

*This document contains fascinating insights into the history of St. George's Church, Berlin, between 1887 and 1926.*

*The various entries are taken from the "Around the Chaplaincies" section of the Anglican Church Magazine. The dates of some of the entries are uncertain, and the selection is far from complete. The orthography used in the original articles is retained. Notes I have added to individual entries are given in square brackets. Andrew Sims, May 2018*

*To start with, though, an excerpt from the obituary of the Rev. Robert Briscoe Earée, 17 November 1928, which tells us something about the beginnings of St. George's Church:*

[The Rev. Earée's] "church" when he took office [in Berlin in 1880] was the ball room of the Monbijou Palace, granted for that purpose by the late King Frederick Wilhelm IV. In 1882, however, Mr. Earée conceived the idea that the approaching silver wedding day of the Crown Prince and Princess would be a most suitable occasion for the starting of a fund for the erection of a proper church, and he issued an address, which he sent to the Crown Princess, who at once took up the matter most warmly. Committees were formed in Germany and England, and the London committee, through the Prince of Wales, obtained permission to hold a fete for the fund at the "Fisheries Exhibition," Earl's Court, which realised the sum of £4,500. On May 24th, 1884, the foundation stone was laid by the Crown Princess, and on November 21, 1885, the church – dedicated to St. George – was consecrated by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Titcomb. The service book of 1880 showed the number of communicants that year to have been 187. The year before Mr. Earée's resignation showed the number – 2,033!

From the *Anglican Church Magazine*

*Note – The editor desires to call the special attention of the Chaplains to the space which he is willing month by month to devote to Correspondence, and to the recording of Church work or other useful effort. He trusts, however, that only matter of sufficiently wide interest, or bearing upon actual Church labour, will be submitted for publication.*

The contact list for the Diocese includes Rev. R.B. Earée residing at Steglitzer Strasse, 28.

January 1887 – An extract from Bishop Wilkinson's record of a recent episcopal visit (Nov. 24-26 [1886]) contains the following encouraging report of Church work in this important Chaplaincy:–

“The impression left upon my mind, on the occasion of this my second visit to Berlin, is that very distinct and valuable progress has been made here in Church matters, in every respect, since my first visit in 1883. Then there was no church, the congregation comparatively small, the presence of Americans at our services very limited, and no very strong bond existing, apparently, between the

members of our Church, English and American. Now I find a very beautiful building, admirable in its design, showing the best possible workmanship, carefully and lovingly finished, and furnished in almost every particular; a large congregation of English and Americans, and a good proportion of Communicants. The English and American residents seem drawn much more closely together, each and all evincing evident interest in the welfare and progress of the Church.”

August 1887 – *To the Editor of the Anglican Church Magazine*

SIR, – I was glad to see in your last number that the discussion on musical matters has led to a very practical suggestion being made as to a uniform Chant-book for the Chaplaincies. This matter is the more interesting to me, as I am at this very moment engaged in compiling a Chant-book for use at St. George’s, Berlin; and the book is now ready to go to the engraver. Until now we have used the Trinity College, Cambridge, Chant-book; but I am going to make an effort to have the chanting as congregational as the hymn-singing, and this book is too dear (3s. 6d.), and some of the chants unsingable or ugly; so that I preferred compiling an altogether new collection, from all the sources at my disposal. A table at the beginning of the book gives the chants for the Canticles and the Psalms for each morning and evening of the month, so that the congregation can know beforehand, and try over for themselves, the chants which will be sung on any Sunday. I hope to be able to put the price of the book as low as 9d. It contains about 200 chants, single and double; a few of them new, but mostly old friends. But, before publishing this book, I should like to ask if there is really any chance of one uniform Chant-book for the Chaplaincies; as, in that case, I should like to wait and see what is going to be done. I do not hope or expect that my book would be taken as a model, for some will want only single chants, and others Gregorians; but I would venture to suggest that a fixed table for the month is the only way in which the chants can be learnt by the congregation. The only argument against it which I can see is, that a fixed table, to be used over and over again, would become rather monotonous; but, except in leap-year, the Sunday chants would never be the same for two consecutive months. Our Psalter is “Elvey.” I shall be very glad of kind opinion and advice.

