

EARLY AMERICAN CHVRCHES

PART XI

St. Phillips' Church.....Charleston, S.C.
The First Reformed Church...Hackensack, N.J.
The North Reformed Church...Schraalenburg, N.J.
The First Reformed Church...New Brunswick, N.J.

BY AYMAR EMBURY, II.

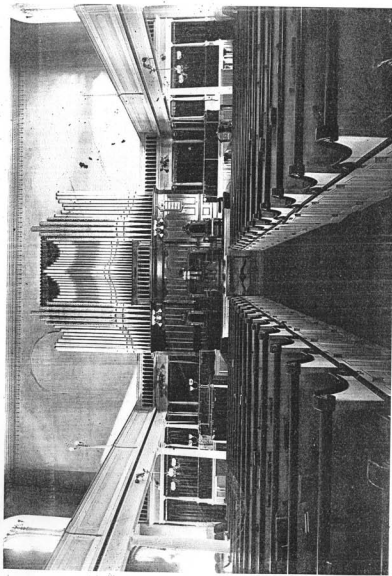
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THE HISTORY of the Episcopal church in America is widely different from that of the other sects, since the Episcopal church was founded and directed from the Home Country, while the other churches were instinctive manifestations of the faiths of their congregations. For example, in South Carolina, the charter under which the colony was founded, granted in 1615 to the Lord's Proprietors, gave to them all the patronage and the power to name and appoint ministers of the churches erected in their territory, and buildings for the Episcopal faith were the only ones then permitted to be erected in South Carolina. The date of the first building is not definitely known, but it is known that none existed prior to 1682. The first church constructed was, however one of the congregation of St. Phillips' and was built where now St. Michael's stands. It was constructed of black cypress upon a brick foundation, and was said to have been fine and stately, and surrounded by a neat white palisade fence. The second building was opened for worship on Easter day, 1723, and was burned in 1835, and the present building, which succeeded the second, was built in 1837, from designs by a Mr. J. Hyde, architect. It is built of brick on the original foundation, except that the eastward or chancel end was extended twenty-two or twenty-three feet beyond that of the old church, and the floor raised from the ground about three feet. The capacity was about twelve hundred sittings. The design of the former building with the three characteristic porches on the north, south and west was repeated with four

Doric columns supporting the entablature and pediment; the square tower with three stages of octagonal sections was also a feature of the old building but the spire was not a portion of the old. This spire was designed by Edward B. White. The same orders of architecture in the old building were retained, but for square piers with Corinthian pilasters were substituted Corinthian columns with capitals in carved wood.

The interior of the church was in general copied after that of St. Martins-in-the-Fields, London, and was declared to be so copied by a meeting of the congregation, although as to whether the idea originated with the congregation or from their architect we cannot definitely say. Both the interior and the exterior are finished in stucco and constitute one of the most agreeable and excellent examples of old stucco work in this country. The building was large, being 120' x 62', without the porches, and 114' x 56' inside; its cost was \$84,200, exclusive of the steeple. Its walls include memorials to a number of very famous Americans, including Senator John C. Calhoun, Bishop Gadsen, General Moultrie and others. During the Civil War the building suffered severely from bombardment and it is interesting to note that the pastor of the church in 1897, the Reverend Dr. Johnson, was the engineer officer of the Confederate troops then holding Fort Sumter, and when Charleston finally surrendered to the Federal troops, Bishop Howe, rector of the church at that time, was banished from the city for refusing to use the prayer for the Presi-



FIRST REFORMED CHURCH,
NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.

