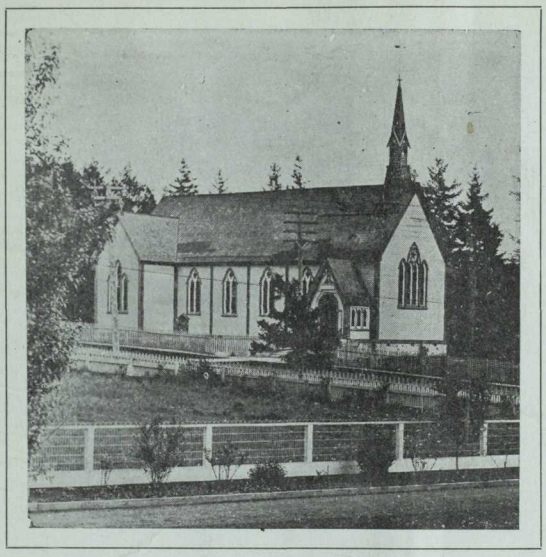
J. W. EASTHAM

Historical Sketch

1866 † 1926



St. Paul's Royal Naval Station

and

Garrison Church

ESQUIMALT
VANCOUVER ISLAND

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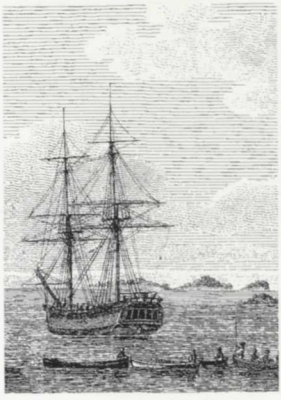

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DIAMOND JUBILEE HISTORICAL SKETCH

1866 —— 1926

St. Paul's Royal Naval Station

and

Garrison Church

ESQUIMALT
VANCOUVER ISLAND

Foreword

It is not an easy matter to tell the story of sixty years of the life of a parish. And yet the accompanying historical sketch in its combination of fact and personal experience should win the reader's sympathy.

Indeed, this little history of the Parish of St. Paul's, Esquimalt, will I think challenge interest within and without the confines of its own territory. For it treats of work for and among our sailors and soldiers—and who is not interested in these?

The Church of St. Paul, Esquimalt, is all that the writer says of it—a veritable House of God; the atmosphere of the place invites to reverence and worship.

I hope all past and present friends of the Parish will join in the Diamond Jubilee Festival Services on Sunday, 12th September. These will be: Holy Communion, 8 a.m. Matins, 10.30 a.m., when the Metropolitan of British Columbia, the Most Rev. A. U. de Pencier, will preach. Children's Service, 2.30, when the Rev. F. L. Stephenson, Rector of St. Saviour's, Victoria West, will speak; and Evensong at 7 p.m., when I am to have the privilege of extending congratulations to the congregation and wishing them God-speed in the future. May I also commend very heartily the Parish Jubilee Thankoffering to provide a rectory. A suitable house on the property adjoining the church will be a great boon alike to rector and parish.

One last paragraph to this foreword which the rector has asked me to write. We have arranged St. Paul's Festival for September 12th in order that the parish may benefit from association with the Bishop of London's visit and the beginning of our Cathedral undertaking. A little later on, I am trusting the parish of Esquimalt to back me up loyally by helping in the task which we believe God is calling the Diocese to perform, namely, the building of a beautiful Cathedral.

Faithfully your Bishop,

CHARLES COLUMBIA.

Bishop's Close, Victoria,
14th August, 1926.

Jubilee Historical Sketch

St. Paul's, Esquimalt, B.C.

The Indian word "Esquimalt" means "A place gradually shoaling."

The history of Esquimalt goes back more than one hundred and fifty years. Capt. Cook may have anchored here between the years 1772-1776, and Capt. Vancouver between 1790-1795. Old records state that in 1790 Sub.-Lieut. Quimper, of the Spanish Navy, anchored in Esquimalt Harbour aboard the confiscated British sloop "Princess Royal," and named the waterway after the forty-sixth Viceroy of Mexico—Puerto de Cordova. The harbour first saw a British man-of-war in 1848, when the sailing frigate "Constance," Captain G. W. C. Courtenay, anchored there on the 25th July of that year.

It is curious to find that the origin of the first naval establishment of any kind on Vancouver Island was due to the Crimean War, 1856. Following the attack on Petropaulovski, the Fleet came here with wounded. Governor Douglas for their accommodation ordered three buildings to be erected on Perry Point, now known as Duntze Head. The official creation, however, of the naval establishment at Esquimalt was in 1865 by Her Majesty's Order in Council dated 29th June.

