

**SPECIAL SERVICES HELD AT
ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH,
CHARLESTON, S.C., ON THE
12TH AND 13TH OF MAY, 1875**

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Special Services Held at St. Philip's Church, Charleston, S.C., on the 12th and 13th of May, 1875
by W. B. W. Howe & J. J. Pringle Smith

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W. B. W. HOWE & J. J. PRINGLE SMITH

**SPECIAL SERVICES HELD AT
ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH,
CHARLESTON, S.C., ON THE
12TH AND 13TH OF MAY, 1875**

Protestant Episcopal church in the U. S. A.
Diocese of South Carolina

[PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE DIOCESAN CONVENTION.]

SPECIAL SERVICES

HELD AT

ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH,

CHARLESTON, S. C.,

ON THE

12TH AND 13TH OF MAY, 1875.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE PLANTING OF THE CHURCH OF
ENGLAND IN THE PROVINCE OF CAROLINA.

WITH THE

SERMON

PREACHED BY

RT. REV. W. B. W. HOWE,

BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE.

AND THE

HISTORICAL ADDRESS

DELIVERED BY

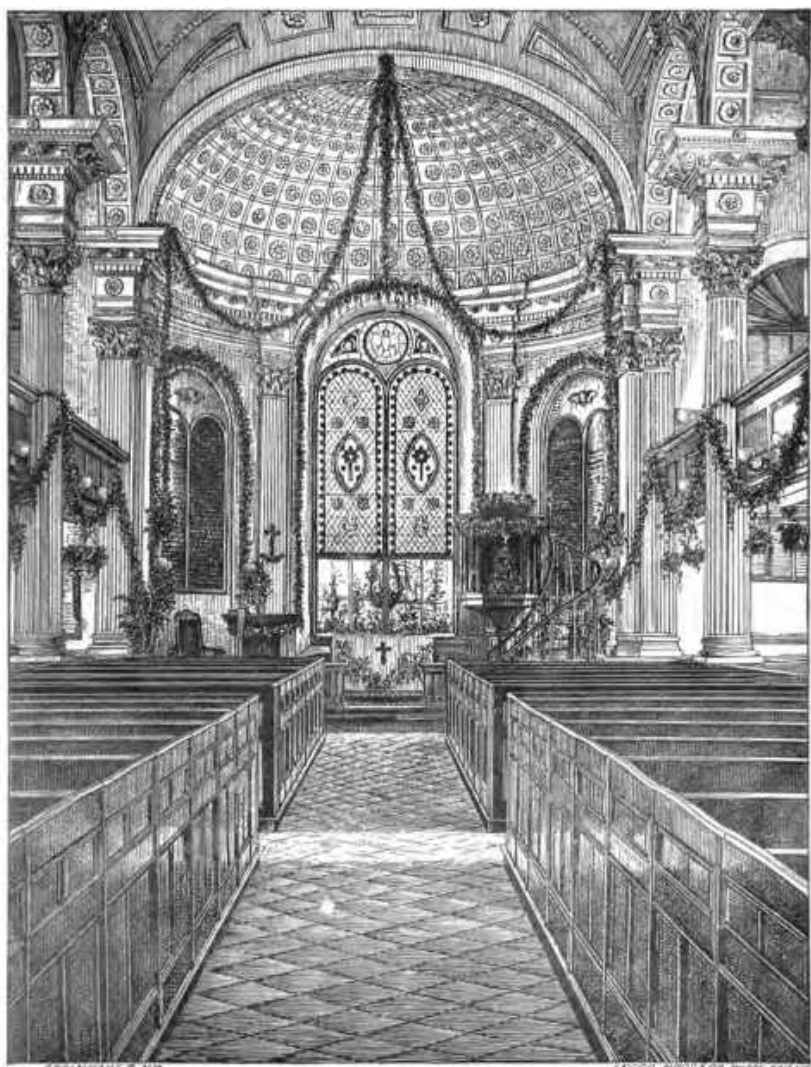
J. J. PRINGLE SMITH, Esq.,

ON THE OCCASION.

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ZPFG
Protestant



ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH,

INTERIOR VIEW, WITH DECORATIONS, AS IT APPEARED ON THE DAY OF CELEBRATION,
MAY 29, 1875.



"To be then thy land with love far brought
From out the storied past and used
Within the present, but transfused
Through future time by power of thought."

