

## NEW PIPE ORGAN CLUB

The new Organ Club was organized in February, 1914, by Bro. Chas. H. Brooks. The first officers were Mrs. Carrie Perry, President; Mrs. Sara M. Sandidge, Vice-President; Miss Claudine R. Webster, Secretary; Mr. William Newman, Treasurer. Among other active contributing members of the Club were Mrs. Anna M. Bayton, Mrs. Cora A. Upshur, Mrs. L. Le Boeuf Mitchell, Mrs. Ella M. Saunders, Mrs. Mary S. Tribbett, Mrs. Marietta S. Williams, Mrs. Alice E. Chichester, Mr. R. L. Chichester and Mr. Howard A. Fisher. The object of the Club was to raise funds for a new and larger organ, as the organ brought from the old Church was not large enough for the new building. Assistance was sought from the Carnegie Corporation of New York. Mr. Brooks made the application and secured the endorsement of Dr. Booker T. Washington. The company agreed to pay one-half of the cost of a new organ, and the Church agreed to pay the balance. The organ was built by Felgeman Company of Erie, Pa., and installed at a total cost of \$5346. The contract was signed in January, 1914, and the organ was dedicated in May, 1914. The last dollar was paid April 8, 1918.

The organ was the finest and largest instrument owned by any colored Church at that time. The beauty and sweetness of its tones, as brought out under the masterful manipulation of Prof. R. Henri Robinson, the organist, brought great crowds to hear it. The musicians of the city arranged a number of high-class recitals which attracted white as well as colored music lovers to the Church every Sunday afternoon. Much of the funds necessary to meet the monthly payments was raised by these recitals; but the members of the Club gave freely and liberally of their personal funds for this laudable purpose.