Where British sailors are stationed there must be a church of some sort, and in due course this sea-girt parish came into being. Although this church is not, and never has been actually Admiralty property, it has been so intimately connected with the navy from its foundation to the present date, that this sketch must record the connection between them.

A very small white building used as a Sunday School, and until recently standing on the south side of the road just opposite the old graving dock at Esquimalt, was the lineal parent of St. Paul's. Erected in the year 1858, as a school house, it was also used for Divine Service of the Church of England, under the ministry of the Rev. R. Dundas. As those seven years were in the earliest days of the naval hospital and dockyard, it can be safely taken for granted that the bulk of the small congregation of this little building were members of the navy. That connection has been maintained without interruption. For sixty years the officers and naval ratings from men-of-war in the harbour have marched to the parish church to worship, while many mural tablets testify to other occasions when services have been held in memory of those who sailed out from the sheltered waters never to return. Its bells have rung in two kings, and chimed or tolled through three long wars. A succession of renowned admirals have sat in the reserved pew under the pulpit, and the parish registers bear names which have gone down in the annals of our race.

*St. Paul's appears to be the fourth church consecrated in this diocese, as it exists today, *i.e.*, Vancouver Island. Its foundation was due mainly to the enterprise of Paymaster Sidney J. Spark, R.N., of H. M. Shipyard, Esquimalt, who in 1865 took the initial step towards the establishment of a church at Esquimalt. One of his letters written at this period to the Lords of the Admiralty points out that the only provision for Divine Worship in Esquimalt was a rudely-constructed school house, neither windproof nor watertight. His efforts being successful, a small church was erected on a site situated on a level spot on the south side of the main road at the base of Signal Hill, and from it a magnificent view of the waters of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, with the Olympian Range in the background, is visible. This site was given in May, 1866, by the Hon. Donald Fraser, a member of the Legislative Council of Vancouver Island.

On the 30th August, 1866, the foundation stone of the new church was laid by the Hon. Mrs. Denman, wife of the Admiral, the Hon. John Denman, Commander-in-Chief of the Station, both the Admiral and his wife being most keenly interested in the undertaking. In the harbour were H.M.S. "Sutlej" and "Scout," the gunboat "Forward," and the U.S.S. "Saginaw," all gaily decked. The procession was headed by the band of the "Sutlej," followed by the guard of honour, school children, architect, builders, church-wardens, officers of the ships in harbour, the Speaker and members of the House of Assembly, the Hon. Chief Justice Needham and members of the Legislative Council, Rear Admiral John Denman and staff, His Excellency Lieutenant-Governor Kennedy and staff, clergy of the Diocese, the Bishop of Columbia (the Rt. Rev. George Hills) and Chaplain, Archdeacon Gilson (Rector of St. John's, Victoria), Dean Cridge, the Rev. A. C. Garrett (the first Rector of St. Paul's and later Bishop of Texas), the Rev. F. Doolan, the Rev. R. Carstone (chaplain of the "Sutlej"), also Captains Price, Sullivan and Coode of the Royal Navy, and Captain Franklin of the "Saginaw." Among the ladies present were Mrs. Kennedy and daughter, the Hon. Mrs. Denman, Mrs. Hills, Mrs. Needham and daughter, Mrs. Sparks and daughter. At the ceremony the Chief Justice called attention to the fact that this would be the ninth Episcopal Church consecrated in the Colony (the territory now within the boundaries of the Province of British Columbia) by Bishop Hills during the last seven years. At the close, H.M.S. "Sutlej" and "Scout" joined in firing a salute in honour of the occasion.

Without delay the construction was pushed forward under the supervision of the architect, Mr. Thomas Trounce, and early in December the building was completed with accommodation to include seating for one hundred officers and men. Consecration by the Bishop of Columbia took place on December 12th, 1866.

The first Admiralty grant made was the sum of £100 sterling in 1866, towards the initial cost of building, on condition that men belonging to H.M. Naval Yard and Navy have certain sittings allotted to them.

In December, 1873, the Admiralty promised to pay the Rector of St. Paul's an annual sum of £50.

*The order of consecration being: St. John's, Victoria, September, 1860; St. Paul's, Nanaimo, August, 1865; Christ Church, Victoria, December 1865; St. Paul's, Esquimalt, December, 1866.

In August, 1878, an organ having been bought in England for the use of the church, the Admiralty arranged to transport it free to Esquimalt.

In the year 1876 the church was much damaged by a heavy gale, and the Admiralty allocated £50 towards the repairs rendered necessary by this. These repairs were apparently delayed until 1879, when the church was completely restored, at a total cost of $5,000.

In November, 1898, the Admiralty increased their annual payment to the Rector from £50 to £75, specifying that attendances at the naval prison and hospital should be included. These additional duties had always, be it remarked, been carried out previously by the Rector.

