

Improvements in Clinton Avenue Reformed Church.

The chancel end of the Clinton Avenue Reformed Church has undergone some radical alterations during the last few weeks. A new reredos, choir loft and pulpit platform have been constructed, and these changes greatly enhance the appearance of the interior of the edifice.

The improvements are for the purpose of accommodating a choir. When the church was built many of the charter members and largest contributors were opposed to anything except congregational singing led by a precentor. No provision was made for a choir, and the organ console was down on the level with the congregation, while the pulpit was perched back behind the organist and the precentor's platform.

The present alterations reverse this order of things, the minister being brought down to a closer level with the congregation and in front of the organ console and choir. The quartet choir of the church, consisting of Dr. H. J. F. Walhauser, basso; John F. Thomas, tenor; Miss Grace Whitmore Sims, soprano, and Mrs. Irma Konkle, contralto, will take part in all the Sunday services hereafter, and in addition to the quartet the seventy members of the choral society, organized from among the members of the church by Organist William E. Ashmoll, have planned to render an oratorio one Sunday evening during each month. The

new choir loft is bigger than it looks from the body of the church, and will accommodate the entire number of extra singers, but, if necessary, the ends of the gallery adjoining the choir loft can be used to seat a few of them.

The general character of the woodwork comprising the changes, comports with the rest of the church in carving and general architecture. The material used is choice black walnut and fancy oak. The pulpit, which has been in use since the early days of the church, is a handsome piece of work, costing originally over \$400. It is composed of precious woods, finely carved, and bears this inscription in gold letters: 'We preach Christ crucified.'

The entire reredos will be unveiled and used at the church services to-morrow. A new organ is in process of construction, and this will be ready for use in the course of a few more Sundays.

The gothic edifice, which is of brown stone, is one of the largest churches in the city. It cost nearly \$200,000, and is entirely free from debt. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Dr. Daniel H. Martin. He has two assistants, the Rev. Abram Mattice and the Rev. George H. Rogers. The consistory comprises twenty men prominent in the business circles of this city. The church recently sent out its own missionary, the Rev. Frank Eckerson, to China.