

**ADDRESSES AND PROCEEDINGS AT
THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY
OF THE CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH IN SANBORNTON, N.H.,
NOVEMBER 12 AND 13, 1871**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649355099

Addresses and Proceedings at the Centennial Anniversary of the Congregational Church in Sanbornton, N.H., November 12 and 13, 1871 by Various

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

VARIOUS

**ADDRESSES AND PROCEEDINGS AT
THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY
OF THE CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH IN SANBORNTON, N.H.,
NOVEMBER 12 AND 13, 1871**

1771.

1871.

ADDRESSES AND PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,

IN

SANBORNTON, N. H.,

November 12 and 13, 1871.

COMPILED BY ORDER OF THE CHURCH,

By M. T. RUNNELS, Pastor.

HARTFORD, CONN :
PRESS OF CASE, LOCKWOOD & BRAINARD.
1872.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
PRELIMINARY AND INTRODUCTORY, - - - -	5
ORDER OF EXERCISES, - - - - -	8
"SERMON," - - - - -	9
REMARKS AT THE MEMORIAL COMMUNION, - - -	22
"HISTORICAL ADDRESS," - - - - -	27
PROCEEDINGS AT THE TOWN HALL, - - - -	64
APPENDIX, - - - - -	79

PRELIMINARY AND INTRODUCTORY.



The present situation of the Congregational Parish of Sanbornton, N. H., is peculiar. Fifty years ago the "Square," where the Church is located, was a large business centre; but now *all* trade and nearly all branches of mechanical industry have deserted that place and gone to the neighboring villages.

The present members of the Church and Society belong to *two* different towns, and go to no less than *seven* different localities for store and post-office accommodations.

The ecclesiastical tie is now the *only* one which holds the people to this ancient "hill of Zion." This survives all other bonds of connection, and is still a strong one. May it never be dissolved. With the view to perpetuating this bond of union by the hallowed memories of the past, though chiefly for the purpose of doing honor to the fathers and guardians of the Church through all its remarkable history, a plan was entered upon in 1870 to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of its organization, in some appropriate way, the following year.

At a Church meeting, December 31, 1870, an expression was made by nearly every member present in favor of attempting such centennial observances.

At a subsequent meeting, March 4, 1871. Dea. Abraham B. Sanborn, Dea. Joseph Emery, and the Pastor, Rev. Moses T. Runnels, were chosen as a "Committee of Arrangements." The day of the Rev. Joseph Woodman's ordination in 1771, November 13, having on two occasions afterwards been observed by the Church as an *anniversary* day, and the evidence having increased that the Church was *probably* formed on that day or very near it, the precise date being

unknown, the Committee felt at liberty to select none other than *November 13, 1871*, for the Centennial Day, though knowing that the lateness of the season might serve as an objection to many minds.

Finding that this day came on *Monday*, it was resolved to observe also the *Sabbath preceding* by appropriate services, especially by a "Memorial Communion" season in the afternoon. It was also voted to invite Prof. Joseph C. Bodwell, of the Hartford Theological Seminary to deliver the "Historical Address" on Monday the 13th; and the Rev. Frederic T. Perkins, also of Hartford, Conn., to preach the "Sermon" on Sabbath morning of the 12th, with the understanding that the two, as sons of the Church, should officiate jointly at the Communion Table, on Sabbath, *p. m.*

It was further determined to extend *particular* or official *invitations only* to absent members of the Church, and to those who had formerly been members, so far as their present residences could be ascertained, with the understanding that individual members of the Church or Society might privately invite their absent friends at pleasure; also to send general notices of the meeting, a few Sabbaths in advance, to all the other churches of Sanbornton, and to those churches in Tilton, Franklin, and Hill, which originally were, in part, composed of Sanbornton material.