Yours faithfully,

ROBERT BRISCO EARÈE [sic]

August 1887 – The Queen’s Jubilee was celebrated here by a festival service at 11 a.m., consisting of the special service appointed by the Archbishop, together with Litany, Collect, Epistle and Gospel for the Queen’s Accession, and sermon. There was a large attendance, including the British Ambassador and staff. The Emperor, who had desired to be present, was not well enough to attend, and was represented by the Grand Duchess of Baden, who expressed herself much pleased with the service and the singing. In the evening there was a banquet at the “Kaiserhof” at which about 250 were present. The Ambassador, in his speech at the banquet, warmly commended a project which has been started to commemorate the Jubilee in a lasting manner, by putting a stained window in St. George’s Church. The

money for the window has already been subscribed to within a small amount. On the Saturday before the Jubilee Day, a treat was given to the children of the English families residing in Berlin and the neighbouring villages (Rummelsburg, Schönweide, &c). The children, together with their parents, were taken by special train to Hoppegarten, where the race-course had been kindly lent to them for a playground. Here they had dinner, and afterwards there were athletic sports, games, &c. A special Jubilee medal was presented to each of the children, as a souvenir of the event. During the afternoon, the band of the 2nd Foot Guards played English music in the pavilion on the race-course.

Her Imperial and Royal Highness, the Crown Princess, has lately established a Governesses' Home in Berlin, at 8, Göben Strasse, where all governesses out of place may find cheap and good accommodation. This Home is to serve as a central institution for all Germany. A branch association has been formed in London, through which governesses desiring to come on the Continent will, if found suitable, be recommended by the London branch. The Lady Superintendent of the Home, Miss Selke, will endeavour to find places for well-recommended governesses. It is hoped that the various chaplains will mention the existence of this Home to any governesses under their care who may be intending to come to the capital.

A plan has just been started, for establishing an assistant chaplaincy for the suburbs of Berlin. There are several outlying villages which it is impossible for the Chaplain to serve, and it is proposed to get an assistant chaplain for these places (Rummelsburg, Hoppegarten, Schönweide), where there are a good many English workmen. The sum of £100 per annum has been already guaranteed for this purpose, by H.I.H. the Crown Princess, the British Ambassador, Lady Ermyntrude Malet, Mr. Bynnes, and the "S.P.G.", and the chaplain hopes to get the amount up to £150 before the clergyman is appointed.

(\* It seems highly desirable that this question of assistant chaplainships should be thoroughly discussed, both in the columns of the *Anglican Church Magazine* and in Conference. At first sight it would appear to be the best method of preventing the scandal of pauper chaplaincies, and that unnecessary multiplication of what must be styled rival chaplaincies which, in many districts, is causing incalculable mischief. We are constantly receiving letters testifying to the rankness of these two evils in the Continental Church. ED. A.C.M.)

December 1887 – The Rev. Herbert Edward Egremont, B.A., has been appointed to the new chaplaincy of Rummelsberg [sic] with Schönweide and Hoppegarten, established by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts for the numerous English artisans, horse-trainers, &c., who, with their wives and families, live in those outlying districts.

January 1888 – The Right Rev. Bishop Wilkinson made his annual visitation to Berlin Nov. 25-30, residing with the Rev. R.B. Earée during his stay. On the 26th he held a confirmation in S. George's Church, and confirmed thirteen candidates. There was a good attendance at the confirmation. The Bishop made a most excellent charge to the candidates, based on the Epistle for the 24th Sunday after  
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Trinity. The altar was vested in white. In the afternoon there was a reception at the chaplain's house, about 200 guests attending to be presented to the Bishop. The next day, Advent Sunday, the Bishop preached both morning and evening, to large congregations. At both services he made very feeling mention of our beloved Crown Prince, and asked his hearers to make earnest supplication to the Almighty, that it may please Him to avert from the Imperial family, and from the German nation, the threatened calamity, even as He heard and answered our prayers when our own Prince of Wales was lying sick unto death. There were ninety-seven communicants at the midday celebration. On the 28th, after meeting the members of the Church Committee at luncheon, at the house of Mr. D. Grove, the chaplain's warden, the Bishop attended a meeting at Schönweide, to learn the final decision of the English community there, as to whether they were willing to accept the services of the Chaplain who has just been appointed to minister at Rummelsburg, &c., a short distance from Berlin. There was some opposition, but the voting on the motion was favourable, and the new chaplain, the Rev. H.E. Egremont, will include Schönweide with Rummelsburg, and perhaps Hoppegarten, in his sphere of work. The Bishop left for Dresden on the 30th. Her Majesty the Empress was pleased to express a wish to see the Bishop during his stay; but he had unfortunately left before the command could reach him.