In 1904 the Admiralty gave a special donation of £50 towards the rebuilding and enlargement of the church.

Dates and figures are dry affairs, but the foregoing furnish good evidence of recognition by the Admiralty. At the risk of wearying the reader, it is perhaps worth while just here to insert one or two further dates connected with the port and parish, in order to give some proportion to the story. It is interesting to recall that 1866 marks not only the consecration of the Parish Church, but also the political union of the Colony of Vancouver Island with the Colony of British Columbia.

In 1868 the R.N. Cemetery was opened at Skinners Cove. Prior to that year, naval officers and men who died on this Station were buried either in Quadra Street Cemetery at Victoria, or on Deadman's (or Brothers', as it is now called) Island, off the entrance to Esquimalt Harbour, about fifty being buried at the former and nineteen at the latter place. In 1868 the present site of the Cemetery near to the Naval Hospital in Skinners Cove, consisting of one acre (now more), was purchased by the Admiralty and was consecrated by the Bishop of the Diocese on the 13th July of that year. Owing to the proposed erection of a new battery on Deadman's Island the remains of the nineteen officers and men buried there were exhumed, and reinterred in the Naval Cemetery, in April, 1877, new coffins and headstones being supplied by the Admiralty. A fine monument erected in memory of Governor Frederick Seymour is in the cemetery.

In 1880 the drydock was started, and opened in 1887. In 1890 the first barracks were built at Work Point, and the battery (C Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery) moved in from the Agricultural Buildings, Beacon Hill. The Work Point buildings were then in the midst of primeval forest, which was cleared and levelled by the labour of officers, N.C.O.'s and men.

In 1895 Fort Macauley was reconstructed by the R.E. and R.M.A.—the Imperial Government having taken over. In 1899 the R.N. Prison was built in the navy yard.

The registers of the parish reveal that no less than eleven rectors occupied the living between the years 1866-1922; in chronological order as follow:

Alexander C. Garrett.
Frank B. Gribbell.
J. P. Wright.
H. Herbert Mogg.
George Mason.
William W. Bolton.
W. G. H. Ellison.
Stuart Clement Scholefield.
C. Ensor Sharp.
H. St. John Payne.
Wilmot Baugh Allen.

From the first the church became the centre of a busy and gay community. The first wedding recorded in the registers was that between G. S. Neale and Annie Doty, in March, 1867. The first baptism was that of Victor Charles William Palmer, a name well known in Victoria today. The second wedding was that between Charles E. Pooley and Elizabeth Fisher. Mrs. Pooley, who happily is still a member of the Parish, was very young when she married—a girl in her 'teens. She tells some delightful reminiscences of those far-off days.

"The church was but recently completed," she says, "and it was lavishly decorated, and looked very pretty. In those halcyon days of the old port a beautiful wooded road led from Esquimalt to Victoria, and it was always busy with busses coming and going, officers riding into the city to some function, or crowds of brilliantly-dressed folk coming out to tea on the Flagship, or to watch the cricket. There was always something interesting to see in Esquimalt, for, besides the men-of-war, liners were constantly coming and going with hundreds of men on their way to the gold fields, or returning with small fortunes."

The reminiscences here added, kindly supplied by the earliest of former Rectors now alive, are full of interest:

"It was the 24th May, 1877, when I first saw Esquimalt, and I went thither as the prisoner of a Bishop. He refused me liberty of action. I had dropped into Victoria the day before, after some years' service under the pioneer Bishop of Qu'Appelle (Anson), intending to visit China and there join one of the inland Missions, and thereby satisfy an innate craving for travel and adventure. Feeling it one's duty to pay my respects, I went in to the den of the spider, nor escaped to visit that far country for five and twenty years. Bishop Hills would take no refusal of my taking spiritual charge of the naval station and district, and ordering out his quaint old pony chaise with its seemingly still more ancient quadruped, we drove thither, accompanied by Mrs. Hills, this necessitating my sitting on an apology of a seat directly opposite them, whereat long legs became an intolerable nuisance.

"The Churchwardens at that time were Mr. C. E. Pooley and Mr. J. H. Innes, the latter the Superintendent of the Dockyard. An interview with Mr. Innes, combined with the picturesqueness of the scene, the pretty church with its neat and complete interior, nestling then among tall poplar trees, the harbour full of men-of-war with bunting resplendent and gay for the Queen's birthday, the sailors ashore like a hive of bees, and the Olympic Range at its very best, settled the matter. I surrendered. There was no rectory, even as today again there is none. The impounded one was a sitting-room and a bedroom in a wooden building owned by a working man with a wife who seemed never to rest, situated some hundred yards from the church towards the dockyard gates. Just round the corner therefrom was the village green, on one side of which was a Sunday School room, an even then dilapidated building, but it served its purpose. This year of grace ('26) a man stopped me on a Victoria street with a request that I step across to meet someone in an auto. I went, and was greeted with: 'You won't remember me, but I was the baby of your Sunday

School, and now wife and mother, yet still recall your lessons as I sat upon your knee.'