On Saturday, the 15th May, 1875, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted by the Convention of the Diocese of South Carolina, then in session:

RESOLVED, That this Convention desires to express for the Diocese its interest in perpetuating a substantial record of the interesting services commemorative of the planting of the Church of England in the Province of Carolina.

RESOLVED, That the General Committee of Arrangements of the occasion be requested to superintend the publication of the Sermon preached by the Bishop, and the Historical Address delivered by Mr. J. J. Pringle Smith, prefacing the same by an introduction descriptive of the occasion.

RESOLVED, That the Bishop and Mr. Smith be requested to comply with the wish of the Convention by allowing the use of their manuscripts for the said publication, and that the expense be defrayed by contributions from each Parish for the same.

In compliance with the request conveyed by the second of the above resolutions, the General Committee of Arrangements on the occasion of the services commemorative of the planting of the Church of England in the Province of Carolina have prepared and published this record of the services held, and the Sermon and Address delivered on the 12th and 13th of May, 1875. And, as an appropriate part of that record, they have also procured for publication the Sermon delivered by the Reverend John Johnson, Rector of St. Philip's Church, upon the commemoration of the one hundred and fiftieth year since the congregation had first worshipped upon the present site of that Church, and the Historical Report of the Joint Committee of the Congregation and Vestry of St. Philip's Church, presented on that occasion.

The Committee have also obtained, as appropriate to the publication, a brief Sketch of each Parish in the Diocese, giving the date of organization of Parish, dates of building and consecration of church edifice, the list of Rectors, with their periods of rectorship, and the Wardens and Vestrymen, and Delegates to Convention for the year beginning Easter, 1875, which, as a supplement to Dr. Dalcho's History, will be of some historical interest, and is printed as an appendix hereto.

The records of St. Philip's Church, Charleston, are an attractive study to a Carolinian, and, in some degree, to all churchmen. It is probable that the spot on which the Church itself now stands, as is certainly true of its original site, on which St. Michael's, with its beautiful steeple, was afterwards built, has been consecrated ground from the time when the solemn silence and solitude of the primeval forest overshadowed its future foundations, to this day. In these records are preserved the memory of the names and "charitable works" of many good men and pious women, some of whose descendants still worship within her walls, and of the loyal zeal for her welfare of many gallant men and accomplished women, who, or whose children, were the gifted leaders of the early society of South Carolina, and played a distinguished part in the history of the Colony, and afterwards of the State, and whose children are to be found in almost every Parish in the Diocese.

In the spring of 1874, some members of St. Philip's were reminded of two events in her history which seemed worthy of commemoration. It was at that time one hundred and fifty years since the congregation had first worshipped upon the spot where they now worship, and it was proximately two hundred years since the Church of England was first planted in this Diocese.

The first of these events was reverently celebrated, with appropriate services, by the congregation of St. Philip's, on the 9th of August, 1874, when the Rector, the Reverend John Johnson, preached the sermon now included in this publication, and after Morning Service, the Joint Committee of the congregation and vestry presented their report, em-

bracing a brief sketch of the history of the Church, which will be found in these pages. It was on this occasion that, through that Committee, the suggestion came naturally and most appropriately from our beloved Bishop, that the other event, the planting of the Church of England in the "Province of Carolina," which, as "one of larger concern and greater interest," was to enlist the thought and feeling of the whole Diocese, should be solemnly celebrated with imposing ceremonial at the time of the annual meeting of the Diocesan Convention, in 1875.

The gentlemen of St. Philip's who had been requested to make the necessary arrangements, called to their aid representatives of the other congregations of the City Churches, who, together with themselves, constituted the General Committee of Arrangements.

All necessary preparations for the proposed celebration were, in due time, made with diligent care and well directed energy. A wide-spread interest was excited, and the event was awaited with cheerful expectation. The day came and dawned bright and auspicious, warm enough for enthusiasm, cool enough for comfort. The Church had been dressed with exquisite taste. It was draped with delicate lines of leaves and moss, and brightened with a modest array of dewy flowers. Nowhere had the typical been merged in the ornamental, the emblem lost in the display, the thought obscured by its expression, or devotion misled into admiration. All honour to the devout women who had caught the true spirit of Greek art, and were careful never to obstruct the perception of the unseen by the accumulation of the seen, who on that day, with leaf and flower, wrote hymns of praise, and with colour and fragrance chaunted a psalm of thanksgiving!

