

**J.B. DIDINGER & CO. (1896);** opened in concert by organist Frederck Maxson of Philadelphia and other artists, Wednesday evening, February 26, 1896

Centenary Methodist Episcopal Church  
Lambertville, New Jersey



“Our Methodist Friends.” *The Lambertville (N.J.) Beacon* 50, no. 2,185 (Friday, October 11, 1895): 3.

#### **Our Methodist Friends.**

Our Methodist friends have a big thing on their hands, the extensive repairs that are now being done to their church, costing about ten thousand dollars, of which sum the congregation and friends have subscribed about four thousand. The Epworth League, connected with the church, having subscribed five hundred dollars, feel the necessity of having some kind of an entertainment each month thereby gaining a few dollars. They know how to get up good things. Suppers at which viands are arranged in a tempting manner, then there are to be feasts for the mind, too. In August they held a lawn festival; it was a good time out doors, nice lunch, good music by Liberty Band, &c. Then in September they held a parlor meeting and supper, at Mr. Lewis Hunt's, which was a

grand success socially and financially, everybody being more than pleased. It was more like an invited tea than a church supper and was well served, the music by members of the League being a pleasing feature, and the reading by Mrs. Frank Phillips was highly appreciated. This month, October, they will give a lecture by Rev. J. H. Boswell, of Trenton, entitled “The dark side of New York.” It will be followed in November (Thanksgiving night) by a cantata and then close the year with a “Conundrum Supper and Fancy Bazar,” early in December, so you see the Epworth League of the M. E. Church expect to accomplish something financially in the days that are to come, to aid in remodelling their place of worship. We wish them success. X.

**J.B. Didinger & Co.; New Jersey; Lambertville; Centenary Methodist Episcopal Church; 1896; cont'd., page 2:**

"The M.E. Church, of this city," *The Lambertville (N.J.) Record* 24, no. 1,198 (Wednesday, October 16, 1895): 3; hereafter LR.

**—The M. E. Church, of this city, have ordered a fine pipe organ of King & Co., of Elmira, N. Y. It will be ready about the first of next January.**

[Apparently, J.B. Didinger & Son of Philadelphia.]

"The new organ for the M.E. Church of this city..." LR 24, no. 1,213 (Wednesday, January 29, 1896): 3.

**—The new organ for the M. E. Church of this city is being set up. It is expected that the work of remodelling the church will be completed so that the main audience room may be opened the first Sunday in March.**

"The 'Organ Opening'," LR 24, no. 1,215 (Wednesday, February 12, 1896): 3.

**—The "Organ Opening" at the M. E. Church will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 26th. Full particulars next week.**

"Organ Recital," LB 50, no. 2,203 (Friday, February 14, 1896): 3.

**ORGAN RECITAL.**—An organ recital will take place in the M. E. Church, this city, on Wednesday evening, February 26th. Several musicians from the city have been engaged for the occasion and no doubt some fine music will be rendered. Admission 50 and 35 cents.

"The opening of the new organ..." LR 24, no. 1,216 (Wednesday, February 16, 1896): 3.

**—The opening of the new organ at the M. E. Church in this city, will take place next Wednesday evening. On that occasion the following persons will take part: Mr. Frederick Maxson, organist First Congregational Church, 18th and Green streets, Philadelphia; Miss Grace Tallman, solo soprano First Baptist Church, Camden; Mr. Arthur L. Manchester, baritone and choirmaster First Baptist Church, Camden; Mr. Edwin C. Hall, violinist, Camden Musical Academy. Tickets 35 cents. The seats are being rapidly sold.**

"Organ Recital," *LB* 50, no. 2,204 (Friday, February 21, 1896): 3.

<p><b>ORGAN RECITAL.</b>—A Grand Organ Recital on the new pipe organ will take place in the Centenary M. E. Church, this city, on Wednesday evening, February 26th, by Mr. Frederick Maxson, Organist of Congregational Church, Philadelphia, 18th and Green streets, assisted by Miss Grace Tallman, Solo Soprano First Baptist Church, Camden, N. J.; Mr. Arthur L. Manchester, Baritone, Director Camden Musical Academy, and Choirmaster First Baptist Church, Camden; Mr. Edwin C. Hall, Professor of Violin, Camden Musical Academy. Admission, 35 cents; gallery, 50 cents. All seats reserved without extra charge. Diagram at Sharnalia's Drug Store, next door to Post Office. Doors open at 7:15; to commence at 7:45 o'clock.</p>	<p>tone, Director Camden Musical Academy, and Choirmaster First Baptist Church, Camden; Mr. Edwin C. Hall, Professor of Violin, Camden Musical Academy. Admission, 35 cents; gallery, 50 cents. All seats reserved without extra charge. Diagram at Sharnalia's Drug Store, next door to Post Office. Doors open at 7:15; to commence at 7:45 o'clock.</p>
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"Organ Recital," *LB* (Friday, February 28, 1896): 3.

**ORGAN RECITAL.**—The organ recital held at the M. E. Church, in this city, last Wednesday night, was largely attended and was one of the finest musical treats ever given in the city.

"The M.E. Organ Recital," *LR* 24, no. 1,218 (Wednesday, March 4, 1896): 3.