"There are still a fair number amongst us who can recall and re-live the days of which I write. But most have passed. In the wardens I found firm friends, though Mr. Pooley, despite his big heart and welcoming hand to every sportsman, was not thrown into such close touch with me as Mr. Innes. Considered by the village as 'the man with the heavy hand,' I found in him the truest of friends and one to whom St. Paul's was the very apple of his eye. He it was who had all the solid brasswork made which today adds so much beauty to the Sanctuary, and was for ever thinking how better to adorn it.

"I am weak at names, but Mr. and Mrs. Gillespie and their gallant tribe of kilted bairns attended regularly; Mr. and Mrs. Wake and family, the parents now gone, the son killed on the E. and N. Railway, one daughter dying gallantly in a bomb attack by the Germans on the hospital where she was serving; Captain Nichols, the finest type of manly Christian officer, and a sacristan, one of the office staff of the dockyard, whose devotion to his duties was above all praise.

"The confines of the Parish of Esquimalt in 1887 were as follows: The village and entire district up to Point Ellice Bridge, the Gorge Bridge and Craigflower, the Highland and Goldstream Districts, Colwood, Metchosin, Rocky Point, East and West Sooke and Otter Point. St. Mary's, Metchosin, was the country church for all who could not reach St. Paul's.

"It was the duty of the Rector to look after all men-of-war which did not carry chaplains, and as there were always some of these in port, it meant the attendance of bluejackets at church and the parson's attendance aboard. The former was a delightful sight, the little church crammed to the door, the civilians having no little trouble all to get inside, the singing amazing in its volume, the service going with a swing; St. Paul's fulfilling its purpose in fullest force. The latter consisted of early rising, a spin about the harbour in an outrigger, a climb aboard for breakfast of rich cocoa with the men and a boxing bout or two for any who liked to put on the gloves with the parson. Then to more serious business ashore.

"The only possible way to cover that immense district was afoot, and leaving Esquimalt on a Monday morning, gun on shoulder, I returned at the week's end, having tramped here, there and everywhere, breakfast with one, lunch with another, finding supper and a bed where the day's end found me, and oft adding on my part a little 'game' to the table's viands. Sunday's services then consisted of an early Celebration, service at 10.30 a.m., then a drive to St. Mary's, Metchosin, for a service at 2.30 p.m., and a return to Esquimalt for Evensong.

"There came about a dropping of the latter, which recalls the founding of St. Saviour's, Victoria West. The road from Point Ellice to Esquimalt was sidewalkless, and of course the B.C. Electric Company was unborn. Unless one had horse and trap, folk had to trudge in all weathers to St. Paul's. Living where now Sir F. Barnard dwells was a devoted attendant

at Esquimalt, a frail gentlewoman, who found for herself and those whom she would fain draw with her, the going hard. She approached me with the request that I should hold service once a Sunday in Victoria West. It could only be of an evening, and it meant no Evensong at St. Paul's. Wardens and the village were willing thus to meet the wishes of another part of the Parish, and the Bishop gave me orders to 'go full speed ahead.' I went. An old hunting friend of mine (Mr. Gerow) had a blacksmith shop with a carriage factory above, on the main road, just where now a new road turns off from the tram lines on the flat above Point Ellice Bridge. I asked him to turn his upper chamber over to me. He did, and we cleaned out wheels and bodies forthwith. The only way up was by an outside staircase, but it served its purpose well, though at times I feared, for it was old. I turned to Mr. Dunsmuir, senior, for a number of railway seats I had noticed in the yards and got them. We opened without any flourish and never failed of a full house. Folk from town would float in, and offerings were always large and generous. True, the accommodation for the parson was very limited; the harmonium kindly loaned, together with the Altar—a table generously donated—took up so much of the east end that vesting was some difficulty, as a folding screen too short in height and its skirts most limited gave display of the process, but nothing mattered, Evensong ever went with a swing.

