

A BRIEF HISTORY OF ST. MARK'S.

Written by Rev. R. L. Patterson, D.D., Present Pastor of the Church.

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran church, Charlotte occupies not only a prominent location on North Tryon street, but holds a relative important place in the city. In the general work of benevolence, whether in the city or regions beyond, it has held a forward especially in the sphere of world-wide missions. Belonging to the church of the Reformation, the first and leading champion of Protestantism, it holds firm upon the Word as the only of faith and life, and the doctrine of justification by faith as the central and co-ordinating truth of that Word. A pure gospel gives her chief claim to the original name assumed in the great controversy issuing in the triumph of reformation, viz: "The Evangelical Church."

The 31st of October, called "Reformation Day," is annually celebrated throughout the Lutheran Church in all lands, and St. Mark's observes this day as one of the annual festivals. This date is historically fixed as the beginning of the great Reformation, marking the particular day when Martin Luther nailed the memorable "Ninety-Five" These against indulgences upon the door of the Castle Church at Wittenberg, the eve of All Saints Day. This year this festival will coincide with the 50th anniversary of the founding of St. Mark's and will be of more than usual interest.

The credit of founding this congregation belongs pre-eminently to the Rev. G. D. Bernheim, D. D., now of this city. The record of this eminent servant of God as a founder of churches is unsurpassed by any minister in the Southern Lutheran Church. It has been his privilege to survive all his early co-laborers in the ministry, and among all who survive with him he holds a place of reverential esteem and honor. He is with us in full mental vigor, and will participate in the jubilee of October 31st.

It was on the fifth Sunday in January, 1859, that Dr. Bernheim, then pastor of St. John's church, Cabarrus county, visited Charlotte not dreaming of organizing a Lutheran church. His visit, however, seemed to be within the plan of unseen powers. He found unexpected friends whom he inspired with a new enthusiasm; and in a few days \$700 was subscribed toward the beginning of a Lutheran church in the city of Charlotte.

Among the names of the contributors of \$100 each, we find Martin Heubner, Peter Brown, Jacob Duls, F. W. Ahrens, Mr. Langfried, Allen Cruse and James Carson.

On the Sunday following Dr. Bernheim preached in the Presbyterian church, and the following Monday in the old court house organized a congregation under the name of St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Charlotte, N. C. Sixteen persons were enrolled as members, a constitution was adopted, and a committee appointed to secure a location for a church building.

Of the sixteen charter members, only two now residing in Charlotte are known to be living. These are Mrs. Jacob Duls and Capt. F. W. Ahrens.

The Earlier Struggles. The new congregation faced almost insuperable obstacles. The work assumed soon taxed the enthusiasm of the little flock almost beyond power of continuance. Yet it is refreshing to read that immediately after their organization they bargained for the old Episcopal church, which was located on West Trade street, opposite the United States Mint. This was too great a financial obligation for the young church, and the undertaking was given up, and instead the Methodist church building, corner of Seventh and College streets, was purchased for the sum of \$500 (the Methodists at that time were building the corner of Tryon and Sixth streets), and here they worshipped till fall, having service every two weeks, conducted by neighboring pastors.

In the spring of 1859 the Rev. Alexander Phillippi, just from the Theological Seminary, at Gettysburg, Pa., came as the first pastor. He served for one year, and returning to Virginia, his native state, enlisted in the Confederate army early in 1861. Dr. Phillippi is still living. Phillippi (dnocelm etson shrdiu . . . and an active service in the church at Wytteville, Va. He will be present and participate in the jubilee services.

Dr. Bernheim Pastor. In the beginning of 1861 Dr. Bernheim came again to Charlotte, this time to become pastor of the congregation he had organized. Now came years of confusion. The war was on to rage fiercer and fiercer for four years. Home religion was projected into the camp and field of blood. Fathers, husbands and sons went out to the firing line. Church movements were suppressed by the calls of patriotic sacrifice, and the strenuous endeavor for scanty sustenance of food, clothing and shelter. These four years of labor by Dr. Bernheim were years of severe trials, and it was all he could do to fan the embers into feeble flame. He shared in all the privations of the depleted flock, supporting himself with the labor of his hands. The war ended but the woes remained and were multiplied under the direful "reconstruction era."

1865 - Rev. N. Aldrich, Pastor - A New Location for the Church. The Rev. Mr. Aldrich found in 1865 a small and dispirited membership worshipping at Seventh and College streets. The only hope of building up the congregation was to start anew. Captain Ahrens came to the rescue, and offered lot 510 North Tryon street and timber to build, in exchange for the old lot. The proposition was accepted, and the pastor relinquished his salary pending the erection of the new building, devoting much of his time to raising money. New life came into the flock, and in July, 1870, the cornerstone of the new church was laid. After two years the building was completed. Much praise is due the women of the church for their indomitable zeal in this work. The church was dedicated in 1872. Revs. L. A. Bickle and D. M. Henkel assisting the pastor in the services. After a pastorate of nine years, Rev. Aldrich resigned, in 1874.

