

on Sat., Oct. 3, 1914. Archdeacon Benjamin F. Thompson, B.D., of Christ Church in Dover was the leader in this effort. Most of the carpenter work was done by the men of the congregation led by Percy Gardner, Senior Warden. Most of the furnishings were presented by the Woman's Auxiliary of the Diocese. The church-yard was consecrated on Nov. 1, 1918, by Bishop Kinsman.

There are two graves in the churchyard close to the chapel. One is that of the founder of St. Martin's, Dr. Ada MacAlpine, who died on June 4, 1944, and the other is that of Dr. Wm. MacAlpine who died in 1926.

St. John's Mt. Sinai Holy Church, colored, is located two miles n. w. of Hartly. This was the Gibb's A. M. E. Church which was built in July, 1906. On Oct. 14, 1937, they turned the property over to St. John's Church.

Asbury Methodist Church (M.E.), near Pearson's Corner, was built in 1829 and was called "McElwee's Chapel," for the minister in charge at that time. In 1867, the present church was built and it was dedicated on Nov. 3, 1867, by the Revs. Andrew Manship, A. D. Davis and J. Downham. After extensive renovations, a rededication service was held on Sun., Nov. 8, 1942. There is a graveyard beside the church, the tombstones dating back to 1842.

Bethesda M. P. Church, located about two miles s. w. of Pearson's Corner, was built in 1864, on land donated by Mrs. Annie J. Cox, on July 11, 1864. The dedication service was arranged for Sun., Dec. 17, 1865, with the Rev. Daniel F. Ewell in charge. The present church was built in 1883. It was arranged to have the church dedicated on Oct. 28, 1883, by the Rev. C. T. Cochel. Regular services were abandoned in 1929 and only annual meetings are now held. The Grange now meets here by permission of the trustees and stewards of the church. There are a few graves beside the church.

Halltown M. E. South, Church was organized, in the schoolhouse, in 1868. On Mar. 5, 1870, a church-site was donated by John W. Downes. The site is marked by a small graveyard. The oldest tombstone is that of Mary Patrick, who died on Mar. 20, 1887. The name of Halltown was later changed to Marydel.

Christ P. E. Church, St. Jones' P. E. Church at Dover. In 1704, Col. Robert French donated to the Church of England a glebe of 110 acres, located about two miles south of Dover, on the Bay Road and on the east side of St. Jones' Creek. A log church was built at this site and given the name, "St. Jones' Church." The Rev. Thomas Crawford, a missionary of the Church of England, arrived in Philadelphia on Aug. 27, 1705, on his way to Dover to take charge of Kent County. After his arrival he was very much dissatisfied, claiming that everyone in the neighborhood was sickly. He became sick with "the ague, dropsie and short windiness." His chief opposition, he said, was from "itinerant Presbyterian preachers and a heathenish people called Quakers." He organized a Society for the Reformation of Manners and with the help of Captain Rodney, a Justice of the Peace, he claimed to have almost completely suppressed swearing and drunkenness. On Aug. 30, 1708, Mr. Crawford reported that the church was nearly finished, all glazed and almost full of pews. He returned to England in 1711.

In 1722, the congregation asked for another pastor, the church having been destitute since 1711. In 1733, the Rev. George Frazer began a subscription to build a new brick church in Dover. The building was started, in 1734,

and the walls were completed in November of that year. On Oct. 27, 1740, the church was reported as finished.

On May 10, 1760, the Rev. Charles Inglis reported that the church had been reconditioned after laying in a shocking condition. Also, that it was now furnished and ornamented with a bell, pulpit cloth, etc. In 1767, for the first time, the church was mentioned as "Christ Church," until this time and it was still called "St. Jones' Church." During the Revolution the church was much abused but in 1785, it was restored to use. For many years the congregation was apathetic and only scattered services were held. In 1841, when Bishop Lee visited Dover, he preached in the Court House. In 1850, the church was reconditioned and reopened. In 1859, efforts to renovate the church were resumed. The glebe was sold and the proceeds were used to repair and restore the church. At this time, the present entrance was built. The square pews, the brick floor and the high pulpit with the clerk's desk gradually disappeared.

The church was reopened on Jan. 15, 1860. The consecration service was held on Ascension Day, May 17, 1860, by Bishop Alfred Lee, assisted by the Revs. J. B. Clemson, R. J. Keeling, B. Franklin and M. B. Smith, the rector. After renovations, including a new memorial window, the church was reopened on Aug. 9, 1868. On Oct. 1, 1869, pew rents were abolished and all pews became free for the use of anyone.

The present rectory was purchased on Dec. 18, 1879, for \$2500.00. It was the former home of Charles Kimmey.

The chancel was added in 1887. The large memorial window, in the chancel, was unveiled on Sept. 5, 1888, as a memorial to Lucinda Ball Bradford.

During the 1880's, the women of Christ Church would accept seasonal employment with the Richardson and Robbins Company, to make money to be applied to the church work.

