

DEDICATE GRACE CHURCH

Baptists Set Aside House of Worship at Tenth and Arbor.

OTHER DENOMINATIONS TAKE PART

Over Three Thousand Dollars Yet Necessary with Which to Clear the Church of Incumbrance.

Grace Baptist church at Tenth and Arbor streets was fittingly dedicated to the use of the work yesterday afternoon before a gathering of Baptists representing all the churches of that denomination in the city.

Services began at 3 o'clock with an anthem by the choir. Rev. R. Kerr-Evans was to have delivered the invocation, but having been detained, Rev. Mr. Stevens of Chicago officiated.

After the close of Dr. Chivers' eloquent address, H. D. Rhodes of the building committee made a statement. Among the figures given was the total amount paid in or subscribed, \$10,643.

Sermon of Day.

Dr. Chivers followed his sermon, based on a theme from John xli:24-25, by a local application to the work of building the new church.

"I feel that my text on the necessity of self-sacrifice for true living is not altogether inappropriate to the occasion. I know something of the work that has been done. I know that in this work and in the contributions which have been made to it, the spirit of self-sacrifice has been shown in a high degree, both by your pastor, Mr. Feilman, and by the congregation.

The address of Dr. Chivers was followed by the dedicatory prayer offered by Rev. C. W. Brinthead. After the singing of the hymn, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," the benediction was pronounced by Rev. W. V. Reynolds of Castellar Street Presbyterian church.

SPEAKS OF MIRACLES OF CHRIST.

Rev. Philip Davidson Draws Theme from Ben-Hur.

At St. Matthias' church Rev. Philip Davidson took for his subject "Christ's Choice of Our Nature to Perform His Saving Work." Hebrews ii:13. The pastor stated that his line of thought was suggested by witnessing the drama of "Ben-Hur," in which both the human life and the divine nature of the Master were vividly and reverently impressed upon those present.

"Still men will ask 'Did Christ indeed work miracles?' Remember that the works of our Master were performed in the most important center of human life outside of the city of Rome. Palestine was in those days the heart of the east. It was the highway from Asia to Europe and from Egypt to India. Jerusalem, its chief city, was the focal point of a pilgrimage so vast as to shame our tides of modern tourist travel.

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"The negro came to this country," said Miss Laney, "many years ago, not of their own accord, but on persuasion of the traders. When they did come they came in their native state, barbarians, and were put in slavery. We acknowledge that on almost 200 years. We acknowledge that on negro as a class profited from the bondage

of slavery as he gradually imitated the ways of his master. About 10,000 negroes are now in the United States and out of this number we have 2,000 negro ministers and teachers. In August, where the population is estimated at 45,000 people, the races are about evenly divided between the negroes and the whites, and in the public schools, with an attendance of 6,134 pupils, the negroes outnumber the whites by almost 100. There are two distinct classes of the negroes, namely, the city slave and the plantation slave descendants, and anybody visiting the south will find them somewhat different in their modes of living. Of course, the first named are the farthest advanced.

"The negro slaves were energetic in that they worked when they were told to and always in a quick manner so that half the time they were out of work, and I am sorry to say, that a great number of the negroes of present day have never got over this trait, and find themselves still out of work. Numerous plans for solving this race problem have been suggested, but we believe as the Hon. Benjamin Tillman says, 'To educate the negro by giving him a Christian education and a training in the common school branches.' There is not one of the negro schools in the state of Georgia that is not opened every morning with devotional exercises, and with just a little help from the good, kind white people, the negro race will become a much different class of people."

LOVE OF GOD AND ITS REWARDS. Rev. William Esplin Preaches First Sermon at Hiram's. "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels," said the minister. "He is still His most precious treasure, but in his lost condition, in the view of the world of today, to which he often too readily succumbs in ignorance and carelessness, he becomes less and less a treasure and may finally be lost. That man who may rightly consider himself a treasure of the Lord is an exalted being; he is good in all things and excels in his moral qualities. Lost, he is the reverse and is a creature calling for the commiseration of both God and man, though he may not himself realize it."

"A careful study of God's character gives us an insight into His life while on earth, as well as of His life to come. Light of the Spirit, or witness of the Spirit brings to us knowledge, reconciliation with God and the indwelling peace of God in our hearts. The greatest gift of God to mankind."

"By faith we appropriate the blessings of God as promised, both in His life and the life to come. To remain a treasure of the Lord, keep His commandments, be faithful in the faith and love God and your neighbor as you love yourself."

BELIEVES IN THE CHINAMEN. Returned Missionary Lauds Character of the Orientals. Robert E. Lewis, representative of the Young Men's Christian association in Shanghai, presented a new view of the Chinaman to an audience of men that filled the church yesterday afternoon.

"The Chinaman is not well understood in this country or even by those who have observed him in his own land," said Mr. Lewis. "I believe in the Chinaman and in his country. He is a man who must be believed in, because he is a man of power. His 'chinamen' love and hate ardently, and this proves they have souls."

"The work of the Young Men's Christian association in China was begun hesitatingly and only after long invitation of the combined denominations and churches at work in the empire. At present about 100 men from the United States are carrying on this work. This number is inadequate."

"There are fifty Christian colleges in the empire and about thirty conducted under the jurisdiction of the government. At present, by direct orders of the emperor, issued shortly after the Boxer uprising, more than 1,000 institutions of higher learning are being established. An educational and intellectual wave is sweeping over China. I disagree with the views of travelers in China, that the educated natives refuse to embrace Christianity. Evidence can be adduced to prove that the Chinese of the Orient are more willing to follow Christ than the uneducated natives."

"The native Chinese educational system is one of the most extensive in the world." Mr. Lewis related a number of instances showing the results of the conversion of Chinese to the Christian faith, telling how they had given up lucrative positions to propagate the new religion in the land of Confucius.

"He did possess a knowledge and a power over forces and laws which will never know as long as the world stands. His first miracle of changing the water into wine was not a miracle more wonderful than the process by which God works the same miracle today through the increase of the vine. The miracles of Christ are nothing more than the operation of higher laws, which are one with those we call the laws of nature and with them are enthroned in the bosom of God."

HOW CHRISTIANS SHOULD THINK. Proper Subjects of Meditation Theme of Rev. H. G. Hill. Rev. H. G. Hill at the First Christian church yesterday took for his theme, "Things for Christians to Think About."