

**HISTORICAL SKETCH NUMBER TWENTY-THREE.**

The year 1874 was an eventful one in the history of the Church. Ten years had elapsed since the new house of worship was dedicated. Durig that time nothing had been done in the way of repairs either to the building or its furnishings. The paint was badly worn, the frescoing was faded, the gas-fixtures were very unsatisfactory and the carpets were worn out; and what was worse, the treasury was empty.

A Committee was appointed to devise ways and means for a complete renovation. Liberal subscriptions were received and these were supplemented by the receipts of the famous "Kettle Drum" which amounted to \$826.00; being the proceeds of one evening's Entertainment.

The success of the "Kettle Drum" was very largely due to the untiring labors of the Chairman of the Committee, Bro. E. A. Corbin. The entire cost of the renovation was \$3210.21; all of which was secured by the Committee, who received the thanks of the Church.

No mention is made in the Church Records of the services connected with the Semi-Centennial Anniversary of the formation of the Church. It may be well to put on record the events of that occasion as found in a copy of programme now in my possession. It was decided to hold these services during Thanksgiving week, and to invite all the former Pastors then living, to participate in the exercises. As will be seen by the programme, all but two favored us with their presence. The meetings were very largely attended, not only by the membership, but by many others who had been members in former years. Many incidents in the early history of the Church were brought to mind by these former Pastors. Sermons by Dr. Gillette, Dr. Burrows and Dr. Dowling were listened to by those who then heard them for the first and last time. The occasion was one of great interest and never to be forgotten by those who participated in it.

1824. 1874.  
SEMI-CENTENNIAL SERVICES.  
NOVEMBER  
22d, 23d, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th.

FIFTH BAPTIST CHURCH,  
Corner Eighteenth and Spring Garden  
Streets, Philadelphia.

Sunday, November 22d,

Morning, 10½ o'clock.

MEMORIAL SERMON

BY THE

REV. A. D. GILLETTE, D. D.,  
of New York.

Afternoon, 3 o'clock,

COMMUNION SERVICE,

AT WHICH THE

REV. JOHN DOWLING, D. D.,  
of New York,

AND

REV. WM. SHADRACH, D. D.,  
of Indiana, Pennsylvania,

WILL OFFICIATE.

Former Members of the Fifth Baptist Church  
Specially Invited.

Evening, 7 o'clock,

SERMON

BY THE

REV. J. LANSING BURROWS, D. D.,  
of Richmond, Va.

Monday Evening, November 23d,

7½ o'clock.

JUBILEE SOCIABLE.

REV. HOWARD MALCOM, D. D.,

Will deliver an Address of Welcome to the

Former Pastors,

AND THE

REV. THOMAS S. MALCOM,

Will furnish an Historical Sketch of the Church.

This Meeting is especially designed to welcome  
our former Pastors, and to furnish a pleasant  
opportunity for their old friends to greet them  
socially.

Tuesday Evening, November 24th,

7½ o'clock,

BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY,

(Infant and Intermediate Departments.)

EXERCISES BY THE SCHOOL,

AND ADDRESSES BY THE

REV. JOHN DOWLING, D. D.,

AND THE

REV. J. LANSING BURROWS, D. D.

Wednesday Evening, November 25th,

7½ o'clock.

BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY,

(ADULT DEPARTMENT.)

ADDRESSES WILL BE DELIVERED BY

REV. WILLIAM SHADRACH, D. D.,

REV. JAMES B. SIMMONS, D. D.,

AND

REV. WARREN RANDOLPH, D. D.

Thursday Morning, November 26th,

11 o'clock,

THANKSGIVING SERMON,

BY

REV. JOHN DOWLING, D. D.,  
of New York.

Friday Evening, November 27th,

7½ o'clock,

PRAYER AND CONFERENCE

MEETING,

CONDUCTED BY

**PASTORS**

OF THE

**FIFTH BAPTIST CHURCH,**

PHILADELPHIA.

REV. JOHN L. DAGG, D. D., . . . . .	1825	1834.
" A. D. GILLETTE, D. D., . . . . .	1835	" 1837.
" JOSEPH A. WARNE, D. D., . . . . .	1838	" 1839.
" J. LANSING BURROWS, D. D., . . . . .	1840	" 1844.
" WILLIAM SHADRACH, D. D., . . . . .	1844	" 1847.
" HOWARD MALCOM, D. D., . . . . .	1849	" 1851.
" JOHN DOWLING, D. D., . . . . .	1852	" 1856.
" MERRIWETHER WINSTON, . . . . .	1859	" 1861.
" JAMES B. SIMMONS, D. D., . . . . .	1861	" 1867.
" WARREN RANDOLPH, D. D., . . . . .	1867	" 1871.
" BREJ. D. THOMAS, Present Pastor,		

(Settled November, 1871.)

**HOW CAN A REVIVAL BE PROMOTED?**

Zion's Herald publishes a symposium composed of short answers to this question. The best is that by the Rev. L. W. Munhall. He says:

- How promote a revival?
- The divine elements: 1. The Word.
- 2. The Spirit.
- Therefore: 'Preach the Word,' and 'Be filled with the Spirit.'
- The human elements—Agencies: 1. Heart to love. 2. Mind to plan. 3. Will to sacrifice. 4. Tongue to speak. 5. Feet to walk. 6. Hands to help.
- Means: 1. Good singing. 2. Hand shaking. 3. Printer's ink. 4. Personal work. 5. Common-sense.

"Let much prayer be offered, with unwavering faith, that God will bless His Word, attend its proclamation with the Spirit's power, and anoint the agents and use the means."

Another concise and excellent reply comes from the Rev. A. J. Gordon, D. D., of Boston, who says:

"Our reliance should be first and continually on the Holy Spirit. Days of fasting and prayer to seek His enduement, attended with deep heart-searching and church scrutiny, should be the first resort. A little band, however small, holding on until the blessing is won, and the preaching the Gospel strongly and faithfully—this is the only method I can suggest"

ONLY the Master's hand can bring out of our souls the music that slumbers in them. A violin lies on the table silent and without beauty. One picks it up and draws the bow across the strings, but it yields only wailing discords. Then the master comes and takes it up, and he brings from the little instrument the most marvellous music. Other men touch our lives and draw from them only jangled notes; Christ takes them and when he has put the chords in tune he brings from