

**MEMORIAL OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTH AVENUE
SABBATH SCHOOL, CEMBRIDGE HELD
IN THE NORTH AVENUE BAPTIST
CHURCH, SEPTEMBER 24, 1871**

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Memorial of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the North Avenue Sabbath School, Cambridge
Held in the North Avenue Baptist Church, September 24, 1871 by Various

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**NORTH AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH,
CAMBRIDGE.**

REV. WM. S. APSEY, PASTOR.

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MEMORIAL

OF THE

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

North Avenue Sabbath School,

CAMBRIDGE,

HELD IN THE NORTH AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH,
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Introduction.

It is one of the beneficent arrangements of Divine Providence that in this world societies as well as individuals are in the long run judged and appreciated by the amount of good they accomplish. Twenty-five years ago, a few devoted followers of Christ founded a Sabbath school, in fear and trembling, in that part of the city of Cambridge now known as North Cambridge. The field was a forbidding one; the prospects for its success were slight; but, with the blessing of God, it has lived to celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary.

Could we go back over the twenty-five years, and count up the good that has been done, the souls saved, the youth trained up aright, and the social influences turned in the right direction, we would not be surprised at the magnificent sight which met the eyes of the visitor who entered the North Avenue Baptist Church, Cambridge, Sabbath morning (September 24, 1871), the occasion of the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Sabbath school. There seemed to be a halo of divine glory around the place; and the crowded and appreciative congregation, and the beautiful floral ornamentation, and the grand music, made a scene which will long be remembered by those who were so fortunate as to be present.

The church was adorned with wreaths, bouquets, and hanging baskets of the richest flowers, arranged by the willing hands of a corps of young ladies connected with the School, imparting a refreshing fragrance to the air. Spanning the pulpit recess was arranged an arch beautifully trimmed with evergreen, and bearing upon it, in letters of the same, the words, "THIS DAY SHALL BE UNTO YOU FOR A MEMORIAL."

A new and expensive organ was played for the first time, and its noble strains echoed out the thanks which filled every heart for the beautiful day and the pleasant surroundings. Surely God smiled upon the scene, and blessed all who participated in it.

Among the congregation could be noticed many of the leading members of other denominations, whose presence indicated the esteem in which they held the pioneer religious interest of North Cambridge. A notable feature of the afternoon's proceedings was the presence of about sixty children belonging to the Infant department of the School, arranged on raised seats, entirely filling the pulpit platform, and facing the congregation. These were under the immediate charge of their teachers, Misses Mary and Josie Glover.

The exercises of the day passed off in the most pleasant manner, all the arrangements bearing evidence of the fact that they had been the subject of deep thought and careful preparation. Nothing was left to chance by the Superintendent and his assistants, and the success they met with must have been as gratifying to themselves, as it was conducive to the welfare of their Master's kingdom.

T. G. W.



Morning.

VOLUNTARY BY THE CHOIR.

READING SCRIPTURES AND PRAYER,

BY THE PASTOR,

REV. WILLIAM S. APSEY.

HYMN.

PRAISE, everlasting praise, be paid
To Him who earth's foundation laid ;
Praise to the God whose strong decrees
Sway the creation as He please.

Firm are the words His prophets give,
Sweet words on which His children live ;
Each of them is the voice of God,
Who spoke and spread the skies abroad.

O for a strong, a lasting faith,
To credit what th' Almighty saith ;
T' embrace the message of His Son,
And call the joys of heaven our own.

Then, should the earth's old pillars shake,
And all the wheels of nature break,
Our steady souls shall fear no more
Than solid rocks when billows roar.

