

DEDICATE A CHURCH.

THIRD CHRISTIAN CONGREGATION ENTER NEW HOUSE TO-DAY.

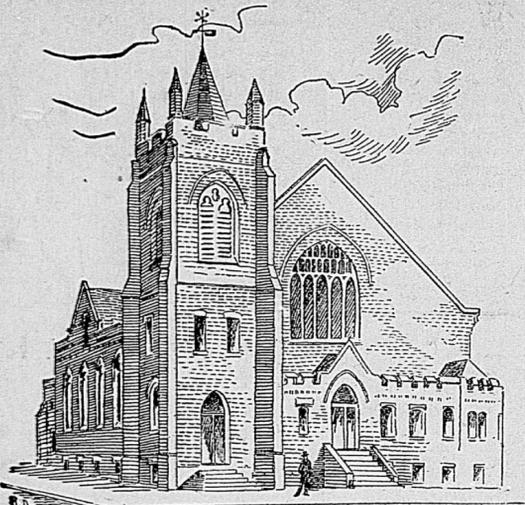
DELIGHTFUL PROGRAMME PREPARED.

Governor Tyler Will Preside This Afternoon—Several Short Addresses and Good Music—Sketch of the Incipency of the Movement.

The beautiful edifice erected at Twenty-sixth and Marshall streets by the congregation of the Third Christian church will be opened to the public to-day and be dedicated to the worship of God.

The building is an architectural gem. It is a handsome brick structure, trimmed with terra-cotta. The style of architecture is modern Gothic. The building fronts on Marshall street, and has two entrances on Marshall street and one on

of carpeting the church and purchasing heavy curtains to screen the baptistry. In the basement are the Sunday-school rooms. The infant class is separated from the main room by folding doors. Underneath the pastor's study is the Bible-class room. The basement is equipped with all the equipments of an up-to-date church edifice. The entire building is heated by two large paragon furnaces. THE COST OF THE CHURCH. The cost of the structure, furniture included, will be about \$15,000. The Building Committee, under whose supervision the church was erected, is composed of Rev. S. R. Maxwell (chairman), Mr. C. E. Richards (treasurer), Mr. W. T. Atkinson, Mr. William Adams, and Mr. W. Spindle. Amongst these gentlemen who composed this committee, though they all worked like Trojans, special mention must be made of Mr. C. E. Richards. He has been treasurer of the building fund for years, and the supreme desire of his heart has been to have a new and beautiful church erected on that lot. Mr. Richards has given the movement his undivided attention, in many instances neglecting his own business to give his time and energy to this work. No one is more delighted than he that the structure has been completed. The architects were Messrs. Noland &



THE NEW THIRD CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

Twenty-sixth street. The steps leading to the interior are of Kentucky freestone. The auditorium is one of the prettiest in the city. The effect is not spoiled by excess of ornamentation. The beauty is not the beauty of excessive adornment, but it is that of the purest simplicity. The floor is bowled, and the pews are of graceful curve over the pulpit. This large arch, with its golden finish set in circular form. A flood of softened light pours through the stained glass windows. The platform is wide, and a beautiful arch twenty-four feet in span sweeps in graceful curve over the pulpit. This large arch, with the smaller arch over the baptistry, furnishes a beautiful background for the pulpit and its furniture.

On each side of the baptistry are two dressing rooms—one for gentlemen and the other for ladies. On a level with the pulpit, in the northeast corner, is the pastor's study. The members of the "In His Name" circle have furnished this room with all the conveniences for the pastor, Rev. L. R. Maxwell. Amongst those who have taken a foremost part in supplying these necessary furnishings for the study special mention must be made of Miss Emma Brown, Mrs. Ed. Robinson, and Mrs. L. Douglass. The choir is on the left-hand side of the pulpit, with all the necessary arrangements for pipe-organ. The Pastors' Aid Society have taken upon themselves the burden

Baskerville. These gentlemen have covered themselves with honor, for they have succeeded in putting up a structure that cannot be duplicated for the same amount of money. The contractor was Mr. J. T. Nuckols. Mr. Nuckols has done his work well. He is a thoroughly trustworthy man, and if he has made any money on the edifice he certainly shows himself to be a master in finance as well as a master mechanic.

SKETCH OF THE MOVEMENT. The history of the movement, which has achieved such splendid success, is one of much public interest, for the men who originated the movement, and who stood by it in the hours of its struggles and weakness are still young, and are prominent in business circles in this city.