The following is from the Bishop's Visitation Report:—

“Nov. 26. At 11 a.m. confirmed two male and eleven female candidates, in the presence of a considerable congregation, several of the candidates coming from the newly-formed chaplaincy of Rummelsburg, and having been prepared by Mr. Earée. At 4 p.m. a large reception of English and Americans at the chaplain's house, where I had the pleasure of meeting many old, and making several new, acquaintances. — Nov. 27. *Advent Sunday*. Preached to a very large congregation at the 11 o'clock service. A considerable number (ninety-seven) received the Holy Communion at the midday celebration. Preached again at the 7 p.m. service to a fair congregation. — Nov. 28. Met several of the Church Committee at a most pleasant and hospitable luncheon party, given by Mr. and Mrs. Grove. Went out in the evening and attended a meeting at Schönweide, at which the question of receiving a clergyman of the Anglican Church was discussed, and decided upon favourably. The new chaplaincy may now be said to be formed for the three English communities resident in Rummelsburg, Schönweide, and Hoppegarten, and has been mainly brought about by the tact and zeal of Mr. Earée, who has spared himself no pains to bring this good work to a successful issue. I note with great satisfaction the marked progress which has been made through successive years, in the work of the Berlin chaplaincy. The church is now more than full; the feeling which exists in the English and American communities is excellent, and I sincerely trust that they may long be benefited by the presence of their earnest and energetic chaplain. I should now be very glad to see an effort set on foot to raise funds for the purpose of building a parsonage for this chaplaincy. I understand that this is no idea of my own, but that the project already has the good wishes of, and would be supported by, many.”

The S.P.G. has appointed the Rev. H.E. Egremont to the new chaplaincy of Rummelsburg, Schönweide and Hoppegarten, three colonies of English workmen, &c., near Berlin. Mr. Egremont has

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done five years' good work in the East of London, under the Bishop of Bedford, by whom he is warmly recommended.

Fräulein Selke, the Lady Superintendent of the Governesses' Home in Berlin, has received a good appointment in Bucharest, from the Queen of Roumania. She has, therefore, resigned her post in Berlin; and the committee of the Home have appointed Miss Nash, of Baden, to the place. Miss Nash enters on her duties with the new year.

The Rev. R.B. Earée has compiled a chant-book, for use in St. George's Church, Berlin. Her Imperial Highness, the Crown Princess, has been pleased to accept the dedication of the work, which will be ready before Christmas. A feature of the book is a permanent table for the month, including all the chants to be sung to the Psalms and Canticles for every day; so that the congregation may know what is to be sung, and be able to join with the choir. The chants are Anglican; single, double, and a few quadruple for the Te Deum.

1888 – The following changes in the Directories occur in the January issue of the A.C.M.:–

... RUMMELBERG [sic]:– The new station erected here by the S.P.G. takes its place amongst the permanent chaplaincies. ...

February 1888 [*entry for Wiesbaden chaplaincy*] – A correspondent writes:– “Your Berlin correspondent states that Miss Nash, the new lady superintendent of the Home for English and American Governesses in Berlin, comes from Baden. This is a mistake. Miss Nash has been for eight years in Wiesbaden, where she has studied German, and been a most successful teacher of English, having had as pupils the sons and daughters of Germans, English, and Americans, from whom she has high testimonials. Miss Nash has taken an active part in good works carried on by the English community here, and for some years managed the church choir. She is much missed by a large circle of friends, and carries with her their good wishes to her new sphere of work, for which her previous career has eminently fitted her.”

April 1888 – St. George's Church has been put in mourning for Kaiser Wilhelm. The altar is vested in crape, with white flowers in the vases, and there are crape hangings to the pulpit, reading-desk, font, and royal pew. On Sunday the 11th. there were special services, with a funeral sermon, both morning and evening. The English community here have universally assumed mourning for the late monarch. The Church mourning will be laid aside for the Easter Festival, and resumed on Low Sunday. A mourning-wreath, with a letter of sympathy, has been sent to H.I.M. the Empress-Dowager, by the Chaplain, Wardens, and Congregation.

The new Chant-book for St. George's Church is now ready.