"So time wore on. Then came the beginning of the end. There was no private school on the Island. Cridge's and Mogg's 'Collegiate School' was dead and buried. There was one school on the mainland, at New Westminster, its head, Mr. H. Fiennes Clinton, brother of the first cleric in Vancouver. He decided to move to the Island, and chose Esquimalt village. He took up residence in cottages abreast of the Green, nigh the Navy Yard, and used the Sunday School as a class room. St. Paul's was looking up—it had the navy in attendance and now an educational establishment. But one of the pupils (son of Mr. Marpole, of the C.P.R.) caught diphtheria on his way down from the upper country and died at the school. That broke Clinton's heart. He would carry on no more. The parents and the bishop turned on the well-contented rector. I protested, had no desire for another profession, had left school years ago, and never contemplated mastership. Again the bishop won. I had always been opposed to a man being a cleric and a schoolmaster as well. One or other must needs suffer. I soon found it so. The school held fast, therefore the other had to go. I ceased to be Rector of Esquimalt, and the bishop was the cause. The long years have passed, but memory abides. I have still a warm place in my heart for a short, strenuous, but a delightful rectorship. Today, still a schoolmaster, wherein I found my life work—and bless the bishop for his spidery ways—I wish St. Paul's abundant success through all the coming years in its work for the souls of men, and trust that the want of my day, even as it is the want of the present day—a Rectory—may this year be supplied as a lasting memorial of the sixtieth anniversary.

"W. W. BOLTON,
"Rector, 1887-1890."

A recent letter in the London "Times" announcing the fact that the Parish is entering upon the sixtieth year of its history called forth many interesting letters from old parishioners and friends now widely scattered. Writing from London, Mrs. Amy Pender speaks of her marriage in St. Paul's to Captain Pender, R.N., for many years officer-in-charge of Survey in the Colony. Other distinguished and well-known officers who worshipped here and took part in the services, often reading the Lessons, were Sir Hedworth Lampton, in command of H.M.S. "Amphion"; Sir Colin Keppel, Flag Captain to the Admiral, Lord Charles Beresford, then a junior officer, and others.

Times have changed since those days. The Canadian Government decided in 1906 to take over her own defences, and the Imperial Squadron was removed from this Station. Farewell services were held in the church, as ship after ship left. Many will recall the morning in September when the last company of bluejackets and marines marched in from Esquimalt to Victoria for embarkation. A mist hung over the town, and out of the mist, long before the column could be seen, there came the stirring sound of the drums and of marching feet. Ten years later, in circumstances more grim, some were again to listen to that sound.

The traditional association of this church and the navy was carried on under the new auspices; moreover, in 1911, during Col. R. L. Wadmore's command of the Military District, this church became also the Garrison church for men quartered at Work Point Military Barracks, who hitherto had regularly paraded to St. Saviour's, Victoria West.

During the Great War, services were held constantly in barracks, on board ship, and in the church, for naval and military personnel quartered here. In those years the whole parish was caught up in the war activities belonging to a naval port and garrison town. At the present time the personnel of the naval station, together with the occasional R.C.N.V.R. divisions in training here under the command of the present Senior Naval Officer, Commander Percy E. Nelles, R.N., attend regular divine service in the church. Also on every week day, after morning quarters or divisions, short prayers from the liturgy of the Church of England are read by the Chaplain or, in his absence, by the Senior Naval Officer.

In 1903, that is three years before the Canadian Government took over the defences, the then rector (the Rev. C. Ensor Sharp) entered into a prolonged and lively controversy with the Deputy Minister of Militia and Defence (Col. L. F. Pinault) concerning the risk of damage to the church caused by gun practice from Signal Hill. In June, 1904, the site of the church was expropriated, the Government paying $5,700. The building was dismantled forthwith, almost bodily removed, and reconstructed, with alterations, on property known as "The Hermitage," the residence of Mr. George Gillespie, a little more than half a mile from the original site.

Mr. J. N. Woodgate, C.E., of the navy yard, supervised the work of reconstruction, the expense of which was met by the amount paid for expropriation. A further expense involved in refitting the chancel was met by subscriptions amounting to $1,200 raised by the rector. A photograph of interest in this connection was sent recently from Exmouth, Devonshire, by Mrs. M. L.

Savile, widow of the late Fleet Paymaster of the Flagship "Grafton." She writes:

> "The foundation stone of the reconstructed church was laid 30th August, 1904, by Mrs. Pooley. When the spire was placed in position I took a snapshot of the operation from the verendah of our bungalow in Day's Field, called Devon Cottage."

The Rev. C. E. Sharp removed to St. Thomas', Toronto, in 1906, and was succeeded by the Rev. H. St. John Payne. On 3rd January, 1908, he in turn was succeeded by the Rev. Wilmot Baugh Allen, who remained until January, 1922, when ill health necessitated retirement and resignation. He died on Ascension Day, 1923. Educated at Wellington and Cambridge, he came to Canada in 1888, to this Diocese in 1901, first to Christ Church Cathedral, then to St. Mark's in 1903, and finally in 1908 to St. Paul's. A brief interregnum during the early months of 1922 was filled by the Rev. Herbert T. Archbold pending the appointment of the present incumbent, the Rev. Frederic C. Chapman, late of the Diocese of Rupert's Land, who was instituted by the Bishop of the Diocese, Dr. Charles de V. Schofield, 17th December, 1922.

