

50TH. ANNIVERSARY - 1888

Vermontville, Feb. 28, 1888.

*This being the semi-centennial anniversary of the organization of the church, the programme as prepared by the Committee was carried out. Reading of Scriptures by the Pastor, Rev. S.L.Smith, Prayer by Rev.J.H.Thomas, Pastor of the M.E. Church, Sermon by Rev.H.R. Williams from Matt. 13:31,32. The Parable of the Mustard Seed. It was an able and eloquent sermon, well adapted to the occasion. After the sermon Mr.D.W. Church gave an interesting chapter of Chronicles naming each of the Pastors of the Church in their order and the time that each served in that capacity, interspersed with numerous interesting and amusing anecdotes of Pioneer days. Immediately after the services at the Church, the audience adjourned to the Chapel Parlors where the ladies had prepared a sumptuous collation which was enjoyed by every one. Following the Collation a brief address by Rev. W.B.Williams and toasts called out by H.G. Barber, then Rev. S.L.Smith called out H.J.Martin and after a brief address to him presented to him in the name of the people \$100.00 in gold as a token of our appreciation of his long-continued services as Leader of the Choir. In the evening the people met again at the church and listened to addresses by Hon H.G.Barber and Hon E.W.Barber on the early history of the place, of the church, and its educational interests, paying high compliments to its founders and its early teachers and Pastors. All the exercises at the church were interspersed with excellent music by the Choir under the leadership of Mr.Henry J.Martin.

Asa Benedict, Clerk. *