June 1888 – [...] While several new temporary chaplaincies have been arranged, to meet the growing wants of our travelling English, one new and specially interesting permanent chaplaincy has been formed by the energy of our Berlin chaplain, and through the generosity of the Empress Victoria, our Ambassador in Berlin, and others. I refer to the effort which has resulted in supplying the ministrations of the Church to the factory hands, artisans, mechanics, and jockeys living round Berlin, in the several centres of Rummelsburg, Schönweide, Hoppegarten, and Charlottenburg. These groups of English had long been neglected by the Church; some had fallen into dissenting, others, I fear, into utterly indifferent modes of life as regards spiritual things. Another colony of our countrymen, at Grünberg, in Silesia, has applied to us for similar help, which I trust may meet with some response. Such communities (Hughessoffka, in South Russia, towards the Sea of Azof, is another example) call for our most careful vigilance, and the most effective help we can bestow upon them. [...]

1889 – The following changes in the Directory occur in the January issue of the A.C.M.:–

... The Rev. B.G. Durrad, M.A., has been appointed to the chaplaincy of Rummelsburg-with-Schönweide.

The address of the Rev. R.B. Earée, Berlin, is now Courbière-Strasse, 16.

January 1889 – The Right Rev. Bishop Wilkinson made his annual visitation to Berlin, November 24th-28th. On the 24th he consecrated a private mausoleum in one of the Berlin cemeteries; on the 25th he preached and celebrated at St. George's, at 11, and preached at Schönweide in the afternoon, and at Rummelsburg in the evening. On the 26th he confirmed nine candidates in St. George's. On the 27th he had the honour of an audience of His Majesty, the Emperor Wilhelm II., and on the 28th, before leaving for Dresden, he visited the tomb of the Emperor Friedrich III. at Potsdam. In his visitation report, the Bishop expressed himself very well satisfied with the progress which had taken place since his visit last November, and hoped that we might soon see a parsonage-house built for the Berlin chaplain, and iron churches for the new chaplaincy of Schönweide-Rummelsburg.

The Church of St. George in Berlin is already proving too small for the congregation; there are at this moment forty seats being applied for beyond the capacity of the church. It is hoped that, by a new arrangement of the seats, and by the purchase of fifty chairs, sufficient seats may be found to meet present wants; but it is very disappointing to the worshippers (or rather, the would-be worshippers) to be turned away, Sunday after Sunday, owing to the impossibility of finding seats for them.

On Advent Sunday there were thirty communicants at the early Celebration, and seventy-five at the late Celebration, making 105 for the day. At the former the chaplain, the Rev. R.B. Earée, was assisted by the new chaplain of Schönweide-Rummelsburg, the Rev. B.G. Durrad, of whose work at these two settlements of English workpeople the Bishop speaks in very high terms in his visitation report. The Governesses' Home in Berlin continues to be a decided success, not merely as a home for governesses out of place, but also as an excellent agency, providing places for them in all parts of Germany.

The present address of the Home is Göben-Strasse, 8 (Miss Nash, Superintendent); but, owing to the appreciation which it has met with, the present house has proved too small, and it is the intention of the committee to remove the home to a larger house next April.

An appeal to the congregation has just been issued by the committee of St. George's Church, for M. 3000 to put in a stained window over the royal pew, and sundry other embellishments of the panels of the pew, and of the pulpit, &c., in memory of the late Emperor Friedrich. There is little doubt that the money will be raised. The first stained window was put in some time ago, by the Duke of Bedford, in memory of Lord Amptill, his brother, late H.B.M. Ambassador at Berlin. It is a very handsome window, designed by Burne Jones, with figures of St. Michael and St. George, and emblematic figures of Righteousness and Peace, and is placed in the great west window. The congregation have subscribed already for a stained window in memory of the Jubilee of her Majesty, Queen Victoria; but, owing to the illness of the artist, the window is not yet completed. Other windows have been promised, and it is hoped that soon they may all be stained. The latest gift to the church is a set of white silk hangings for the pulpit and reading-desk, to correspond with the white silk altar-cloth, and presented by H.R.H. the Princess of Battenberg, in memory of her visit to the church, with the Queen and the Empress, on the 25th of April.

At the Confirmation on November 26th, the altar was vested in white for the occasion, and the chaplains of Berlin and Schönweide-Rummelsburg wore white stoles. There was a large congregation, and the Bishop delivered a most excellent address to the candidates. Lady Ermyntrude Malet kindly gave the confirmation-veils for the girls, and a Prayer-book to each candidate, as a souvenir.

