

by the Rev. James Nimmo, who arrived from Scotland a few months before. He preached the morning sermon and the Rev. Dr. Evans, of the Methodist Church, preached in the evening. Thus "the Blue Banner of the Solemn League and Covenant," the Magna Charta of Scottish liberty, was cast to the breeze on the Pacific slope just fifty years ago, where still stands First Presbyterian Church, and which has ever since kept it with laudable pride and dignity floating at the masthead the preaching of the gospel.

The bell which called in sweet, deep musical tones the people to worship God at the dedication of the church on that beautiful Sabbath morning of fifty years ago, still rings out is Sabbath reminder, calling the congregation to come up to Zion to "Worship God in the beauty of holiness."

The congregation recently took initial steps to erect a new building, for although the church has been more than once enlarged and improved during the last half century, a new church is needed, one which in all its appointments shall be in keeping with the times and the progress of the city, a city which is not only a commercial center but also the seat of government—a residential city, one of splendid homes, magnificent parks, beautiful drives, and most delightful climate; a city surrounded by enchanting scenery, in the distant background of which are Mount Baker, the Cascades, and the Olympics, all of which combine to make one feel that nature combined the experience of "her prentice hand" in selecting other sites, to make that of Victoria the most pleasing the mind can imagine, and the most desirable spot in any country in which to build a city.

Soon after the church was dedicated Mr. Hall resigned, Mr. Nimmo was withdrawn, and the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland sent out the Rev. Dr. Somerville, who, after two years, owing to trouble over the Church property, withdrew, accompanied by a large portion of the congregation, and organized St. Andrew's Church of this city, which under a succession of pastors developed into a strong, vigorous congregation, the present pastor being Rev. W. L. Clay, B.A. After Dr. Somerville left First Presbyterian Church, he was succeeded by Rev. D. Gamble, Rev. Dr. Reid, Rev. D. Fraser, and the present pastor, whose induction on the 22nd June, 1892, was the last official act of the Presbytery of Columbia, which that summer was divided by the General Assembly into