

## J.B. DIDINGER & CO. (1893); presumably dedicated with the building, Sunday, September 3, 1893

Epworth Methodist Episcopal Church  
Palmyra, New Jersey

"A Dedication," *The Mount Holly (N.J.) News* 14, no. 36 (Tuesday, September 5, 1893): 3.

### A Dedication.

Dedicatory services were held on Sunday in the new Epworth M. E. Church of Palmyra. Meetings were held all day, and were attended by large congregations. Bishop W. F. Mallalieu, of Boston, preached the sermon in the morning and officiated at the formal dedication, assisted by Presiding Elder Dr. George Reed. In the afternoon a Sunday-school platform meeting was held, and addresses were delivered by Rev. George H. Neal, Sr., and F. K. Kellar, of New York city.

The sermon in the evening was preached by Bishop Mallalieu, which was followed by an appeal for contributions for the debt fund. The congregation responded liberally and a large amount was raised. Services will be held every day during this week. In the evening an inter-denominational meeting was held, when addresses were made by the pastors of neighboring churches. At this service there was a special music service after which Bishop Mallalieu again preached to a large and attentive congregation.

During this week services will be conducted every night except Saturday.

The following are the subjects to be presented:

"The Ministry for the Times," Rev. Isaac Moore, Pastor of the Baptist Church.

"How the Church can Help the Preacher," Rev. P. Y. Calder, a Methodist minister.

"The Way to Reach Non-Church-Going People," Rev. J. F. Fenton, Rector of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

"The Church and Social Problems," Rev. J. H. Converse, Rector Protestant Episcopal Church, Riverton.

Tuesday night, preaching by Revs. Charles Boswell, of Frankford, and R. S. Harris, of Camden.

Wednesday night, Rev. George H. Neal, Sr., of Glassboro, will have charge of the services.

On Thursday night, Rev. J. F. Sechrist, a former Pastor of the Church, will preach, and on Friday night the Rev. J. H. Hutchinson, of Cedarville, will have charge.

The building, which is located on one of the most eligible sites in the town, is built of frame, Gothic architecture and painted a dark lead color. The tower is 105 feet in height, with a belfry and bell.

The extreme dimensions are 66 by 99 feet with a main auditorium having a seating capacity of 500. The lecture room has a seating capacity of 250 and opens into the main auditorium by three large sliding sashes. The primary department is neatly designed and will seat seventy children. The two class rooms will seat thirty and forty-five and communicate with the lecture room by folding doors. The roof is of slate with iron cornices. The entire building throughout is finished in natural woods and will be heated with steam.

It is also wired with electric lights, and in addition is fully equipped with gas fixtures. The pipe organ is of recent pattern, built by J. B. Didinger & Co., of Philadelphia, at a cost of \$2000.

The floors are richly carpeted, and the walls and ceiling finished in light brown. The windows are of cathedral glass; the three large ones in the front contain a life-size figure of Christ, the Good Shepherd, Scene in Bethany and Faith.

The auditorium is amphitheatric in style and the seats are of heavy wood, beautifully carved.

The first church property was purchased of Elias Morgan, 1853, for \$285, and is located just opposite the Pennsylvania Railroad station, and has been used as a house of worship for the past 40 years.

Several times former pastors of the church have considered the erection of a

new edifice. About a year and a half ago George H. Neal, Jr., the present pastor, was appointed there, and he has since labored hard and earnestly for the erection of a new house of worship, and it is mainly through his indefatigable efforts that the new church was erected in such a short time. The cost is \$17,000 of which \$10,000 has been paid.