

Canada Christian Advocate - Nov. 3, 1880

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The new M.E.Church at Georgetwon will be open for the worship of God on the Sabbathm November 21st, 1880.

Services of prayer and song from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. by Rev. S.G.Stone editor of the CCA, Hamilton; and at 6:30 by Rev. Didwell Lone, M.A., Belleville.

Collections after each service are in aid of the building fund.

On Monday, 22nd, a tea meeting will be given by the ladies of the circuit in the basement, consisting of refreshment, music, and addresses.

All former pastors are invited.

Georgetown, Nov. 1st, 1880

S. Pirritte, J.W.Leek

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It was our privilege on Sabbath and Monday of this week to attend and participate in the dedication services of the new Methodist Episcopal Church at Georgetown, and to enjoy the hospitalities of our esteemed brother W. Pirritte, the pastor. The church, which is a monument to the zeal, industry, perseverance and good management of the pastor and the laborious building committee associated with him, is a neat gothis edifice, with seeting accommodation for nearly four hundred persons, with extra seats, when occasion may require, for one hundred more. The external appearance of the building is very fine. Two towers, one on each corner of the front--the one surmounted by a graceful spire rising to a height of one hundred and fifteen feet, and the other finished with a tasteful dome,--give a fine effect to the building when viewed from Guelph Street, on which it stands. The side walls are supported by substancial buttresses ornamated with stone copings. At the rear is a chancel projecting twenty-two feet, which, with the towers

give an extreme length to the building of ninety feet. The entrance is by the two towers, from which, by a few descending steps, the spacious and well finished lecture-room is reached, adjacent to which are the various compartments necessary to the proper management of Sabbath-School and class and committee meetings. From the tower vestibule staircases lead also to the auditorium, which is one of the neatness and most tastefully finished which we have seen, while, at the same time, no accoustic properties have been sacrificed for the sake of architectural display. The side walls of the auditorium are twenty-two feet high, with a height of ceiling of thirty-three feet. The style of ceiling is Gowan, and, being well executed, and a very neat and pleasing appearance. Nor has that important feature in all properly planned public buildings--ventilation--been overlooked. A large ventilator of sufficient size has been placed in the ceiling for carrying off over heated air, and flues have been placed in the walls in which fresh air can be carried continuously into the auditorium. The chancel is elevated about three feet above the main floor and is sufficiently large to afford room for a good sized organ, and to seat a large choir. The pulpit is on a plane level with the chancel, and is sufficiently elevated to enable the preacher to command a view of all parts of the room. The ladies have provided beautiful chandeliers and provided matting for the aisles and carpetting for the communion platform, and the chancel. The entire cost of building including furnishings, is about \$7000. all of which was provided for in cash and subscription before the dedication services were performed. In bringing to a successful issue an enterprise which has engaged no little anxiety and care, the pastors and the committee are to be congratulated. They have now one of the neatest and best appointed churches that we have seen, sufficiently large for the present wants of the town in which

it is located, and at a cost which surprised for its cheapness, every body who has seen it. We earnestly hope that this material success may be followed by a gracious revival of religion in the Church and by conversion of many souls.

Canada Christian Advocate - December 15, 1880

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Georgetown Dedication

According to announcement the new Methodist Episcopal Church, recently erected in the flourishing village of Georgetown, was solemnly dedicated to the worship of God on Sabbath, Nov. 21st, 1880. The Rev. S.G. Stone of Hamilton and Rev. Bidwell Lane of Belleville, whose names were announced in connection with the dedicatory services, were both on hand, happy and strong. Thorough preparations had been made by the pastors and building committee for a successful opening. The day proved to be the most severe of the season so far. The wind was terrific and the cold was intense, yet not withstanding the house was comfortably filled in the morning, and in the evening it was literally packed. Many friends from a distance came out to cheer us with their presence and render substantial aid to the enterprise.

The morning services were conducted by Re. Dr. Stone, who preached as appropriate and admirable sermon from Gal. vi. 14 The audience gave strict attention; and were evidently interested and profited. At the conclusion of the sermon Bro. Stone read the financial statement of the cost of the church, liabilities, etc., and then asked the audience to contribute the sum of \$4,500. Probably there were not ten persons in the church <sup>who thought</sup> that amount could be reached under the circumstances. Despite the fears of many and the unbelief of some, Dr. Stone rigorously supported by the pastors and committee resolved to raise the whole amount or nothing. All felt it to be a heavy life indeed,

GEORGE W. STONE

but some of us knew there were men and women in that assembly who had the pluck, energy and religion to lift mightily rather than fail. We knew also that God, whose glory we were seeking to promote, would not fail us. In a short time we secured ten responses to the first proposition of \$200. each. Many now began to feel easier, and there was evidently an increase of faith in others. It was thought now the Thermoplæ was passed and victory was sure. Dr. Stone with very great tact and occasional sallies of wit, kept the audience generally in good humor and more or less interested until a late hour, when it was deemed advisable to adjourn until evening.

In the evening Br. Lane was greeted with an immense audience. His sermon based upon Romans viii. 2, delighted the congregation and left a fine impression. Immediately after the sermon another call was made for subscriptions, and many cheerful and liberal responses were given. The total amount subscribed (including Monday evening) was \$5,081. Placte collections at the two Sabbath services and proceeds of tea-meeting and social amounted to an additional sum of a little over \$ 200.00

Our people exhibited in connection with this church enterprise, a self-sacrificing devotion to God and His cause the most commendable, and gave a most striking proof of the sincerity of their faith and the depth of their piety. Several persons outside of our own membership gave subscriptions, but, of course, our own members had to bear the burden. The kindly interest shown by our sister Churches, in withdrawing their services and joining in the worship in the new temple with us, indicated a noble spirit of Christian unity and genuine brotherly love. We shall not soon forget their kindness and sympathy.

The tea-meeting given by the ladies of the circuit on Monday night was a success. The choir furnished excellent music. The address by Rev. B. Lane was appropriate, interesting and impressive. The people of Georgetown want to hear him again.

A description of the building has already appeared in the editorial columns of the Advocate, and therefore we will not repeat. The whole magnificent enterprise from its first inception to its final completion was an uninterrupted success. The energy and push of the contractors, Messrs. Crawford Bros., of Georgetown, are worthy of all praise. It was late in May when they really began the work, and to be able to present it to the building committee completed by the 20th of October of same year exhibits a goahead-ativeness that contrasts very advantageously with the majority of church contractors in any country. The building is a fine speciman of their taste and skill, and a monument of their perserverance. While many did well and nobly, yet, it is only bare justice to say that the energy, perserverance and untiring devotion of G. H. Kennedy, Esq., secretary of the building committee contributed more in time, labour, and means, to make it a success than will ever be known to the general public. Brother Kennedy will not be pleased with the use of his name, but I saw and understood and therefore have I spoken. I tender to all the brethern who have helped in this work the warmest thanks and therefore to all who have contributed to the payments of the debts. And above all, we give thanks to God who so wonderfully prospered the undertaking.

At the tea-meeting Monday night, we were cheered by the presence of five ministers from the town viz. Rev. Unsworth, Congregational, Rev. Pringle, Presbyterian, Coutts, Baptist, Mortan and Burns, C. Methodist, together with Revs. Morrison, Lynch, Argue Burns and Leek of our church. These dear brethern will never know how much their presence cheered our hearts during our anxious hours.

"Now unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever." Amen

Georgetown, Dec. 7th, 1880

Yours for the Master,  
W. Pirritte, Pastor