

St. Croix Avis.

75TH YEAR.

CHRISTIANSTED, V. I. U. S. A., SATURDAY, 13TH SEPTEMBER 1919.

No. 210.

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LAYING A FOUNDATION STONE.

After hours of heavy weather and with threatening clouds still overhanging the sea, the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of a church to be raised in the Bank Hall district for the benefit of the thousands now residing in that newly created and closely packed village, was performed at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon by His Lordship the Bishop of the Diocese, assisted by other high dignitaries of the Church. It had rained at intervals throughout the day, and at 4 o'clock the weather conditions had grown worse, which was the cause of many from the City and elsewhere having to abandon the hope of being present; but, despite it all, there had assembled the faithful few, those who were determined to brave any kind of weather; and among this small band of the brave were to be found not all stalwart healthy men, but women—many of them aged, leg weary and feeble—nevertheless brave in the work that had to be performed, and right well were their efforts rewarded. Besides His Lordship the Bishop, there were present of the Clergy: Dean Shankland, Archdeacon Skeete, Canon Reece and Dr. Dalton, Revds. Murray, Mallalieu, Parridge, Stanton, Malone, Frederick and Giles. His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by Mrs. and the Misses O'Brien and Capt. Richardson, was in attendance, and among the other church workers present were: Mrs. Berkeley and family, and Miss Murray, Mrs. E. B. Skeete and daughter, the Misses Burton, Mrs. Shankland, Messrs. R. Challenor, E. B. Skeete, W. H. Bryan, J. W. Gibbons and J. Blackman, members of the Cathedral Parochial Council, and

many others deeply interested in Church work.

The clergy robed in the Pavillion of the Empire Club near by, kindly lent for the occasion, and, headed by a Cross bearer and the combined choirs of the Cathedral and St. Cypria Church, proceeded to the building site where a congregation, numbering a couple of hundred and representing all classes of the community, had fore gathered. The service began with the singing of Hymn 396 A. & M. The Bishop then read the following Preface—

Dearly beloved in the Lord, we are gathered together here to lay the Foundation Stone of a building which we humbly trust may in due time be consecrated as a House of God; and first let us praise God's Holy Name for the mercy and goodness with which He has so far prospered our work; and let us further devoutly pray, that He will of His good Providence bless all who in any way contribute to its completion; that He will protect from danger those who may be engaged in the building; and that He will send His blessing upon our undertaking.

Psalm 84 was then chanted, and the Special Lesson, taken from Ezra iii, vv. 10 11, was read by His Excellency the Governor. A few versicles were next chanted by the Revd. Malone and the Dean, followed by a short Prayer. At this point, His Lordship and Mrs. O'Brien, stepping forward towards the stone which was suspending between a scaffold erected at the northeast corner of the intended structure, placed his hand upon the stone and said—

O Lord Jesu Christ, Son of the living God, who art the brightness of the Father's Glory, and the express image of His Person; the one Foundation, and the chief Corner Stone; bless what we now do in laying this Stone in Thy Name, and be Thou, we beseech Thee, the beginning, the increase and consummation of this our work, which is undertaken to the Glory of Thy Name, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest, one God, world without end. Amen.

The stone was then lowered a bottle containing certain signed documents and coins of the Realm were placed by Mrs. O'Brien in an opening there prepared for them, and the corner stone finally adjusted to rest thereon, while with a silver trowel applying the mortar Mrs.

O'Brien formally laid the stone with the following words

"In the Faith of Jesus Christ we place this Stone, in the Name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. Amen."

A prayer by the Bishop next followed, which the Doxology was sung, and then after the Archdeacon delivered the closing prayers. His Lordship then delivered an inspiring address to the congregation assembled. A collection was then taken up during the singing of Hymn 215 A. and M., and after the exchange of felicitations and congratulations the assemblage dispersed.

The little church is intended to accommodate 250 worshippers but there are lands sufficient around, already in the possession of the Committee, for allowing an enlargement. The service lasted about an half hour and was most impressive.—*Barbados Globe, August 20th.*

RESOLUTION.

Be it resolved by the Colonial Council for St. Croix in Session assembled:

THAT the name "SAINT CROIX" is the official name of this island and the name "MUNICIPALITY OF ST. CROIX" shall hereafter be used in officially designating this municipality in any public voucher, contract or document.

Thus duly passed at the 2nd Ordinary Meeting of the Colonial Council, held Monday, August 18, 1919.

Christiansted, August 19, 1919.

D. C. CANEGATA, ROBT. L. MERWIN,
Secretary. Chairman.

The above Resolution is hereby sanctioned and approved.

Witness my Hand and the Seal of the Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States at St. Thomas, the 27th day of August in the year 1919.

J. W. OMAN.
Governor.

FOR RENT

Dwelling No. 41 King's Street.

Apply to
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