

materially assisted by the relatives, friends and admirers of the late pastor, and on September 25, 1887, the cornerstone of the church was laid, the dedication following on the 27th of May, 1888. This beautiful brick structure, with an auditorium that seats 500, and which, with the lot, also occupied by a \$1,500 parsonage, is worth about \$10,000, is a fitting monument, and an ornament to the city. The only debt remaining is one of the parsonage, about \$500. The formal organization of this mission as a church took place in September, 1887, with thirty-nine members, which number has steadily increased. The Sunday School enrolls about 170 scholars at the present time, 1905.

Westminster Church, Grand Rapids, Mich.—The history of the Westminster Church really begins with the first Presbyterian work started in the city in 1847, on the west side of Grand River, which divides the town. A Sabbath school was opened by Rev. Joseph Penny, D.D., an aged clergyman living in retirement. He conducted religious services as he was able till such a foothold had been obtained, that in 1855 Rev. Courtney Smith, of Warrensburg, N. Y., was called to become pastor. This first church is not only in existence, but has continued to grow until the present time. It was, however, deemed advisable in 1861 to commence another church on the east side of the river, and time has justified the wisdom of the movement. Rev. Mr. Smith and twenty-five members hired a room and organized Westminster Church. It was received by the Grand River Valley Presbytery, July 17, 1861.

In 1865, Mr. Smith removed to New York, and his nephew, Rev. Reuben S. Goodman, of Laporte, Ind., accepted a call to the church, remaining here seven years. The growth was steady, a small house of worship was erected, and the church became self-supporting, having about one hundred and thirty members when Mr. Goodman resigned in 1871. He was followed by Rev. C. M. Temple, who labored here from 1872 to 1875.

About that time the United States Government purchased the building with adjoining property for a post-office site and Westminster changed to the present location on Lagrave Street. A chapel was erected in 1876, and used for church services till the completion of the auditorium in 1885.

These were discouraging years of great effort for the young church. Rev. F. G. Kendall was followed by Rev. D. E. Bierce, Rev. L. M. Scofield and Rev. Sanford H. Cobb, who took charge