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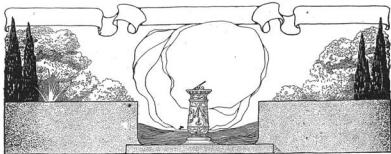
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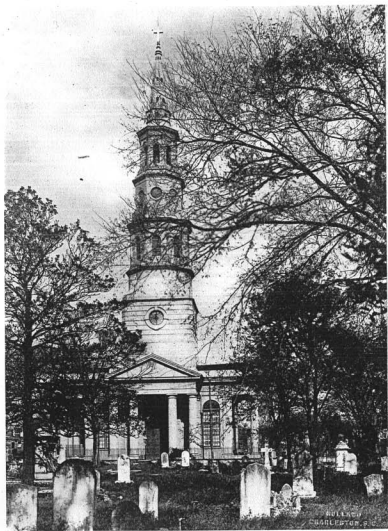
on the interior. The original type of ceiling we cannot be sure of, but it is believed that it was not dissimilar from that now in use; the rather heavy square tower terminates one end with a small octagonal lantern and spire above. These features are common to practically all the churches in the territory above indicated, and this may be due to some belief perhaps current at that time and in that locality, that ecclesiastical architecture of all kinds required a certain Gothic treatment. That there may be some truth in this view is indicated by the fact that the two Newark churches before illustrated, one Presbyterian and one Episcopalian, both had pointed arches included in their design. It may also be, and more likely is, due to the fact that this old church on the Green at Hackensack calls itself the "Mother" church of sixteen other churches, of which fifteen were constructed before 1814, and all of which resemble in the main the parent church, there having been evi-

dently a desire on the part of their builders to follow what was to them the perfect type of architecture.

The Schraalenburg church was one of these subsidiaries, the congregation having been formed in 1724, and the church building erected in 1801; the small porches on either side of the tower are of course new.

The First Dutch Reformed church at New Brunswick was a separate congregation, founded in 1703, as the Three Mile Run congregation, and organized in its present form in April, 1717. The church illustrated in this article is the second built on the site, and was constructed in 1812, the tower probably being added later, as it contains internal evidence of its design under the influence of the Greek Revival. The building itself is perhaps the most picturesque of all the Dutch Reformed churches in New Jersey, and both in the interior and exterior is agreeably detailed, although exceedingly simple.

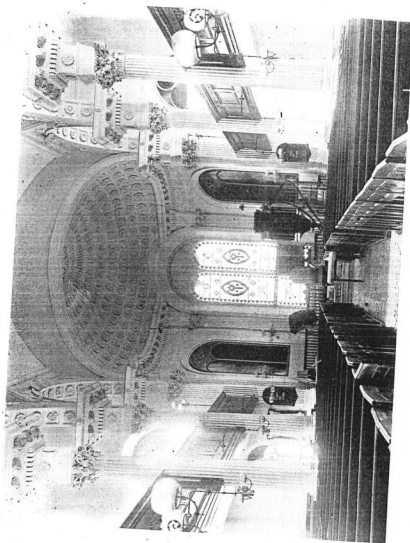




ST. PHILLIP'S CHURCH,
CHARLESTON, S. C.



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ON, S. C.



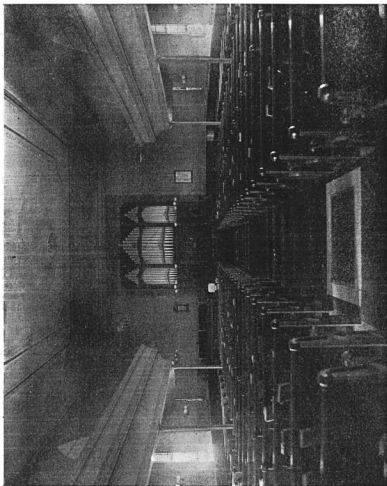
ST. PHILLIP'S CHURCH,
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FIRST REFORMED CHURCH,
HACKENSACK, N. J.



