	7	20	622	9,697	11,784	21,481
1896	12	27	39	818	5	8	547	11,712	12,922	24,634
1897	15	18	33	819	3	9	531	10,131	14,350	24,481
1898	13	5	18	633	2	9	492	9,616	5,185	14,801
1899	11	3	14	606	2	5	503	8,323	6,133	14,456
1900	18	16	34	610	7	6	454	8,781	4,680	13,461
1901	21	5	26	612	6	6	407	9,634	5,068	14,702
1902	20	14	34	622	3	4	384	8,225	4,771	12,996
1903	12	4	16	573	4	4	320	7,834	4,912	12,746
1904	17	16	33	586	6	7	335	7,616	4,384	12,000
1905	23	19	42	606	3	5	335	8,399	4,998	13,397
1906	24	26	50	632	6	3	345	9,353	5,012	14,365
1907	9	11	20	598			320	9,860	4,286	14,146
1908	23	17	40	611	3	4	321	8,768	4,987	13,755
1909	13	24	37	620	2	5	312	9,895	5,171	15,066
1910	14	11	25	614	3	10	295	10,840	4,989	15,829
1911	16	16	32	633	1	10	290	10,161	5,151	15,312
	1,214	1,099	2,313		430	598		\$180,976	\$416,827	\$897,803

STATE STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SABBATH SCHOOL. ORGANIZED APRIL 7TH, 1861. STATISTICAL REVIEW OF 50 YEARS

Year ending April	Total number on roll	Attendance				Additions to church.	Deaths	Collections			
		Largest	Small-est	Average	Visitors			Total collections	For mission work	Largest	Small-est
1862	356	313	68	199		4	1	\$309 02	\$19 20	\$12 08	\$3 45
1863	540	518	101	344	No record.	6	.....	652 12	65 74	137 61	4 16
1864	610	573	63	427	No record.	28	3	911 15	8 00	116 10	3 16
1865	630	570	187	410	No record.	22	3	1,080 50	312 72	135 97	7 10
1866	735	599	111	410	No record.	12	5	1,055 36	507 21	134 58	8 15
1867	635	555	167	401	570	10	6	1,537 40	375 00	140 92	9 37
1868	765	647	169	457	640	14	5	1,372 53	726 13	101 43	10 00
1869	939	756	281	564	963	29	2	1,815 89	525 00	100 00	13 86
1870	1,005	849	270	575	802	4	4	1,475 21	525 00	110 00	4 10
1871	1,027	859	273	596	1,102	25	4	1,604 95	706 00	200 00	13 40
1872	1,038	864	231	593	1,167	23	3	1,418 41	450 00	150 00	16 03
1873	1,067	883	215	588	1,073	18	6	1,507 10	450 00	150 00	11 85
1874	1,084	856	214	617	1,158	36	1	1,552 37	541 30	156 30	16 29
1875	938	778	286	514	755	13	5	1,406 66	583 64	183 64	14 34
1876	1,013	715	169	531	779	6	10	1,352 35	500 00	200 00	12 56
1877	937	632	154	457	559	31	4	1,551 37	545 59	200 00	9 46
1878	937	665	266	485	536	40	8	1,522 18	447 48	209 67	9 07
1879	966	671	210	489	438	12	6	1,460 84	673 61	278 06	7 24
1880	1,037	686	208	500	457	20	8	1,533 43	588 33	278 33	7 47
1881	992	663	218	479	428	7	3	1,594 02	579 53	266 53	6 25
1882	981	646	185	581	228	16	4	1,628 77	688 47	251 42	6 73
1883	804	600	158	440	161	21	8	1,656 89	752 24	231 85	6 79
1884	885	677	205	496	172	12	7	1,631 02	693 50	222 56	7 29
1885	890	653	151	480	140	27	5	1,673 94	685 00	250 00	7 31
1886	904	682	154	489	261	21	10	2,024 20	731 68	265 08	8 23
1887	907	707	158	496	184	22	2	2,403 04	1,115 17	267 30	7 43
1888	881	650	159	460	152	13	4	1,873 53	845 40	275 03	7 67
1889	851	621	115	466	116	28	8	2,138 65	1,009 23	300 00	5 32
1890	826	578	166	429	135	27	1	2,060 96	949 44	300 00	6 25
1891	771	565	130	419	98	21	5	2,119 95	989 70	300 00	4 65
1892	650	512	119	398	188	13	.....	3,055 62	1,005 43	230 00	4 10
1893	660	506	56	366	245	14	.....	1,964 21	940 00	157 36	3 25
1894	641	450	100	341	176	10	.....	1,588 50	731 57	213 57	4 20
1895	622	494	92	332	123	9	.....	1,638 08	764 00	200 00	3 10
1896	547	403	103	295	172	7	.....	1,565 81	748 50	283 60	3 82
1897	531	391	81	276	152	9	.....	1,488 74	597 00	200 00	3 49
1898	492	403	96	282	536	15	.....	1,762 90	570 17	218 59	3 08
1899	506	388	69	265	783	8	.....	1,420 36	561 85	24 78	7 0
1900	454	336	50	240	459	17	.....	1,157 18	381 00	57 27	1 49
1901	420	306	50	231	310	24	.....	1,355 47	636 93	38 25	1 31
1902	384	281	56	214	232	20	.....	1,070 00	360 00	29 50	2 36
1903	331	255	82	209		11	.....	918 03	269 38	11 52	2 88
1904	335	229	74	203		22	.....		266 61	13 62	3 00
1905	337	233	137	209		19	.....		302 32	23 36	39
1906	345	255	13	205		12	.....		394 41	13 83	6 66
1907	325	249	85	196	No record.	1	.....		538 27	9 74	2 07
1908	*450	.....	.....	191	No record.	19	.....		*473 59	51 38	3 58
1909	*487	.....	.....	197	No record.	10	.....		*598 33	40 61	4 18
1910	*476	.....	.....	184	No record.	10	.....		*660 45	46 33	3 77
1911	*480	.....	.....	180	No record.	11	.....		*627 42	36 74	4 10