The Parish played its part in the Great War. The War Shrine placed at the west entrance is an arresting feature of the exterior of the church at the present time. Erected by public subscription in 1917, largely through the instrumentality of the Rev. W. W. Bolton, it was from the first designed to serve the purpose of a temporary memorial, to be replaced eventually by one more permanent. This purpose is now in process of fulfilment, and on its completion the temporary shrine will be dissembled. It is hoped then that the existing panels recording the names of the fallen will be suitably installed in one of the local churches.

Principal incidents of the War need no recounting at this time. Unaided memory is still vivid enough to serve the purpose of these Notes, without explicit reference to any part this parish might have been called upon to play. A very casual glance through the record of services held in the church between 1914-1918 does, however, call to mind again the names of well-known ships and battalions and of men who at one time or another during those years under the exigencies of war sought the ministry of the Church in this place.

On one day, for instance, to cite only one, namely, 23rd August, 1914, it is recorded that at 9.45 a.m. a valedictory Celebration of the Holy Communion was offered for men of the 88th Fusiliers, Lt.-Col. John A. Hall, commanding, and of the 5th Regiment, R.C.G.A., on the eve of departure for Valcartier Camp. At this service 91 men made their Communion. The Celebrant was the Rector, assisted by Hon. Captain the Rev. William Barton. An hour later Captain Barton preached here at a parade service for officers and ratings of H.M.C.S. "Rainbow," and naval volunteers. Three days later it is recorded he left for overseas with 70 men of the R.C.G.A.

Following the war, the fortune of the parish ebbed, but is now returning to something of its old-time volume. The church as it stands today is a very simple edifice externally. On entering, one's attention is drawn to the chancel, which, with its old-fashioned screen, bears a curious likeness to some churches near the Devonshire coast. Few churches in the West

of Canada are furnished with more taste and dignity. Its massive cross and candlesticks (the latter fashioned of gunmetal) and riddels set in a well-proportioned chancel and choir, combine to give an atmosphere of reverence and quietude not always found in our church buildings. Over the altar is a triple window depicting the Childhood of Christ, a gift of Archdeacon Wright in memory of his daughter Alice, 1879. This is flanked by windows bearing the names of Frederick Seymour, Governor and Commander-in-Chief, who died on board the "Sparrowhawk," 1869, and of Horace Douglas Lascelles, Commander R.N., seventh son of Henry, third Earl of Harewood, died June 15th, 1869. Commander Lascelles was uncle to Princess Mary's husband, and thereby constitutes a link between the parish and the Royal Family, a link recently cemented by a gift to the parish from Their Majesties the King and Queen of autographed photographs.

The windows in the nave are associated with one of the oldest and most honoured families in the history of the parish and province. Installed in memory of William and Harriet Alice Fisher and their two sons, they furnish an additional reminder of the long association of the Pooley family with the parish. Mrs. E. Pooley, the daughter of the aforesaid, arrived in Esquimalt with her parents in 1863, was present at the consecration of the church, and, as stated, was married there in 1869. Her husband was for many years churchwarden; she, with her children and grandchildren, still attends the services, and it is hoped will be present at the sixtieth anniversary festival on 12th September of this year.

Almost the first object one notices on entering the church is a lifebuoy. Washed ashore near Ucluelet Inlet in December, 1901, this buoy alone remains to commemorate one of the saddest tragedies of the sea. On the night of 3rd December, 1901, accompanied by the good wishes of friends, H.M.S. "Condor" put to sea in a heavy storm. From that day nothing more has been heard of the ship, except the mute testimony of this lifebuoy. The brass underneath was erected by the officers and men of the Pacific Squadron.

The mural tablets in the church are reminiscent almost entirely of fatalities at sea. They are erected as follow, in order of place from the west end of the nave:

1. Harry Pinner, A.B., H.M.S. "Egeria," drowned at Nanaimo, 1899.

2. George Merritt, musician, H.M.S. "Icarus," drowned at Vancouver, 1898.

3. The Commanding Officer, officers and entire ship's company, A.P.S. "Galiano," lost at sea, 30th October, 1918.

4. Captain Frederick Percival Trench, R.N., H.M.S. "Royal Arthur," buried at sea, May, 1895.

5. H. Buttery, A.B., H.M.S. "Shearwater," drowned in Victoria Harbour, 27th May, 1906.

6. Lieut. Gerald Heyman and seven of the crew of H.M.S. "Satellite," Henry Ricketts, Frederick Williams, Henry White, George A. Salter, William Crundwell, William Catrell, who on 4th September, 1896, formed a volunteer boat's crew to render assistance to a shipwrecked crew in Dutch Harbour, Unalaska, and were drowned in the attempt.

