

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The Petoskey Record

Local & Personal

Wednesday, September 11, 1907

MORTGAGED BURNED

Emmanuel Church Discharged

Dept of Long Standing

The fifteenth Sunday after Trinity A.D., 1907, was a day long looked forward to, and a day long to be remembered by the good people of Emmanuel Episcopal Church. When the parish was still a mission the parishioners, with commendable foresight secured the magnificent property on the corner of Waukazoo and Mitchell streets on which the church and rectory now stand, but in order to do so it was found necessary to incur a mortgage indebtedness which was later increased with the larger needs of the congregation, until it amounted with accrued interest to about two thousand dollars. For many years the people have lived in hopes of some day seeing this wiped out, but it was not until the present year that it seemed at all possible. Last Easter a considerable portion was raised so that the matter of raising the balance became practicable and, since then, efforts to that end were quietly and persistently pursued until on the above date, {last Sunday} in the presence of a congregation that taxed the capacity of the church to the utmost, the mortgage was solemnly burned, and never did the old Doxology ascend from more thankful hearts and lips. The service began with the hymn "*We Love Thy Place O God*" as a processional followed by morning prayer said by the rector, Rev. W. Bedford-Jones. The sermon was preached by the Rt. Rev. Daniel S. Tuttle, D.D., presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church. Whilst no synopsis can do justice to an effort so eloquent and pregnant with thought, the main theme of the sermon was based upon the continuity of the church the sufficiency of the old theological standards, the efficacy of the historic sacramental system, the integrity of the Bible and, primarily, the need of a return to the simple faith of our fathers and their fathers before them. These the Bishop likened to the wells of water for which the herdsmen of Isaac and Geran strove {Genesis 26} and which the former kept clean and retaining even their

ancient names, not rejecting new walls essential for new and more diverse needs. At the offertory the discharged mortgage was formally presented to the Bishop by the rector, wardens and treasurer of the church and the Bishop, thereupon solemnly ignited it whilst the whole congregation led by the choir and orchestra rose and sang the Doxology. The Bishop congratulated the people of the Emmanuel church is a short but heartfelt address and bidding them to prayer, dismissed them with the benediction, the recessional hymn being "*On our way rejoicing.*" The solo at the offertory was "*In the night shall my song be of Him*" by Dudley Buck, and Miss Cora Cross certainly surpassed herself in the manner in which she rendered this beautiful composition. In conclusion it is only fair to state that no small share of the credit, aside from the generosity and self denial of the contributors themselves, is due Mr. Amos Henika for his untiring efforts and tactful management, and to the rector himself who, on coming to the parish less than a year ago has from the first made this event one of his chief aims whilst the spiritual welfare of his people has by no means been neglected.