* Includes Home Department.

ORGANIZATIONS AND OFFICERS, 1911

THE PASTOR.—Rev. Charles G. Sewall. Residence, 73 Willett Street.

THE MISSIONARY—Miss Jean E. James, Dehra Dun, U. P. India.

THE SESSION—Augustus S. Brandow, Edward A. Groesbeck, Leonard W. Hatch, Norman S. Hoff, Robert C. James, Thomas D. James, Edgar C. Leonard, Daniel L. Markle, George S. Munson, Edwin W. Ober, DeWitt C. Slingerland, Henry P. Warren. Clerk of Session, Edwin W. Ober; Treasurer of the session, Thomas D. James.

THE DEACONS—Jason S. Bedell, Charles P. Brate, Charles C. De Rouville, William H. Fillmore, Gardner C. Leonard, Albert M. Reed.

THE TRUSTEES—Arthur L. Andrews, Daniel C. Bennett, Clifford D. Gregory, Frank C. Herrick, Peter Kinnear, Edgar C. Leonard, George S. Munson, Robert Olcott, Clarence Valentine. Treasurer of the Trustees, Clarence Valentine; pew committee, Messrs. Andrews, Leonard, Munson and Valentine.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL—Superintendent, Albert P. Mills; secretary, Le Roy M. Fanning; treasurer, Edwin W. Ober; librarian, Isaac D. Worrall; primary superintendent, Miss Josephine D. Mahon; kindergarten class, Miss Sara L. Palmatier; cradle roll, Miss Elizabeth K. Lamb. Home Department Superintendent, Mrs. Isaac D. Worrall.

THE WOMAN'S HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY—President, Mrs. Charles G. Sewall; vice-president, Mrs. Wm. B. Aspinwall; recording secretary, Miss Elizabeth K. Lamb; treasurer, Miss Elizabeth Myers; corresponding secretary, Miss Josephine D. Mahon; secretary of literature, Mrs. A. H. Moore.

THE WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY—President, Mrs. Robert C. James; vice-president, Mrs. I. D. Worrall; recording secretary, Mrs. Baxter T. Smelzer; treasurer, Miss Elizabeth Myers; corresponding secretary, Mrs. A. S. Brandow; secretary of literature, Mrs. A. H. Moore.

THE WOMEN'S GUILD—President, Mrs. J. F. McKown; vice-president, Mrs. Arthur W. Elting; secretary, Mrs. E. A. Blessing; treasurer, Miss Sarah L. Osterhoudt.

THE MEN'S CLUB—President, A. H. Moore; vice-president, Kenneth C. Ogden; secretary, George S. DeRouville; treasurer, Ronald Kinnear.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR—Vice-president, Miss Sara Palmatier; treasurer, Edward M. Boice; corresponding secretary, Miss Lena L. Dansinger; recording secretary, Miss Marion Gardner; congressman, A. Hoyt Austin; pianist, J. Austin Springer.

THE EARNEST WORKERS—Chairman, Miss Gladys Abbott; secretary, Miss Susie O. Giffen; treasurer, Miss Ethel A. Patten.

