

formed part of royal grants made to Virginia in 1606-1607, and was recognized as such in its great charter, it is plain that our Genesis is English, British, Anglo-Saxon, that our historic faith is that of the English Christianity and Church, the Church of Magna Carta, with its rights and liberties free and inalienable, and differentiated in the very text of Magna Carta itself from the Holy Roman Church. Our celebration to-day of the fiftieth year of Parish life in connection with this historic American Church, which, from its close connection with our American history and its participation from the very first in our nation-making, may well be regarded as the Church of the Nation, the American Church, or, to take the title emphasized by our late General Convention, as "that portion of the Catholic Church known in law as the Protestant Church of the United States of America," is a noteworthy event, one fitting for commemoration. All honor to those true-hearted men, who, in a new and not over-righteous community, remembered the Church of their early days, and who sought to build for themselves and for their descendants the Church of St. John as an integral part, from its start, in the great American Church. All honor be to those who gave of their scanty means for the building of the first sanctuary of the most High God, erected for the use of themselves and their families, their friends and fellow cit-