7. Frederick Perkins, youngest son of General and Mrs. Aeneas Perkins, drowned off Saturna Island, 1895.

8. Joseph Evans, A.B., H.M.S. "Caroline," drowned in Burrard Inlet, 2nd July, 1888.

9. William Archibald Lobb, an official of the Bank of British Columbia, Victoria, died 1899.

10. Baldwin Arden Wake, Captain, R.N., died January, 1880; Adelaide Wake, died 20th November, 1894.

11. Hereward Eyre, only son of Gervas and Rosamond Wake, died 23rd August, 1913.

12. Gladys Maude Mary Wake, Nursing Sister, who died from the action of enemy aircraft, Etaples, France, 21st May, 1918.

13. Ex-Cadets of the Royal Naval College of Canada, Midshipmen W. A. Palmer, A. W. Silver, J. V. W. Hatheway, M. Cann, killed in action on board H.M.S. "Good Hope," off Coronel, 1st November, 1914.

Lieut. W. M. K. Maitland-Dougall, son of Mr. and Mrs. James St. L. Maitland-Dougall, of Duncan, Vancouver Island, killed on active service in command of H.M. Submarine D-3, in the English Channel, 15th March, 1918.

Also two brasses in the sanctuary dedicated to the memory of past incumbents:

14. Stuart Clement Scholefield, died 1894, linked for many years with the City of Victoria through his son, Ethelbert Scholefield, a former librarian of the Legislative Assembly, British Columbia.

15. Wilmot Baugh Allen, died Ascension Day, 1923. (This memorial was dedicated on St. Paul's Day, 1926.)

One remark concerning the stone font is worth recording. Erected in memory of Mrs. Alstone, it claims attention because of its fine cover, made from the oak of an old Sussex watermill. This font cover was entirely put together and carved by Francis Benbow, of Firle, Sussex, and was presented to the church by the Rev. J. Denis De Vitie, a chaplain of the Royal Navy, now rector of Stickney Parish, Boston, Lincolnshire. The original iron handle was the work of the Firle village blacksmith, Frank Unstead, but that has been replaced (it is unknown when) by the present copper handle.

The beautiful furnishings of the church have been added to in recent years. It has always been the pious custom of church people so to mark their gratitude for Divine mercies. A white frontal of uncommon beauty and dignity, worked by the Diocesan Embroidery Guild, was given by the Parish branch of the Girls' Auxiliary and dedicated on Easter Eve, 1924. The green super-frontal, burse and veil, also worked by the Embroidery Guild, was placed here by Margaret Moore Baugh Allen in memory of her husband, and dedicated at the celebration of the Holy Communion on Thursday, November 12th, 1925. A desk Prayer Book was given by a group of laymen in 1923.

Note—Mr. J. Howard Chapman, 904 Government Street, Victoria, has kindly prepared photographic negatives of the windows and tablets in the church, and will furnish prints.

As stated, the parish at the present time lacks a rectory. The old rectory house, built by Colonel Foster, subsequently occupied until 1904 by Mr. Gillespie, proves too spacious for modern domestic needs. In 1922 a pro-rectory was rented. This charge upon the parish (now borne for four years) will, it is hoped, be removed by the early completion of a Jubilee Rectory fund, which is to be the object of the thankoffering at the Anniversary Services. The old rectory building has been improved and adapted for use as a parish house. The healthy growth of the Sunday School, under the direction of Mr. W. E. A. Barclay, necessitated removal from its cramped and unsuitable situation in the nave of the church. A committee, under the chairmanship of Captain J. G. Rycroft and advised by Lt.-Colonel Ridgeway Wilson, supervised the alterations. A thoroughly serviceable Church House was opened for use on Wednesday, October 8th, 1924, the Very Rev. Cecil S. Quainton, Dean of Columbia; the Ven. Edward P. Laycock, Archdeacon of Columbia; the Rector, Wardens, and members of the congregation being present.

