

MEETING OF LEHIGH PRESBYTERY AND CHURCH DEDICATION.—On Tuesday afternoon last, at 2 o'clock, the Presbytery of Lehigh met in the new Presbyterian Church of this place, the Moderator, Dr. Smily, of Pottsville, being absent. Rev. C. Earle, of Catasauqua, was chosen Moderator, and the first hour was taken up with the usual routine of business.

The church having but recently been finished, arrangements were made to have it dedicated during the meeting of the Presbytery, and the hour having now arrived for this interesting ceremony, the Presbytery took a recess until the service had been performed.

The exercises were begun by an appropriate anthem by the choir. The keys of the Church were then delivered by the Chairman of the Building Committee to the Moderator, saying, as he did so: "As we have performed the duty assigned us and the edifice is now finished, I, as Chairman of the Building Committee, deliver the keys to you," To which the Moderator replied, "I receive these keys in behalf of the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Slatington, and, in their name, tender our thanks for the service you have so well performed." Then followed the singing of another hymn, the reading of appropriate selections of Scripture by Rev. C. Earle, and a very earnest and fitting Dedictory Prayer by Rev. Dr. Belville, of Pottsville. At the conclusion of the prayer, Rev. Dr. Ormiston, of New York City, read and expounded the 84th Psalm in a very interesting manner. Another hymn was sung, when the Dedictory Sermon was preached by Dr. Ormiston, being founded on the 12th and 13th verses of the 6th chapter of Zachariah. The discourse was one of thrilling interest to all present, abounding with practical lessons for the Christian life, and replete with wisdom and eloquence. The illustrations were forcible and telling, impressing the truth with lasting effect. The speaker was listened to throughout with marked attention.

At the close of the sermon a collection was taken to help pay the debt on the building. After this the Moderator said, "in view of what has this afternoon been said and done and given, I declare this house dedicated to the service of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and I put it upon your consciences, to spare no effort until the remaining indebtedness be paid, that there be no encumbrance upon an offering to the Lord." Then descending from the pulpit, he delivered the keys to the President of the Board of Trustees, saying, as he did so, "I deliver the keys of this house to you in trust, and charge you, as in the sight of God, that you see to it that nothing be done within these walls, inconsistent with the use for which the house has this afternoon been set apart." The exercises were closed by the usual doxology and benediction.

The building is 38x65 feet, mounted by a spire of 125 feet from the ground. The style of architecture is very plain, yet neat and substantial. The building stands back from the street about a hundred feet, and the entrance has been nicely graded, making a very nice front. Under the main audience room is the lecture-room, used for Sunday School and prayer-meeting purposes.

The main audience room bears the same stamp as the outside of the building—plain and neat. It has a seating capacity of about 400 persons, including the gallery at the rear. The pulpit is placed in a small recess, with a platform extending out several feet. There are three aisles—two on the sides and one in the centre. The windows are large and of plain glass, excepting those on the front, which have stained glass, and covered by a green curtain. The entrance to the church is gained by steps on the outside, when you come into a vestibule, with stairways leading from each side into the gallery and inner doors entering the audience room. There is a considerable debt yet resting against the church, which we hope may soon be removed.

The services of the dedication being ended, the Presbytery resumed its sittings. In the evening, an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Radcliffe, of the First Church of Reading, from Mark x, 37. On Wednesday afternoon, according to custom, the Presbytery met the children at 4 o'clock, when very fitting addresses were made by Rev. Mr. Radcliffe, and Rev. Mr. Little, of Hokendauqua.

The session of the Presbytery was a very busy one, enlivened by repeated discussions on various matters of church polity, &c. The attendance was quite full and the attention kept to the close. The Presbytery selected Port Carbon, Schuylkill Co., as the place for the next stated meeting, on the third Tuesday of April, 1877, and adjourned at 5 o'clock P. M.