REFORMED CHURCH.
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FIRST REFORMED CHURCH.
 HACKENSACK, N. J.

dent of the United States, as his predecessor, Bishop Smith, had been banished eighty years before when the British troops entered the city, for refusing to pray for the King of England. In the Charleston earthquake in 1886 the building was badly shattered and was repaired in its present condition. In the cemetery of the church have been buried a number of notable Americans, Robert Daniel, Governor of South Carolina; George Logan, William Rhett, who defended Charleston

against the Spanish invasion in 1706, and the pirates in 1718; four chief justices; Roger Pinckney; Rawlins Lowndes, a Governor of the State; Edward Rutledge; James Pinckney, Major General in the War of 1812; Dr. Prioleau; Edward B. White, the architect; Admiral Shubrick; Commodore Ingraham; United States Supreme Court Justice Johnson; three bishops; Colonel De Berniere of the English Army, and many others only less distinguished.

THE FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

Hackensack, N. J.

THE NORTH REFORMED CHURCH

Schraalenburg, N. J.

THE FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

New Brunswick, N. J.

For the most part the early population of New Jersey, especially in the counties in the neighborhood of New York, was by ancestry Dutch. It was a race comprising no wealthy citizens, but many well to do farmers, and the condition of the people is reflected in their substantial and comfortable houses, as well as in their churches; which were of ample size to accommodate their congregations, very well built, but not extraordinarily well finished or well designed. The oldest of these three churches is that at Hackensack, which is, and has been for many years, the county seat of Bergen County. The congregation of the First Reformed Church of Hackensack was organized as early as 1686, and the first building which was erected on the present site was constructed in 1696. The early building was a substantial stone structure, and when it was rebuilt in 1726, the original proportions were retained, and the stones from the original building incorporated into the new; the structure thus built in 1726

forms, in part, that illustrated in the photograph. Since 1726 the building has been three times enlarged, in 1791, 1837 and 1867, but care has been taken in the enlargement to follow the original scheme, and there has been no substantial change from the historic design. This building may be taken as typical of a considerable number of churches in Bergen, Essex, Passaic and Hudson Counties, and some of the rather unusual forms noticeable in this building are so typical of a comparatively large number of buildings which differ slightly from it, as to make further illustration of them not worth while. It will be noticed that while this building was erected during the Colonial period, there is little of what we regard as Colonial either in its interior or its exterior. The enormously thick stone walls are pierced by pointed windows of semi-Gothic type with wooden tracery suggesting Gothic forms. The openings are formed with brick with the sash and doors set close to the exterior walls and a deep reveal

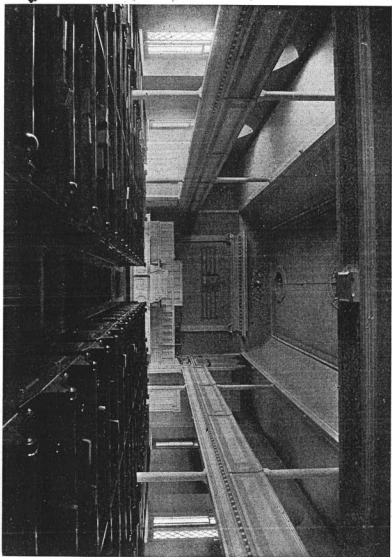
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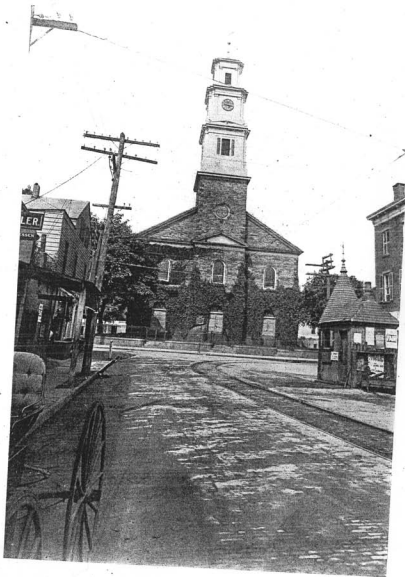
NORTH REFORMED CHURCH,
SCHRAALENBURG, N. J.



NORTH REFORMED CHURCH,
SCHRAALENBURG, N. J.



NORTH REFORMED CHURCH,
SCHHAALSBURG, N. J.



FIRST REFORMED CHURCH,
NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.