THE HELPER'S CIRCLE, KING'S DAUGHTERS—Leader, Miss Mary J. Matthews; secretary, Miss Harriet H. Palmatier; treasurer, Miss Jane E. Abbott.

THE KNIGHTS OF KING ARTHUR—King, Joseph Deutschbein; sentinel, Edward Brandow; constable, Earl DeRouville; seneschal, Edward Boice; Marquis of New York, Harold F. Andrews.

THE FLOWER COMMITTEE—Chairman, Mrs. William B. Aspinwall.

THE USHERS—The Board of Deacons, assisted by Wm. B. Aspinwall, A. Hoyt Austin, Robert T. Flemming, Earl H. Gallup, Ronald Kinnear, James McCombe, A. H. Moore, Walter McCulloh, Henry J. Noerling, Kenneth C. Ogden, Alexander T. Pierce, Joseph T. Pierce, Albert Rider, Adam A. Walker.

THE SEXTON—Henry D. Carpenter, 187 Lancaster Street. (The Church Telephone H. R. 1980-J Main.)

THE MUSICIANS—Organist, J. Austin Springer; precentor, L. LeRoy Pickett.

CALENDAR OF SERVICE AND MEETINGS

SUNDAY SERVICES

Morning Worship, 10:30 a. m.

Kindergarten Class of the Sunday School, 10:30 a. m.

Sunday School and Bible Classes, 12:00 m.

Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, 7:00 p. m.

Evening Worship, 7:45 p. m.

The Lord's Supper is observed on the first Sunday of February, April, June, October and December, at the Morning Service, preceded by a Communicant's Prayer-meeting at 10:00 o'clock. Infants may be presented for baptism in the Church at any Communion Season, or at other times and places by appointment with the Pastor.

Church Prayer Meeting, each Friday at 8:00 o'clock.

The Session meets on the Wednesday evening preceding each Communion, to confer with candidates for Church membership, and for the transaction of business. Other meetings are held at the call of the Pastor, who is, *ex-officio*, the Moderator of the Session.

The Trustees and Deacons meet at the call of their Presidents.

THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS OF THE CHURCH ARE HELD AS FOLLOWS.

The Woman's Home Missionary Society, second Tuesday of the month.

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, fourth Tuesday of the month.

The Earnest Workers, first Monday of the month.

The King's Daughters, first and third Thursdays of the month.

The Women's Guild, first and third Thursdays of the month.

The Men's Club, first Monday of the month.

The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, business meeting and social, on the third Monday of the month.

The Knights of King Arthur, first and third Tuesdays of the month.

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation for the election of Trustees and the transaction of business is held on the second Tuesday of March in each year.

The Annual Meeting of the Sunday School, for the election of officers, is held in April of each year, usually on the third Tuesday.

The Annual Meeting of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Societies, for the election of officers, are held in March; of the Men's Club, in March; of the Women's Guild, in April; of the Christian Endeavor Society, in June.

OUR FINANCIAL POLICY

The collection and administration of the finances of this Church are based upon three fundamental principles. We believe

1. That systematic giving is better than occasional and impulsive benevolence.
2. That the work of the Church is essentially the same, whether it is carried on within this parish or outside its limits.
3. That everybody who receives the benefits of the Church should count it a privilege to help in its work.

We depend upon three sources of income:

1. The pew-rents, which are collected by the Treasurer of the Trustees.
2. Offerings made in envelopes by those who have pledged regular weekly contributions toward the work of the Church, which are collected by the Treasurer of Session.
3. Money received from plate collections and occasional subscriptions, which are collected by the Treasurer of Session.

Each year, the Trustees prepare a budget of the probable expenses of this Church for the ensuing year. Since our regular expenses amount to more than the total of the pew rents, a portion of the envelope subscriptions sufficient to meet this budget is appropriated by the Session. We do not believe in deficits. The funds that remain after our own expenses are paid are then apportioned by the Session to the Boards of the Presbyterian Church the Albany City Mission and other well-established agencies of missionary and benevolent effort. In this apportionment, the ratios suggested by the General Assembly are taken as a normal standard.

This being our financial plan, the Session asks the members of the congregation for regular and liberal contributions through the envelope system, so that special appeals from the pulpit for occasional offerings to various worthy causes may be avoided. We aim, in short, to substitute fidelity for impulse, and to make our benevolence regular and well-considered.

Obviously, this plan would be a failure unless it were conscientiously supported. Both in the giving and in the expending there must be an earnest desire to act as good stewards of the gifts of God. The Session therefore asks every member of the congregation to consider the duty and privilege of taking a regular and conscientious share in supporting the work we are trying to do, by making an offering through the envelope system upon which we may depend, promising in return a scrupulous regard for the highest interests of the Kingdom of God on earth in the administration of the offerings thus made.