<p><b>The M. E. Organ Recital.</b> The opening of the fine new organ at the Methodist Episcopal Church in this city, last Wednesday evening, was a musical event of great interest, and drew out a large audience, which was highly pleased. The programme was as follows:</p> <p><b>PART I.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Toccata and Fugue in D min. <i>Baritone</i> Mr. Frederick Maxson.</li> <li>2. Andante and Gallop. <i>Schiller's March</i> Mr. Edwin C. Hall.</li> <li>3. a. Communion in G, <i>Baritone</i> b. Largo, <i>Andante</i> c. Fantasia, <i>Robinson's</i> Mr. Maxson</li> <li>4. Erl-King. <i>Schubert</i> Mr. A. L. Manchester.</li> <li>5. Schiller March. <i>Meyerbeer</i> Mr. Maxson.</li> </ol> <p><b>PART II.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction and Allegro from 1st Sonata, <i>Quilman</i> Mr. Maxson.</li> <li>2. Bells of Seville, <i>Jude</i> Miss Grace Tallman.</li> <li>3. Bell Rondo, <i>Norandi</i> Mr. Maxson.</li> <li>4. Solo, <i>Mr. Manchester.</i></li> <li>5. Variations on an American Air, <i>Flagler</i> Mr. Maxson.</li> <li>6. Legende, Op. 17, <i>Wieniawski</i> Mr. Hall.</li> <li>7. Overture to Semiramide, <i>Rossini</i> Mr. Maxson.</li> </ol> <p>Mr. Maxson's playing upon the organ showed a fine technique, both as to the</p>	<p>the manuals and pedals, and an ability to render tastefully and artistically the severe as well as the more florid style of organ music that is rare. He is certainly a delightful organist, who by his varied talents, is capable of pleasing all tastes.</p> <p>The solos of Miss Tallman were received with great favor and were heartily encouraged. She has a sweet, soprano voice, highly cultivated, and of great compass. Nicely as she sang, Miss Tallman was not at her best, as she was suffering from a cold.</p> <p>Mr. Hall's solos on the violin demonstrated that he was an artist of no mean ability. No lover of the violin could fail to be pleased with him.</p> <p>Mr. Manchester's baritone solos were sung in finished and artistic style. His voice is round and sweet, and under perfect control.</p> <p>Taken altogether, the concert was one of the best given in this city for a long time.</p> <p>The organ was built by J. B. Didinger &amp; Co., of Philadelphia. It has the new patent pneumatic action, and is up-to-date in every particular. We shall give a full description of it in our next issue.</p>
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J.B. Didinger & Co.; New Jersey; Lambertville; Centenary Methodist Episcopal Church; 1896; cont'd., page 4:

"Organ Recital," *LB* 50, no. 2,206 (Friday, March 6, 1896): 3.

**Organ Recital.**  
The organ recital held at the Centenary M. E. Church, on Wednesday evening of last week, was a decided success, both financially and musically; the church clearing about \$180. Mr. Frederick Harrison, organist Congregational Church, Philadelphia, performed on the organ, and his playing showed great skill and power; Miss Grace Tallman, whose sweet voice is heard in Camden's First Baptist Church, was encored several times; Mr. Edwin C. Hall, professor of violin at the Camden Musical Academy, performed several difficult solos on the violin, which were very much appreciated by the large audience; Mr. Arthur L. Manchester, of the Camden Academy added to the entertainment by a baritone solo. Taken as a whole the entertainment was first-class.

"Re-Opening of the M.E. Church," *LB* 50, no. 2,206 (Friday, March 6, 1896): 3.

**Re-Opening of the M. E. Church.**  
The Centenary M. E. Church, of this city, for the past six months has undergone extensive improvements which are now about completed. Among the improvements is that of a new slate roof, oak ceiling, ceiling reflector, stained-memorial windows, new seats, new cushions, new carpets covering the entire floor, new pulpit and furniture, altar railing, painted outside and inside, new stone pavement in front of church, and a large and handsome pipe organ. The amount expended for improvements has been about \$10,700. Next Sunday, March 8th, the church will be re-open for public services, and no doubt a large congregation will be present. The Rev. Dr. George E. Reed, of Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., will preach at 10:00 A. M., and at 7:30 P. M., the Rev. Dr. Thomas Hanlon, of Pennington Seminary, will occupy the pulpit. At 2:30 P. M., a platform meeting will be held, at which short addresses will be delivered. The friends and public are cordially invited to be present.

"Reopening of the M.E. Church," LR 24, no. 1,219 (Wednesday, March 11, 1896): 3.

**Reopening of the M. E. Church.**

The main audience room of the Centenary M. E. Church, of this city, was reopened, after a thorough renovation, on Sunday last.

The interior is now very handsome and attractive. The main room has been entirely remodeled. The improvements consist of walls studded and replastered with brown sand-paper finish; a new ceiling of oak, handsomely paneled and corriced; gas light reflectors in the ceiling; fine stained glass memorial windows; new oak pews arranged in semi-circular form; new pulpit, pulpit platform and altar rails; new velvet carpet; etc. Added to these, the vestibules have been much improved by storm doors, tile pavement, &c., and the front of the edifice by a new projecting cut stone arched doorway, which takes the place of the ugly entrance of the old building. A new slate roof has been put on the edifice, and many other smaller improvements made.

Another improvement is a large pipe organ, made by Didinger & Co., of Phila., the case of which is of beautiful design and harmonizes nicely with the paneled work of the audience room. The organ cost about \$2500, and the general opinion is that the church has secured a very fine instrument for the money.

Our Methodist friends have every reason to be proud of the success that they have achieved in remodeling and beautifying their house of worship.