

# The New York Times

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## Laying the Corner-Stone of the First Baptist Church, Elizabeth, N. J.

The Baptists of Elizabeth have laid the foundation of a very handsome church, on Union-avenue and Prince-street. The church edifice is to be one of the handsomest in the city. It is of brown stone and brick, and the estimated cost is from \$50,000 to \$60,000. The former place of worship was on West Jersey-street, and was too small to accommodate the congregation. The corner-stone was laid yesterday. The exercises were interesting, and a number of distinguished Baptist clergymen from a distance were present, and took part in the ceremony. The exercises took place at 11 o'clock. Rev. THOS. GESSLER, the pastor, officiating. Rev. Dr. H. C. FISH, of Newark, delivered an able address, after which, with prayer and appropriate ceremonies, the stone was placed in position. Dr. JOHN DOWLING, also of Newark, then delivered an address, and was followed by Rev. H. M. GALLAGHER, of Brooklyn, who completed the exercises of the afternoon. In the evening, Rev. GEO. CLERK, of Balston Spa, N. Y., former pastor of the church, preached a memorial sermon in the meeting-house which the Society now occupies on West Jersey-street. The exercises were of the most pleasant kind. About 1,500 persons were present at the new building, and the church, in the evening, was crowded. Enough money has been subscribed to complete the lecture-room, and to leave the entire church with but little debt.