The Rev. E. Wingard, D.D. This brother, who some years ago passed to his heavenly reward, became pastor in 1876, and served till 1881. He was preceded and followed by temporary supplies. Just from the Theological Seminary, he began his labors here; he was a brilliant young man, consecrated, and much beloved. Frail, physically, he labored faithfully, several times offering his resignation on account of ill health. But each time the congregation refused to part with him, until finally a change and rest became absolutely necessary for the preservation of health and prolongation of life. Dr. Wingard was possessed of a genius for poetic composition, and published later a volume of meritorious poems entitled "Echoes and Other Poems." His incumbency may be termed a period of adjustment through varying fortune.

The Rev. T. Shannon Brown. Another epoch begins with the coming of the Rev. T. S. Brown. Very soon agitation began for a better location and a better church building. Beginning his pastorate in 1882, he had with him as church councilmen, Capt. T. L. Siegle, Capt. W. A. Barrier, Henry A. Klueppelberg, S. E. Linton, C. H. Duls, Esq., and others of large vision, faith and liberality. This pastorate of eight years was the most fruitful of all up to this time. Here were laid the foundations upon which his successors have been building since.

To Rev. Mr. Brown is largely due the credit for the erecting of the present church building, which at its dedication in 1890 was perhaps the equal in symmetry and churchliness of any church building in the city. The old church at 510 North Tryon was sold, and the cornerstone of the present building at 408 North Tryon was laid October 31st, 1885. The present celebration is the 24th anniversary of that event.

In 1884, the church, hitherto aided partially by the North Carolina Synod became self-sustaining. The Synod contributed \$1,500 towards the erection of the new church.

Rev. Mr. Brown resigned in 1890 having served eight years. He has since been pastor of churches in Pennsylvania, and is now pastor at Lexington, S. C. He will be present

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The Rev. W. S. Bowman, D.D. Dr. Bowman, a man of remarkable gifts, and manly, patriarchal bearing, followed the Rev. Brown, and served amidst what he termed "phenomenal afflictions." His pastorate lasted six years, until his own health made it necessary for him to refuse for the third time to yield to protests against his resignation. Dr. Bowman's work will abide, being of an intensive character. The congregation grew in loyalty and devotion to the historic usages of Lutheranism. He held to fundamentals in Christian culture, and though a preacher of power, he resorted to no extraneous means to enhance his reputation. He won the hearts of those who were fortunate enough to know him. He served six years, and his magnanimity is shown in that he released the congregation from all obligation during his enforced vacations, and declined to accept all of his salary the last year of his service. He was agreeable, brave, independent soul, and though dead yet speaketh.

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THE LARGEST CLOAK & SUIT HOUSE IN CAROLINA

It Is a Pleasure to See How Beautiful Are Our

SPRING SUITS

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We are starting the season with a wonderful offering of beautiful Spring Suits and have planned to make our Spring Suit season the biggest event ever held—hence, we begin Tomorrow, by offering as beautiful a collection of garments as the mid-season ever witnessed at the price of \$12.98.

Cutaway Jackets---"Gaby" Skirts

The Suits are made of only the latest fashion decreed fabrics—Stunning Isleworth Serges, with the newest trimming imprints, Short Cutaway Jackets, everyone of which is beautifully satin lined. The beauty of the Suit is further accentuated by the trig "Gaby" Skirt, cut on the new diagonal lines and handsomely trimmed and finished by buttons. This is only one of the beauties to be had at this price.

Alterations FREE Continued

Famous MacFarlane Clan Gathers Again

London, Feb. 17.—"Thogall nam bo heidson" on the bagpipes resounded in Furnival street, Holborn, the other night.

It was the pibroch of the Clan Macfarlane, who were meeting to their old Highland cry—"Lifting cattle we will go"—at the Food Reform Vegetarian Restaurant.

It was the first gathering of the Clan Macfarlane for centuries.

Though the Macfarlanes have been sadly scattered since the days when they set off on many a fine foray from the "Bonny, bonny banks of Loch Lomond"—their Scottish home, the spirit of the clan is undiminished, either by villification or vegetarianism.

Rumor has it that a fortune of \$5,000,000 is awaiting the chieftain of the Clan Macfarlane—when he can be found.

For years the clan has never lacked a claimant. Many a Macfarlane has spread his family documents before the court of chancery. But now it is agreed the \$5,000,000 is a myth, and the Macfarlanes gathered—men and women a hundred strong—to form a social society "for mutual advice, help and guidance."

This mythical five million, according to a Macfarlane who has tested its truth, was originally a fortune of \$400,000 left by a Macfarlane, who died intestate and of unsound mind, in Baden-Baden a century ago.