March 1889 – The adjourned Annual Vestry Meeting was held in the Vestry of St. George's Church on February 6th, the Chaplain presiding. The wardens' accounts were passed, and the report directed to be published. The chaplain nominated Mr. D. Grove as his warden for the year, and the Vestry elected Mr. W.P. Tyler as warden for the congregation. There was thus no change, as these two gentlemen had acted in the same capacity for 1888. The chaplain thanked the wardens for their past services, and the Vestry also passed a vote of thanks to the same effect.

On January 30th the Annual Meeting of the Patrons of the Governesses' Home was held at H.B.M. Embassy, his Excellency Sir E.B. Malet in the chair. The Rev. R.B. Earée, chairman of the Working Committee, and *pro tem.* secretary in the absence of Frl. B. Von Bunsen, read the report of the Working Committee. The report shows very good progress, as the Home had had many inmates during the year, and a good proportion of governesses had been supplied with situations. The Working Committee placed on record their very warm approval of the excellent way in which Miss Nash, the Lady Superintendent, has conducted the Home. The report pointed out that funds were greatly needed, to make a capital for investment, as, at present, all expenses not covered by the fees for agency business, and the payments of inmates, had to be paid out of capital. As the present dwelling is both too small and inconveniently situated, it was decided to move the Home, on the 1st of April of this year, to a larger

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and more conveniently situated dwelling, where accommodation can be given to eight governesses instead of four, the present limit.

At the above meeting the two outgoing members of the Working Committee were re-elected; the only change being that Miss Pendleton, daughter of his Excellency the U.S. Minister, resigned her post in favour of her sister, Miss Jane Pendleton, on account of ill-health.

It is hoped that, in the new dwelling, with the increased accommodation, the Home may, after a while, become almost self-supporting; but the move, and the extra furniture, will cost about 2000 Marks.

In case any of the Continental chaplains should have an opportunity of recommending the Home, either to those wanting well-recommended governesses, or to governesses out of situations, the address is here given:—

*Until April 1:* Miss Nash, Goeben Strasse, 8, Berlin, W.

*After April 1:* Miss Nash, Kleinbeeren Strasse, 22, Berlin, S.W.

The Home is getting together a very good library; many volumes having been presented by H.B.M. Ambassador, Baron Tauchnitz, &c. The Committee will be glad to receive any donations of books for the library, which is largely used by all the governesses residing in Berlin, as well as by the inmates of the Home.

*St. George's Church.*— During the past year the congregation increased so much that it was impossible to find seats for all those desiring to possess them; there being, at the close of the year, nearly forty applications for seats beyond the number available. As the space allowed for each worshipper is unusually large, it was decided, from the beginning of this year, to put one additional person into each pew, except in the north aisle, thus making some 35 or 40 additional places. The church was built to seat 300, including choir-seats and the Royal pew. The old chapel only held 128.

August 1889 – The following statistics show the progress of the chaplaincy during the last ten years. The record of communicants (or communions) only dates from the appointment of the present chaplain (the Rev. R.B. Earée) in 1880:—

| Year. | Sunday Services. | Total Communicants. | Easter. | Christmas. |
|-------|------------------|---------------------|---------|------------|
| 1879  | 55               | ?                   | ?       | ?          |
| 1880  | 58               | 187                 | ?       | 53         |
| 1881  | 65               | 935                 | 114     | 71         |
| 1882  | 110              | 1030                | 82      | 90         |
| 1883  | 99               | 1081                | 91      | 84         |
| 1884  | 104              | 1413                | 113     | 124        |
| 1885  | 108              | 1224                | 136     | 125        |
| 1886  | 125              | 1514                | 159     | 118        |
| 1887  | 125              | 1662                | 161     | 150        |
| 1888  | 127              | 1926                | 179     | 140        |

December 1889 – The Rev. R.B. Earée writes: “The hour of the evening service has been changed from seven to six, at the request of several of the principal members of the congregation; and, judging



by last Sunday, November 3, when there was a greatly increased attendance, the change seems likely to give universal satisfaction though, as this was only the second time since the change, it is rather too soon to speak definitely.