Steady work has been done by the congregation in recent years to improve and repair the fabric of the church and Church House. The property has been partially refenced and generally improved, notably in the section under the care of the Tennis Club. Special record is made of the fine piece of voluntary work done under the direction of Mr. J. E. Macdonald, helped by men and women of the parish, whereby the exterior of the Church House was entirely reshingled and painted. This work was undertaken and completed in the Spring of this year, 1926. The task of building a new rectory is entrusted to a committee, under the chairmanship of Lt.-Col. John A. Hall. With him are associated the Rector (*ex-officio*), Major G. Sisman and Mr. J. E. Macdonald (churchwardens), Commander Percy E. Nelles, and Major Arthur G. Piddington. The committee is advised by Archdeacon Laycock, and is invested with authority to raise funds and to complete the building as quickly as possible. Major G. Sisman, Munro Street, Esquimalt, the hon. treasurer, will gratefully acknowledge subscriptions.

The Parish now looks forward to the future with a strengthened hope, sensible of the debt it owes to loyal churchmen of the past and pledged to a faithful discharge of its duty to those who follow.

LIST OF PARISH OFFICERS, DIAMOND JUBILEE YEAR, 1926

Rector: Rev. Frederic Colbourne Chapman, B.A.

Rector's Warden: Mr. J. E. Macdonald.

People's Warden: Major George Sisman.

Church Committee: Mr. W. E. A. Barclay, Lt.-Col. John A. Hall, Mr. A. Nevile Smith, Major Arthur G. Piddington, M.C., Mr. Walter E. Wilson, Commander Percy E. Nelles, R.N., Mr. Robert W. Dent, Canon H. W. Gibbon Stocken, Mr. Thomas Hadfield, Mrs. J. E. Macdonald.

Lay Delegates to Synod: Lt.-Col. John A. Hall, Major George Sisman.

Delegates to Ruri-Decanal Conference: Major George Sisman, Lt.-Col. John A. Hall, Mr. Robert W. Dent, Mr. J. E. Macdonald.

Missionary Committee: Canon H. W. Gibbon Stocken, Mrs. George Sisman.

Envelope Secretary: Mr. T. Hadfield.

Sidesmen: Mr. V. Martin, Mr. Arthur J. W. Porter.

Auditor: Mr. A. R. Wolfenden.

Organist: Mr. Edgar C. Holloway; assistant *pro tem.*, Mr. Philip Hughes.

Choirmaster: Major W. Harry Watts.

Sacristan: Mr. Herbert C. Phillips.

Choir: Mr. Seymour T. White, Mr. Arthur Sainsbury, Mr. Thomas W. Standlick, Mr. Herbert C. Phillips, Mr. Harry Craven, Mr. R. F. Waddington, Miss Hilda Parkinson, Miss K. M. Parkinson, Miss Annie Redhead, Miss Eleanor Redhead, Mrs. J. P. Hicks, Miss Doris Hicks, Mrs. W. Hastie Cochrane, Miss Elspeth Cochrane, Miss Alice Stocken, Miss Dorothy Langdon.

Sunday School:

Superintendent and Treasurer: Mr. W. E. A. Barclay.

Secretary: Mr. J. Robertson.

Staff: Mr. A. Nevile-Smith, Capt. J. G. Rycroft, Mrs. F. C. Chapman, Mrs. A. Nevile-Smith, Mrs. W. W. Shorrock, Miss E. Isbister, Miss Alice Stocken, Miss Frances Price, Miss Montserrat, Miss Dorothy Evans, Mrs. W. E. A. Barclay.

Caretaker: Mr. G. Needham.

Chancel Guild Members: Mrs. F. C. Chapman, Mrs. A. Nevile-Smith, Mrs. G. Sisman, Mrs. J. E. Macdonald, Mrs. O. R. Parker, Mrs. Harbinson.

Woman's Auxiliary: President, Mrs. F. C. Chapman; Vice-President, Mrs. J. Holligan; Secretary, Mrs. Gordon Hardie; Treasurers (W.A.), Mrs. W. E. A. Barclay, (Guild), Mrs. J. E. Macdonald; Dorcas Secretary, Mrs. George H. Pullen; Literature Secretary, Mrs. J. P. Hicks; E.C.D., Mrs. A. W. Greaves; Thankoffering Secretary, Mrs. J. Gray; Leaflet Secretary, Mrs. F. Wharfe; Little Helpers' Secretary, Mrs. J. Holligan.

Junior Branch (W.A.): Superintendent, Mrs. Gordon Hardie; Assistant Superintendent, Miss Frances Price.

Girls' Auxiliary (W.A.): President, Mrs. J. P. Hicks; Vice-President, Mrs. T. Hadfield; Secretary, Miss Gwen Root; Treasurer, Miss E. Isbister; Literature Secretary, Miss A. Redhead.

Men's Guild: President, Mr. J. E. Macdonald.

Tennis Club: President, Mr. Arthur E. Foy; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Hilda Parkinson.

Junior Tennis Club: Superintendent, Mrs. Seymour T. White.