When the hour of 10 A. M. had come the preparations for the occasion were completed, and the gates of the church-yard, with the doors of the Church, were opened to give entrance to the assembling congregation. Every care had been taken to secure order and provide complete ventilation, and the comfort every one felt throughout the lengthened services, was due to this important forethought of the committees and

gentlemen ushers. Extra seats were provided in the cross-aisle, in the vestibule, and in front of the chancel; and it was estimated that the Church could accommodate about fourteen hundred people; there were, probably, as many who came, and many stayed away through fear of a crowd. A choir, numbering about fifty vocalists, and an orchestra of stringed and wind instruments, had been some weeks rehearsing diligently, under the direction of Prof. T. D. Ruddock, organist of St. Philip's Church, and were now in place, crowding the organ gallery, and extending in two wings forward on each side of the same, up to the first pair of principal columns which sustain the roof of the building.

The Sunday-school room was open, and served as a rendezvous for the clergy arriving, and the choir of boys of the Church of the Holy Communion. The churchyard adjacent was filled with the laymen about to take part in the procession, and, as the hour from 10 to 11 o'clock advanced, the bells of old St. Michael's rang their time-hallowed changes in chimes and tunes, calling the whole City to remembrance of its age and foundation. Among the tunes played was "God Save the King," in memory of the mother Church of England and the once loyal provinces of the crown.*

The head of the procession, when formed, stood at the grave of that beloved and most gifted son of St. Philip's, the Rev. Christopher P. Gadsden, who once ministered at her altar, and of whom it has been well said: "We miss him every day, and mourn for him without any one to take his place." How, on that day, did we yearn for—

"The touch of a vanished hand,
And the sound of a voice that is still,"

as we sadly thought of the delight with which his fervid spirit would have rejoiced in this filial memorial of the birth-time of the Church, within whose sacred precincts he had been trained for his work and inspired for his sacrifice.

*The bells were rung on this occasion by the well known colored bell-ringer, Washington M. Gadsden.

Punctually at 11 o'clock the procession moved towards the Church from the Sunday-school building, and entered by the north porch into the vestibule. It had been arranged as follows :

Standing in open order on the shell walk were the laity, with their heads uncovered. Through their ranks moved—

First, the choristers, singing hymn 115, from the Hymnal.

Second, the clergy, in the following order :

Rev. J. H. Stringfellow, and Rev. H. T. Lee.
 Rev. G. W. Stickney, and Rev. W. H. Campbell.
 Rev. J. H. Tillinghast, and Rev. J. V. Welch.
 Rev. N. B. Fuller, and Rev. William H. Johnson.
 Rev. L. F. Guerry, and Rev. E. C. Edgerton.

*Rev. L. C. Lance, and Rev. E. E. Bellinger.
 Rev. A. Moore, and Rev. John W. Motte.
 Rev. W. O. Prentiss, and Rev. C. B. Walker.
 Rev. E. T. Walker, and Rev. J. H. Cornish.
 Rev. E. Capers, and Rev. P. D. Hay.
 Rev. R. S. Trapier, and Rev. John Johnson.
 Rev. A. T. Porter, and Rev. E. R. Miles.
 Rev. C. C. Pinckney, and Rev. R. P. Johnson.
 Rev. J. G. Drayton, and Rev. T. F. Gadsden.
 Rev. James H. Elliott, D. D., and Rev. J. Mercier Green.
 †Rev. W. P. DuBose, S. T. D., and Rev. Wm. H. Hanckel.
 Rev. J. D. McCollough, and Rev. Alex. Glennie.
 Rev. P. J. Shand, D. D., and Rev. E. McElheran.
 Rev. A. W. Marshall, D. D., and Rev. Joseph R. Walker,
 D. D.

Right Rev. W. B. W. Howe, D. D., Bishop of the Diocese of South Carolina.

*Rev. L. C. Lance, formerly of the Diocese of South Carolina—now of the Diocese of Wisconsin. Present by Invitation.

†Rev. W. P. DuBose formerly of the Diocese of South Carolina—now residing at Sewanee Tenn. Chaplain of the University of the South. Present by Invitation.