



FIRST VIEW

FIRST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN AMERICA.

VIRGINIA, the home of the Presidents, has yet other honours, and many are the historical memories that cling to the picturesque scenery of that sleepy old State. Among the many important events for which she is famous is the founding of the first temple of worship built in America by the Church of England. This was built in Norfolk in 1637. The first minister in this parish, which was called the "Elizabeth River Parish," was John Wilson. At that time tobacco, being the chief currency, the minister's salary was fixed by law at 1,500 pounds of tobacco and sixteen barrels of corn. This was subsequently increased, however, until in 1761 the minister of this parish, which then contained three chapels, received 20,000 pounds of tobacco per year.

The congregation of this old church was bound by peculiar enactments of the Church of England to properly observe the Lord's Day, and other religious duties. One of these laws was to the effect that "every person of the age of twenty-one years and upwards who should willfully be absent from parish church for one month, or, being there, should not remain until the service was ended, should, on conviction, be fined, and, on failure to pay the fine, should be whipped."

The original grant of the land upon which this church was built is on record in the land office at Richmond, Va. Samuel Boush, the first Mayor of Norfolk, who was prominently connected with the church, was buried in the old cemetery that surrounds the quaint old structure. In that same cemetery may be noticed a stone, yellow with age and of ancient lettering, erected to the memory of the wife of Nathaniel Bacon, who lives in history as the first British rebel. It bears the date of 1691, and, though two centuries have elapsed, the English coat of arms may still be plainly seen.

January 1st, 1778, a heavy cannonade from the British fleet opened fire on Norfolk and destroyed nearly nine-tenths of the town, the church being one of the few buildings that



SECOND VIEW.

escaped entire destruction. It was afterward restored, but again, in 1820, during a violent thunder-storm, the front wall of the church was forced in, which was soon, however, repaired, and it stands to-day as then a simple structure.

SUMMARY OF WORK IN FUKUSHIMA.

FROM JANUARY 1ST TO DECEMBER 8TH, 1892.

SATO SAN having taken Shiraishi San's place, while the latter was at school in Tokyo, was a valuable assistance. Fujii Heitaro also was on January 12th transferred from Kibo-Kokwai, Mita Tokyo, to Fukushima. After the Chi-Ho-Kwai in Tokyo, Tato San caught a cold, which, with other sickness, greatly hindered his work during February and March. In April he went to Koriyama, 29 miles south of Fukushima, and began work there and in its neighbourhood, especially in the neighbouring large town of Mihara, which was continued until he left for Tokyo on July 2nd. Fujii San remained until July 21st, when, Shiraishi San having returned from Tokyo the previous week, he also left, first going to Nagano Ken at my request, to enquire about the work there, and then later he went to Tokyo.

The attendance at our services in Fukushima, which became rather poor after Shiraishi San's departure, has since increased and has been lately larger than ever before, and those who come are almost all regular attendants. Our regular services are at 7 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Sunday. For a short time in the very warm weather, the Sunday services were changed to 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.

As special agencies we began: (1) A night school last March; (2) the knitting and sewing classes by my wife have been continued, with some interruptions due to ill-health. The evening school is from 6 to 8 p.m., and the attendance has ranged from 10 to 31. Only on Sunday and Friday nights and the first Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of each month is the school closed—these last days because of our preaching services at the out stations.

The number of these outstations has been