Amongst this number may be mentioned Messrs. J. L. Hill, of the Hill Printing Company; W. R. Roane, Leo W. Whitaker, and the members of that aggressive organization, the Young Men's Missionary Society of Seventh-Street Christian church. "The marvellous success of this movement," said one of the congregation yesterday "ought to teach all the strong churches the great philosophic principle that selfish conservatism brings death, and unselfish aggression brings strength and power. Withhold, and you will die; give, and you will live. The richer your gifts, the richer your life; this is true,

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Hook took charge, but falling in health he was compelled to resign after a short pastorate. In a few months he fell a victim to consumption, and passed to his reward.

THE PROGRAMME TO-DAY. The programme for to-day is as follows: Initiatory Services—Concluding at 11 A. M. Rev. W. H. Book. Concluding services. At 3:30 P. M., presiding officer, Governor J. Hoze Tyler.



REV. W. H. BOOK, (Pastor of the New Church).

his work. The old chapel still stands, and is now being used as a tinsmith's shop. The gentlemen who inaugurated the movement were not discouraged, and on April, 1874, they organized a Sunday-school; and Captain A. F. Bagby was elected superintendent.

The Sunday-school continued in existence for a number of years, and the wise leaders of the movement refused to surrender their purpose to establish a church in that section of the city. With this end in view they secured the services of Rev. W. J. Pettigrew, in February, 1855. When Mr. Pettigrew took charge of the work he saw that some steps must be taken to form the nucleus of a church. A meeting of the members of Seventh-Street church who resided on Church Hill was held, and this question presented to them: "Was it expedient to establish a church on the Hill?" The proposal met with no little opposition on the part of some, who imagined that the mother church would be weakened by the movement. The proposition was acted upon favorably, however, and on April 19, 1855, the Third Christian church was organized with sixty members.

The organization, then, is almost fifteen years old, and has had a hasty and rapid growth. The membership now almost equals the membership of Seventh-Street church resident in the city. The splendid success of the movement and the facts of its history prove the wisdom of the young men who laid the foundation. Mr. Pettigrew was a man of large executive ability, strong and commanding personality, and that he was an ecclesiastical strategist of no mean order is proved by the fact that in spite of strong opposition he had the present lot purchased on which to establish the church stands. The logic of events proves the wisdom of his choice. In May, 1858, Mr. Pettigrew resigned, and on account of falling health was compelled to seek a better climate, and he emigrated to the Pacific slope.

A BRICK CHAPEL. In August, 1858, the church secured the services of H. C. Garrison. When he took charge he found a membership of ninety-two; he also found that this congregation owned a splendid building lot. Mr. Garrison remained with the church until October, 1857, and went back to complete his college course. Mr. Garrison did noble work. During his short pastorate some sixty-six persons were added to the membership, and a new brick chapel was erected on the lot at the corner of Twenty-sixth and Marshall streets. This building was dedicated in 1857, and was twelve years old when it was pulled down to make room for the magnificent structure which adorns that part of Richmond now.

On October 23, 1857, Rev. Mr. Cole was called and accepted the pastorate. He remained in charge five years. He was a restless worker, full of force and power, and under his leadership the congregation commenced raising money to erect a new building. During his time about \$1,500 was raised and placed in the building fund, and the membership was largely increased. Following Mr. Cole, Mr. Van

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Advertisement for AT TRAGLE'S Cut-Rate Drugstore, listing various medicines and their prices, such as Blood Medicine, Wampole's Cod Liver Oil, etc.

Advertisement for THE "3 DAYS" CURE, a medicine for various ailments, with a list of prices and a guarantee.

Advertisement for ONLY P. N. CORSETS, featuring an illustration of a woman in a corset and text describing the product's benefits.

Advertisement for TINSLEY'S FERTILIZERS FOR ALL CROPS, listing various brands and products available from James G. Tinsley & Co.

Advertisement for Silver Tableware, featuring an illustration of a woman in a dress and text describing the quality and variety of the items.

Table titled 'INSURANCE STATEMENTS' showing financial data for the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, including receipts, disbursements, and assets.

Table titled 'RECEIPTS' showing financial data for the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, including premiums received and interest.

Advertisement for JOHN C. DREWRY, State Agent, featuring an illustration of a man in a suit and text describing his services and contact information.

Large advertisement for IMPROVE YOURSELF BY JOINING THE DISPATCH'S HOME STUDY CIRCLE, detailing the benefits and courses offered.