In 1890-91, a new altar was installed as a memorial to Mrs. Lucinda B. Bradford. In 1894-95, a brass pulpit and a brass eagle lectern were installed in memory of the Rev. L. W. Gibson.

On Oct. 2, 1896, Dr. Henry Ridgely sold 63.4 perches of land to Christ Church to be used in enlarging the church-yard. The parish-house was built in 1898. It included a library and Sunday School rooms. In 1905-06, a window in memory of Dr. Henry Ridgely was unveiled. A new organ was installed in 1906-7. In 1910-11, two lots were purchased at the corner of Bradford and Division Streets. It was proposed to use these lots as a site for a new parish-house and Sunday School. This plan was not carried out and the lots were sold the following year.

Under the leadership of Archdeacon Benjamin F. Thompson, B.D., the church was enlarged, improved and redecorated in 1913. Bishop Frederick J. Kinsman conducted a service of benediction on "Delaware Day," Dec. 7, 1913. In 1916, a new entrance and wall were built. The new porch was dedicated by Bishop Kinsman on Nov. 26, 1916. The oratory in the rectory was dedicated on Dec. 31, 1916, by Bishop Kinsman. More land was purchased from Bessie F. Davis on Mar. 7, 1917.

On Nov. 2, 1918, Bishop Kinsman consecrated the church-yard and dedicated the wall and gateway in memory of Ann Ridgely du Pont and Amelia Elizabeth du Pont. A memorial window, provided by the will of former U. S. Senator Willard Saulsbury, in memory of his parents, Willard and Annie Ponder Saulsbury, was unveiled in 1929.

On Apr. 21, 1944, a lot with a 75 ft. frontage on State St. was secured from Eleanor A. Reed making possible the present entrance from State St.

The parish-house was seriously damaged by fire on Dec. 14, 1946 at which time an adjoining factory was gutted by fire.

A new Moller organ, in memory of Henry Ridgely, was dedicated at an organ recital given on Mon., Jan. 27, 1947.

In 1885, a group of members of the Dover Bar formed the Rodney Club pledged to raise sufficient funds to have the body of Caesar Rodney removed from his home place and reinterred in Christ church-yard. Because of a strong local sentiment against disturbing the bones of the dead, the reinterment took place at midnight in the year 1887. A heavy granite curb encloses the burial plot in the center of which is an imposing memorial. The name, Caesar Rodney, is the only inscription, which, in view of his fame is quite sufficient. Through the interest of the Rodney Club, the General Assembly passed a Joint Resolution on Feb. 20, 1889, providing for the erection of this monument.

Another former Governor, James Sykes, is buried in the Sykes plot in an unmarked grave. There are numerous graves dating back to the middle of the 18th century. One of the oldest tombstones is over the grave of Captain Benson and is dated 1748.

The First Baptist Church of Dover. Sometime after 1832 the Rev. John P. Thompson was sent as a Baptist missionary to the section including Dover. He was succeeded, in 1847, by the Rev. John P. Walter. In 1850, a lot on the south side of Dover Green was purchased by Jonathan Stites and George Parris who headed a subscription list to build a Baptist church. The corner-stone was laid on Sept. 8, 1850. The basement was dedicated on Jan. 25, 1852. The upper part of the church building was dedicated in January, 1853. The title to the one-acre church site was presented to the church by Mr. Stites and Mr. Parris on May 18, 1853. A new organ was installed on Apr. 11, 1868.

In May, 1870, the Baptists announced that an effort would be made to secure a church bell. An Episcopal clergyman suggested, publicly, that perhaps they should get a diving bell. The Baptists apparently did not resent the suggestion but simply announced that a diving bell would not do.

In May, 1877, the church was enlarged and beautified. The gallery was removed and two small side galleries were built. The baptistry was placed under the pulpit. In May, 1886, the benches were replaced with chairs, a new walnut desk and a new pipe-organ were installed. An infant Sunday School room was built at the rear.

In 1891, it was planned to build a new church. On Aug. 12, 1891, the corner-stone was removed from the old church. Some of the articles found in the stone had rotted away, others were found to be in good shape, including a silk book-marker and an 1838 five cent piece. It was planned to place these in the corner-stone of the new church.

A lot on the corner of Bradford and Division Sts. was purchased, from John A. Hartnett, on July 10, 1891.

The corner-stone of the present church was laid on Sun., July 3, 1892, at six o'clock, by the Rev. E. B. Palmer, D.D., assisted by other clergymen. The Norma Glee Club furnished music for the occasion. A temporary floor had been laid to accommodate those attending.

The opening service was held on Jan. 22, 1893. Among those taking part were the Revs. Dr. Wayland, O. G. Buddington, John Miller and Maurice P. Fikes, the pastor.

On May 18, 1897, Mr. Harry A. Richardson offered to contribute \$9400.00 with which to liquidate the entire indebtedness of the church. This offer was accepted with appropriate resolutions of thanks.