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tingham could report one new step, it had overtones of sadness, but nevertheless it marked progress toward the regularization of the status of St. Mary's. Said the Bishop, "The Rev. John A. Spooner has resigned the Rectorship of St. Mary's, Hampden, and remains without parochial charge." His health apparently affected by his war exertions, Mr. Spooner lay ill in New Jersey. Accordingly the Rev. Mr. Stokes was formally elected as Rector, though he continued as Rector for the Church of the Redeemer.

In 1872 the Rector was able to report that sixty services of Morning or Evening Prayer had been held during the year and that the Holy Communion had been celebrated six times. There had been three baptisms of infants, and two burials. There were twenty communicants out of some fourteen families in the parish and perhaps one-hundred-fifty individuals in all. There were sixty Sunday School pupils and nine teachers.

In the report of 1873 the Rev. Mr. Stokes struck a new note of triumph: "A strenuous effort is being made to rebuild the church, burned down during the war, and strong hope is entertained that during the ensuing year this work blessed by God, will be accomplished." The cost was estimated at $6000.00, which was a heavy sum to be raised in the aftermath of war, but the work went doggedly forward.

Finally, on September 13th, 1873, the cornerstone of the new (and present) edifice was laid over the foundation of the little frame church that had burned during the war. In another year the congregation of St. Mary's had moved thankfully home again into what is now the nave of the present church structure.

Progress now was steady. The Rev. Mr. Stokes found that his two congregations kept him so busy that he needed assistance at St. Mary's. This was soon forthcoming in the person of the Rev. Samuel S. Maitland, who had been ordained a Deacon in old St. Paul's Church on December 23rd, 1877. In 1878 he joined the Rev. Mr. Stokes as assistant at St. Mary's. After five years in this work he was elected Rector in October of 1883 and seemed to have a long and vigorous Rectorship before him. But suddenly in April of the next year he died. The reverence in which he was held by St. Mary's people is evidenced by the tablet erected on the south wall of the nave of the church.

The next Rector to be called to St. Mary's was the Rev. Edward T. Lawrence who served from 1885 to 1889. It was in his Rectorship that another of St. Mary's major benefactors began his good work. He was Mr. Thomas H. Hanson who gave the Parish House in 1886, and from then on a regular parochial school was conducted there from September to June. During the next Rectorship, that of the Rev. William C. Butler (1889-1899), Mr. Hanson contributed the present rectory.

In 1899 the Rev. Dr. F. Ward Denys succeeded to the Rectorship of St. Mary's. This native Bostonian and alumnus of Harvard University and Berkeley Divinity School, was a man of energy and cherished high ambitions for St. Mary's. Proficient as a funds raiser, he set about the expansion of the church edifice, and it was under his guidance that the new portion of the church, consisting of the present transepts and the chancel, were added at the west. The older church then became the nave of modern St. Mary's. A further gain in this construction was that the present kitchen, Church School room, office, sacristy, and Children's Chapel were obtained.

The cornerstone for this new addition was laid on Sunday, November 18, 1900, by the Rt. Rev. Abiel Leonard, Bishop of Utah. Funds had been secured by the Rev. Mr. Denys from members of the Poole family, some of whom were members of St. Mary's. An early gift by Mr. Robert Poole was another seven acres to be added to the original cemetery plot, extending it toward the southwest. Mr. Poole also paid for the installation of the present



organ, and contributed funds toward the building of the chancel, and the illuminated windows in the transepts. Mr. George Poole, who was elected a Vestryman in 1900, likewise contributed to the erection of the transepts, and the chancel.

A notable event during the Rectorship of Dr. Denys was the presentation of a Confirmation Class numbering seventy-two people to Bishop Paret in March of 1900. Most of these Confirmands were adults, and thirty-two of them were men.

But if Dr. Denys had been a builder of St. Mary's he was also to prove a builder of St. David's Church, Roland Park. When he became first Rector of this new church many of the Roland Park communicants of St. Mary's followed him to St. David's. Dr. Denys was succeeded at St. Mary's by the Rev. Eugene A. Heim (1908-1909) who was followed by the Rev. John G. Sadtler (1909-1914) when the Rev. Arthur Chilton Powell became the Rector. During Dr. Powell's long Rectorship, from 1914-1930, one of the notable gains for the church was the [illegible] porch or entry, which is now the main entrance to the church.

The Rev. James Francis Taylor succeeded Dr. Powell, but his tenure was of only two years (1930-1932). On June 1st, 1930, special services were held to mark the 75th Anniversary of the church. The preacher of the occasion was the Rev. Dr. Romilly F. Humphries, Archdeacon.

The Rev. William Owings Stone bore the full brunt of the depression and World War II years, serving from 1932 to 1945. In 1937 Mr. Stone published a leaflet headlined, "Church to Be Closed." The opening sentence read, "St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Hampden, in existence for over eighty years, is to close its doors after this coming Sunday." But, said the pamphlet immediately, "This is not going to happen." Mr. Stone had simply dramatized in this way the pressing needs of an institution which many in the community had perhaps taken for granted. Mr. Stone's challenge worked out and St. Mary's pulled steadily ahead, and was ready for further forward exertions when, in 1945, the Rev. Maurice D. Ashbury came to the Rectorship. Mr. Ashbury's years were a time of consolidation and then of further gains. These continue and expand under the present leadership of the Rev. Howard W. Blackburn, who succeeded Mr. Ashbury as Rector in 1952.

So in the hundred years of Hampden, and St. Mary's Church, the community and the congregation which stem alike from the vision and generosity of Henry and Sarah Ann Mankin, have flourished together. They have seen one dreadful Civil War, one minor foreign war and two wars of world scope. They have experienced several business depressions and, more poignantly in the sensibilities of religious people, they have experienced vicissitudes in the life of the spirit itself. Perhaps historians will say that church work and church allegiance in the United States reached somewhere near their nadir at some point in this past cenutry; almost certainly they will date a great spiritual reawakening, a return to loftier aspirations and truer humility from somewhere near the present time. Eentering its second cenutry St. Mary's can march forward with a livelier sense that a new yeast of Christian commitment does indeed leaven the whole of society.

**Bishops of Maryland during the life of St. Mary's**

1840-1879 The Rt. Rev. William Rollinson Whittingham
1879-1883 The Rt. Rev. William Pinkney
1885-1911 The Rt. Rev. William Paret
1911-1929 The Rt. Rev. John Gardner Murray
1929-1944 The Rt. Rev. Edward T. Helfenstein
1944- The Rt. Rev. Noble C. Powell