When the anniversary days arrived, the events of a favoring Providence proved the wisdom of these arrangements, and crowned them with success. The weather was all that could have been desired; both days clear, calm, resplendent, and decidedly, though not uncomfortably, cool; quite unlike the corresponding days in November, 1806, when Rev. Mr. Woodman was dismissed and Rev. Mr. Bodwell ordained, which are said to have been remarkably "warm and Summer like"; while now six inches of snow, which had fallen two days before, afforded "the first sleighing of the season," and thus gave opportunity to several aged people to be present at the exercises who could *not* otherwise have come. The audiences were composed of citizens of the town and friends of the Church from abroad, all evidently in deep sympathy with the occasion. They varied in numbers from 300 to 500, completely filling, but not thronging, the houses, so that all confusion was avoided.

All outward circumstances,—except the want of "*more time*" as night on the second day approached—tended to the success of the Celebration, and the heart-felt satisfaction of those engaged in it.

By a vote of the Church, January 6, 1872, copies of the sermon

of Rev. Mr. Perkins, and the address of Dr. Bodwell, "with sincere thanks for the same," were requested for publication. They are here presented to the public, with notices of the accompanying exercises, and with the added prayer that the great Head of the Church may *continue* to make them a means of spiritual profit and blessing, both to the present and to succeeding generations.

SANBORNTON, March 18, 1872.

ORDER OF EXERCISES.

The exercises on Sunday A. M., November 12th, in the meeting-house (see Appendix, Note A) consisted of the Opening Services and Prayer by the Pastor, followed by the "Sermon" of the Rev. F. T. Perkins.

At intermission the Sabbath-School Concert exercises were of a memorial character, followed by appropriate remarks from Mr. Jona. P. Sanborn, of Tilton, and Mr. Joseph W. Lang, of Meredith Village. (See Appendix, Note B.)

In the P. M., before the Memorial Communion, passages of Scripture were read by the Pastor as follows: Exodus, xii. 21-27; Deut. vi. 20-25; Eph. ii. 13-22.

Administration of the Sacrament by Rev. Messrs. Bodwell and Perkins.

Programme of Exercises in the meeting-house, November 13th, commencing at 10½ A. M.

1. Announcement by the Marshal. (Appendix Note C.)
2. Voluntary by the Choir. (Appendix, Note D.)
3. Invocation and reading of the following select passages of Scripture by the Pastor: Ps. xlv. 1-4; Ps. cxxxii. 1-9 and 13-16; Ps. cxxxiii; Matt. xviii. 15-17; Matt. xvi. 16-18; Eph. iv. 4-8 and 11-13; Col. i. 16-18; Eph. iii. 20-21.
4. Singing by the Choir. "Denmark."
5. Prayer by the Rev. T. C. Pratt, of Tilton.
6. Singing by the Choir: 1025 Sabbath Hymn-Book.
7. "Historical Address," interluded by the singing of "Lenox": 120 Sabbath Hymn-Book, first and last stanzas.
8. Concluding Prayer by the Rev. N. P. Philbrick, of Northfield.
9. Singing by the Choir and Congregation. "Turner": 462 Sabbath Hymn-Book, first and last stanzas.
10. Further Announcement by the Marshal and adjournment to the Town Hall.

S E R M O N .

GOD AS LOVE IN CHRIST.

For this centennial occasion you may have expected something *historical* in character. But remembering that this is your communion Sabbath, and that history is to come to-morrow, I have chosen to bring to mind the great fact from which have come the life of the Church and all that is of value in your history for a hundred years,—

“GOD IS LOVE.” I John, 4, 8.

The proof of this—the most blessed fact of revelation—is given in the next verse: “In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.”

This is not merely *a* proof but *the* proof of the fact stated. God as love is found neither in nature nor in providence, till He is found in Christ.

Entering the Patent Office at Washington, one bright June morning, and examining the works of inventive minds, hour after hour, till brain-weary, and then, yielding to the influences of the place, I seemed in the presence of the living minds that had been darkly working their way into a friendly acquaintance with some of the principles and forces created of God for our willing servants, and caught bright glimpses of some grand design of good for man, outside of and above