

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

January 22, 1951

My Seal and Signature

St. James Episcopal Church was consecrated on July 14, 1878 by the Rt. Rev. William Ingraham Kip, Bishop of the Diocese of California. Written in long hand on the stationery of the diocese and sealed with the seal of the said diocese, there is in the possession of the church officers the original declaration of this consecration. It ends with these words: "In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed my seal and signature, in the City of Monterey, on the day and in the year above written and in the 25th year of my consecration." Signed William Ingraham Kip, D.D.

Many persons residing in San Francisco contributed to the erection of the little church on Pacific Street, giving from \$150 to \$5 until the sum of \$651 was contributed. In Monterey the sum of \$399.50 was given by individuals and \$175 was raised by a festival given by the ladies of Monterey for the purchase of the church lot. Among the donors in Monterey there appears in the records such names as E.S. Josselyn, B. Bradwick, J.M. Gregg, who owned the adobe house at the corner of Franklin and Pacific streets; J.B. Snively, a David Jacks employe; S.B. Gordon, owner of the Gordon House on Pierce Street; J.M. LaPorte for whom the LaPorte building was named; J.C. Menker; A. Trescony, former owner of the Washington Hotel (the site of which is now owned by Tow Work); Francis Doud, builder and owner of the long, low colonial house on Scott Street, now the home of his descendant, Mrs, Nettie Baker; David Jacks, the father of Miss Margaret Jacks; George C. Harris, the owner of the "Red House" a mercantile store; Thomas Abrego, former owner of the Abrego adobe; Dr. J.R. Hertzell, David Smith, a resident of Oak Grove and an employe of the Southern Pacific; Milton Little, who owned most of New Monterey; William and Ed Hatton of the Hatton Ranch; Bradley Sargent, whose family is still well known in Monterey; A Lockwood, N.W. Spaulding, Ed Berwick of the Berwick orchards in the Carmel Valley; Snively Bros., real estate; and Miss M. Tennant of Pacific Grove, and others.

Disbursements on the buildings from 1876 until March 5, 1877, were recorded by Dr. McGowan, as \$1,053.05. The rector made three trips to Santa Cruz to buy lumber, and the lumber bill was \$380. Express charges

on money to Santa Cruz, \$1.25. There is an interesting and unknown item listed as discount on silver, \$3.50.

There are listed several members of the clergy who took charge of St. James at various times until May of 1900 when the Rev. J.S. McGowan, builder of the church, returned to Monterey and to the mission. He again writes in the record:

"Even the rulers of the most powerful nations of the world have not been ashamed to confess their shortcomings and seek strength for the duties of their exalted positions in St. James. When Princess Louise worshipped within these walls she came not with imposing retinue as England's representative, but as the subject of a kingdom, higher than earth.

"There was then a peculiar fitness, that when the whole world mourned the loss of England's noble queen (Victoria), that memorial services should be held in St. James Church – that her own subjects – as well as those of kindred nations – might pay appreciative tribute." This service was held February 1, 1901. The entire sermon of the Rev. Mr. McGowan on that occasion is recorded in the old book of records.

For the memorial service there was in attendance many of the English residents in the community, by the crews of several English vessels in the harbor of Monterey and many inhabitants of the town. The church was draped in royal purple and white.

In 1901, the Rev. Mr. McGowan again made a sad record: "Ere a year had passed, the church was again draped in mourning, and filled with reverent worshippers, who gathered to pay honor to the nation's dead. When our beloved President William McKinley, fell at his post stricken by an assassin's hand, it was meet that the nation should pause and pay respects, and recognize, as did its head – 'It is God's way – His will be done'."

The first marriage recorded was that of L.B. Gallaway and Mary Hamel on July 28, 1878, in the new church of St. James. Edward Grimes and Ellen Post (prominent families for many years down the coast) were married at the home of Mr. Gregg on Christmas Day of 1879 by the Rev. Mr. McGowan.

The first baptism recorded was that of David Aimi Dougel on July 30, 1854 in Colton Hall. Two years later this son of Aimi Joseph Dougel and Alice Ann Dougel passed away and his was the first burial service to be

entered by the Rt. Rev. W.I Kip. The first Episcopal baptism in the dance hall of the Washington Hotel was Prothesa Amelia Smith and her sister Sarah Ellen Smith, the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. David Smith, on April 11, 1875, by the Rev. J.S. McGowan. The first baptism in St. James Church was on Dec. 25, 1876, when Fanny Elizabeth Bostrom and Mary Agnes Bostrom, the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. John Bostrom were christened by the Rev. Mr. McGowan.