Two Dutch ladies inherited the money and their descendants are living in rightful enjoyment of it still. The Macfarlane claim is a Highland legend.

The new social society of the Clan Macfarlane elected a chairman, not a chieftain.

The Macfarlane chieftain left for America 150 years ago, and all trace of him and his descendants has been lost. The new society hopes to find him. They possess a distant claimant in their own ranks, but blood is the only acknowledged claim to chieftainship, and the Macfarlane—the real Macfarlane—is for America to find.

"We would accept him as our chieftain," said a urminent Macfarlane, "if he came back with a shrill American accent and a suit of New York clothes. It's the blood that makes a chieftain—ye canna go against the blood."

These inquiries as to the destination of the billion dollars worth of manufactures sent out of the country had for the first time crossed the billion dollar line, the total for the calendar year 1911 of merchandise sent to foreign countries and to Hawaii and Porto Rico having been 1,002 million dollars and that this total is practically double that of a decade ago.

These inquiries as to the destination of the billion dollars worth of manufactures sent out of the country and the various parts of the world in which this increase has occurred has led the bureau of statistics to the preparation of a statement showing the distribution, article by article, to the various sections of the world, grouping these for convenience of the study according to grand division showing the value of exports to Europe, North America, South America, Asia, Africa, and Oceania respectively in 1911 and at the earlier period in which the total was but half that of today.

At the recent meeting the chairman receiving the guests had an enviable easy task. Every guest's name was Macfarlane—he could not make a mistake.

The share which manufactures formed of the total exports of domestic merchandise at the two periods named was as follows: To Europe, in 1902, 23 per cent, in 1911, 30 per cent; to North America, in 1902, 53 per cent, in 1911, 61 per cent; to South America, in 1902, 71 per cent, in 1911, 86 per cent; to Asia, in 1902, 69 per cent, in 1911, 71 per cent; to Africa, in 1902, 33 per cent, in 1911, 75 per cent; and to Oceania, in 1902, 35 per cent, in 1911, 86 per cent. Of the manufactures exported in the last fiscal year, 43 per cent went to Europe, 21 per cent to North America, 11 per cent to South America, 7 per cent to Asia, 6 per cent to Oceania, and 2 per cent to Africa.

The growth and changes in distribution of our exports of manufactures during the last decade are well illustrated by comparative figures covering a few of the more important articles. Of iron and steel manufactures, for example, the exports to Europe

in the fiscal year 1901 were 44 million, in 1911, 107 million dollars, the growth in exports to Europe being slight, while those to North America more than doubled. To South America the figures for 1901 were 9 million, those for 1911, 30 million dollars; to Asia, 9 million in 1901, 18 million in 1911; to Oceania, 9 million in 1901, 19 million in 1911; and to Africa, 3 1-3 million in 1901.

Our exports of copper and manufactures thereof are principally to Europe, the figures having grown from 41 million dollars in 1901 to 98 million in 1911, and representing in that year over 90 per cent of the total exports of that article.

Of refined mineral oil the exports to Europe increased from 41 million dollars in 1901 to 48 million in 1911; to Asia, the second largest market, from 12 million to 19 million, while to no other grand division were the figures for 1911 as much as 10 million dollars. South America, however, being credited with 9 1-2 million, against less than 5 million a decade earlier.

Of leather and manufactures the exports to Europe increased from 21 million dollars in 1901 to 33 million in 1911; to North America, from 3 1-3 to 13 2-3 million; to South America, from a half million to 3 million; and Asia from one-third million to 1 1-2 million.

Every part of the world is taking increased amounts of agricultural implements from the United States. To Europe the growth in the decade 1901-1911 was from 10 to 17 million dollars; to North America from 2 1-2 to 6 million; to South America, from 1 3-4 to 9 million; to Asia, from 190 thousand to three-quarters of a million; to Oceania, from one million to 1 2-4 million; and to Africa, from 1-4 million to 1 1-2 million dollars.

From the egotist's point of view the sweetest music in the world comes from blowing his own horn.

Would you say of a native-born American that he speaks broken English just because he stutters?

DAILY BALLOT

TEN VOTES FOR

M.
Address.
District.
Subject to Rules of The Charlotte News Contest. Must be Received at the News Office by March 1, 1912.

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To enter the contest fill out this coupon and send to The News Contest Department. Each contestant is entitled to one Nomination, good for 1000 Votes
In The Charlotte News' Great Automobile Contest.
I hereby nominate
Mr. Mrs. or Miss.
Street No. District No.
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Signed
Address
Profession Date
Only one nomination will be credited to each contestant. Under no circumstances will the name of nominator be divulged.

Take Notice!

The Mechanics Perpetual Building & Loan Association ON SATURDAY, the 3RD DAY OF MARCH, Will be the beginning of the

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Of the largest and most progressive association in the State, having over 30,000 shares on its books and over \$1,250,000 in assets. Come one and all help make this the largest series in its history.

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