“We are looking forward to the Bishop’s visitation, and to the Confirmation, for which there are nine candidates. During the incumbency of the present chaplain, there has been a yearly Confirmation, as follows:— By the Bishop of Aberdeen and Orkney, May 15, 1881, 9 candidates; by the Bishop of Edinburgh, June 25, 1882, 6 candidates; by Bishop Wilkinson, April 10, 1883, 9 candidates; by Bishop Titcomb, May 13, 1884, 6 candidates; by Bishop Titcomb, November 23, 1885, 9 candidates; by Bishop Wilkinson, November 26, 1886, 6 candidates; by Bishop Wilkinson, November 26, 1887, 13 candidates; by Bishop Wilkinson, November 26, 1888, 9 candidates. The increase in 1887 was due to a contingent from Rummelsburg.

“This is now the fourth year since the early Celebration on the first Sunday of the month (in addition to the usual mid-day Celebration) was introduced; and, considering the smallness of the community, and the great distance from the church at which almost all the congregation live, the numbers and progress are encouraging. The number of communicants at the early Celebration since the commencement is as follows:— 1886 – 8, 12, 11, 5, 4, 18, 4, 11, 7, 10, 16, 15; total 121. 1887 – 6, 7, 10, 12, 9, 7, 6, 6, 5, 9, 11, 8; total 96. 1888 – 12, 16, 13, 75 (Easter Day), 0, 25, 9, 7, 9, 20, 28, 30; total 244. 1889 (to November) – 21, 22, 21, 22, 15, 22, 19, 8, 21, 18, 25; total 214. This year the evening service has been choral. The congregation join well in the singing, but there is very great difficulty in getting male voices for the choir here, as so few young men come to Berlin. At Christmas we lose the services of the evening organist, a very talented young American, Mr. Pommer, who goes to England to complete his musical studies.

“The Governesses’ Home is continually increasing in its usefulness and enlarging its sphere of action. Her Majesty, the Empress Frederick, has appointed as permanent secretary to the Home, for England, Miss Green, 41, Holland Road, Kensington, who will see all governesses desiring to come to Berlin, and, if satisfied with their references and acquirements, will furnish them with a letter of recommendation to the Home in Berlin. It will be understood that the primary object of the Home is not to attract governesses to Berlin, (rather the reverse!) but to give assistance to those already there, in the way of cheap board and lodging when they are out of a situation, and to find new posts for them, when possible.”

January 1890 – The Right Rev. Bishop Wilkinson made his annual Visitation to Berlin, November 23-27. His lordship’s Visitation Report is as follows: “Fourth Episcopal Visitation, Saturday, November 23rd, 1889. Arrived in Berlin from Hamburg, and was, as formerly, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Earée, who received and cared for me most hospitably, as usual. Sunday, November 24th. Preached at the 11 o’clock service, on behalf of the Continental Bishopruc Endowment Fund; 753.25 [?] marks collected. The American Thanksgiving Service took away the Americans from us to-day. Monday, November 25th. Confirmation at 3 p.m.; three male and six female candidates. Dined at the English Embassy in the

evening. Tuesday, November 26th. Met some of the Church Committee. At Mr. Grove's in the evening. Wednesday, November 27th. At lunch with Mr. and Mrs. Bashford; he and Mr. Tyler kindly consented to act as hon. secretaries for the Bishopric Endowment Fund at Berlin; Mr. Grove, I hope, will also consent to act.

"I leave to-day for Dresden, with only one anxiety: that, upon the occasion of my next visit, I shall not find the present chaplain here, whose faithful services and unvarying kindness I have, on now so many occasions, recorded."

The chaplain has received the following letter from H.I.M. the Empress Augusta, in reply to his communication relative to the Bishopric Endowment Fund.

"Kabinet Ihrer Majestät der Kaiserin-Königin Augusta,

Coblenz, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 1889.

"MY DEAR MR. EARÉE, – I am ordered by her Majesty, the Empress Augusta, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated November 27th, and to express her Majesty's sympathy with the project of raising a Continental Bishopric Endowment Fund, as the Empress has not been without perceiving the advantages to be derived from the establishment of a Continental Bishopric, for the British chaplaincies and the British communities abroad.

"Her Majesty's constant interest for the latter, as promoting good relations and reciprocal understanding between the English and German nations, has always induced the Empress to remain in connection with the Anglican Church in different places abroad, and the Empress wishes to assist the endeavours for the constitution of the above-mentioned Fund by a contribution of £50 (or 1000 m.) which I beg to enclose for the said purpose.

"Believe me, dear Mr. Earée,

"Yours very sincerely,

"B. VON KNESEBECK."