Order of Worship

At the Celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Founding
of the State Street Presbyterian Church,
Sunday, April 30, 1911

The Morning Service

10:30 A. M.

ORGAN PRELUDE—"Thanks be to God" (Elijah) - - Mendelssohn

THE DOXOLOGY

A PRAYER OF INVOCATION, WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN 94. "O Holy Father, who hast led Thy children"

A RESPONSIVE READING FROM THE PSALTER—Portion 24

THE GLORIA PATRI—(HYMNARY, page 503)

CAROL BY THE SUNDAY SCHOOL—"Oh, the golden glowing morning"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERING—Baritone Solo—"The Earth is the Lord's" - Lansing

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS BY DECADES

HYMN 781—"For all the saints who from their labors rest"

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

CAROL BY THE SUNDAY SCHOOL—"Hail Him! Hail Him! Risen Jesus!"

THE GENERAL PRAYER

HYMN 692—"Glorious things of Thee are spoken"

THE SERMON—"The Honored Past"

The Rev. CHARLES G. SEWALL, the pastor of the church

A PRAYER FOR GRACE AND THE BENEDICTION

SILENT PRAYER

ORGAN POSTLUDE—"Festival March" - - - - Scotson Clark

The Afternoon Service

4:00 P. M.

ORGAN PRELUDE—"March of the Priests" (Athalie) - *Mendelssohn*

HYMN 776—"The Church's One Foundation"

A PRAYER OF INVOCATION, WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

DUET—Contralto and Baritone—"The Lord is my Light" - *Buck*

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

HYMN 562—"The Son of God goes forth to war"

THE GENERAL PRAYER

CONTRALTO SOLO—"In Thee, O God, do I put my trust" - *Spicker*

THE SERMON—"The Opportunity of the Present"

The Rev. CHARLES LITTLE, D.D., the Moderator of the General
Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States.

HYMN 575—"Onward Christian Soldiers"

A PRAYER FOR GRACE AND THE BENEDICTION

SILENT PRAYER

ORGAN POSTLUDE—"Recessional March" - - - - *Guilmant*

The Evening Service

7:45 P. M.

ORGAN PRELUDE—"The March of the Fifty Years" - - Springer
(Composed by Mr. Springer for this occasion and dedicated
to the Rev. Charles G. Sewall.)

MALE QUARTET—"The Radiant Morn hath passed away" - Woodward

A PRAYER OF INVOCATION

HYMN 169—"Honor and Glory, Thanksgiving and Praise"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERING—Male Quartet—"Sing Alleluia Forth" - - Buck

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

HYMN 698—"A Mighty Fortress is our God"

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

MALE QUARTET—"My Heavenly Home" - - - - Proctor

THE GENERAL PRAYER

HYMN 577—"Forward be our watchword"

THE SERMON—"The Inspiration of the Future"

The Rev. JOHN J. LAWRENCE, of Binghamton, N. Y., former
pastor of the church

A PRAYER FOR GRACE AND THE BENEDICTION

SILENT PRAYER

ORGAN POSTLUDE—"Hallelujah Chorus" (Messiah) - - Handel

Preceding these services, in connection with the Anniversary, a Prayer Meeting and Reception were held, as follows:

FRIDAY—April 28, 8:00 p. m.

A Jubilee Prayer Meeting. I Samuel 7:12. "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

A meeting for praise and thankful prayer.

SATURDAY—April 29, 8:00 p. m.

A Reception to the Guests, Former Members and Members of the Church.

Words of felicitation from our neighbor churches.

Committees of the Celebration

GENERAL COMMITTEE

From the Session { EDGAR C. LEONARD
ROBERT C. JAMES

From the Trustees { ARTHUR L. ANDREWS
FRANK C. HERRICK

From the Deacons { CHARLES C. DEROUVILLE
GARDNER C. LEONARD

From the Sunday-School { ALBERT P. MILLS
WILLIAM B. ASPINWALL

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Preparation of the History of the Church

ROBERT C. JAMES

Collection of Portraits of Church Officers

MRS. ISAAC V. W. GRANT

EDGAR C. LEONARD

Collection of Memorabilia

CLARENCE VALENTINE

GARDNER C. LEONARD

Finance

CHARLES C. DEROUVILLE

CLARENCE VALENTINE

Reception Committee

MRS. GARDNER C. LEONARD, *Chairman*

Publicity

THE PASTOR

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