From January 1st, 1890, it is intended to add fourteen extra seats in St. George's Church, by putting the people closer together in the north aisle. This was done in the other parts of the church at the beginning of this year, so that from henceforth there will be no possibility of getting in more seats without enlargement of the church. The wardens have some thirteen applications on their books which must [?] be attended to. His Excellency, the United States' Minister, in his speech at the United States Thanksgiving Dinner, referred to the crowded state of the church.

On Friday, December 13th, the chaplain delivered a lecture, before the members of the "English Conversational Club," at the Brandenburger Haus, on "Some English Peculiarities."

July 1890 – On May 1st a Committee, consisting of Mssrs. Grove, Carpenter, Tarry and Holmes and Miss St. Aubyn, waited upon the Rev. R.B. Earée, Rector-designate of Misersen [sic], Cirencester, and presented him, in the name of the congregation of St. George's Berlin, with a handsome illuminated address of farewell and a purse of nearly 3000 marks. In returning thanks Mr. Earée asked his

congregation to extend to his successor, the Rev. Frank Owen, the same friendship which they had ever shown to himself. In addition to the public testimonial Mr. Earée received a large number of letters and photographs from individual members of the English community in Berlin, wishing him Godspeed, and regretting his departure.

1890 – The Rev. F. Owen, M.A., is listed in the Diocesan directory as residing at Jerusalemer Str., 45.

May 1891 – Extract from the Bishop's inaugural address at the Anglican Church Conference at Wiesbaden:

“At Berlin an exchange has deprived us of a man who for nearly ten years worked up from a day of very small things a chaplaincy beset with difficult, delicate, complex work. With great tact and consideration he steered our Church wisely and well, and brought his chaplaincy to the position which it now holds among the first in our division of Europe. He had, it is true, the support not only of an excellent Ambassador, but of several good laymen resident in the chaplaincy, who, in common with other members of his congregation, showed their generous appreciation of this work by a handsome testimonial when he left them.”

1894 – The seventh Annual Report of the Home for British and American governesses, for the year 1893, has just been issued. The Home, which was founded in 1887, by H.M. the Empress Frederick, as a temporary home for governesses seeking situations, has shown a steady increase in its sphere of usefulness every year, and deserves to be more widely known and better supported than the accounts show. During the year just ended, 95 applications for governesses were received, with the result that 20 of the inmates were engaged for residence with salary, 12 on “mutual” terms, and 11 for daily instruction. This gives a total of 43 engagements from the 120 governesses who were registered at the Home during the year, a slight increase over 1892. As boarders, the Home received 85 governesses (against 61 in 1892) whose period of residence varied from 1 to 135 days, the average residence being 17 days. A decided increase is also shown in the number of meals taken by non-resident governesses. Notwithstanding these increased claims, the subscriptions for the year have fallen off to the extent of 800 marks, and the Committee make a strong appeal to the English and Anglo-German community for more hearty and substantial support. Fortunately the amounts received from inmates and from Associates' and Agency fees during the year show an increase, and economies have been effected in the working, so that, by dint of good management, the Institution is in a sound financial condition; and it is pleasant to note that there is an Endowment Fund of 26,000 marks invested in 3 ½ per cent. Prussian Consols.

The Committee have to deplore the loss, through death, of Mr. Henry Gill, who, since the establishment of the Home, has undertaken the arduous duties of Honorary Treasurer. The devotion with which Mr. Gill sacrificed his time and his energies to the good work cannot be too highly prized,

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and his sound sense and admirable business qualities make his loss a very heavy one. Mr. J. L. Bashford has been appointed as his successor.

All information respecting the Institution will be gladly furnished by the Lady Superintendent, Kleinbeeren Strasse, 22, Berlin.

1895 – Mr. and Mrs. Fry and daughter arrived at Berlin at 11 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 4, and were met by two representatives of the Church Committee. Their permanent residence will be 14, Uhland Strasse, Charlottenburg, Berlin. The opening services at the beautiful Church of S. George were well attended, and at the two celebrations there were fifty-five communicants. A better system of church services will be at once commenced (*vide Appendix. [Appendix is missing here.]*)

On the evening of October 14, a farewell banquet was given to the Ambassador, Sir E. Malet, to which the chaplain was invited. His Excellency's approaching departure from Berlin is universally and very deeply regretted. It is expected that the newly-appointed Ambassador, Sir F. Lascelles, will arrive early in December.

1896 – On Monday evening, November 18 [1895], a *Conversazione* of the Anglo-American community was held at the Hotel Vier-Jahreszeiten. On their arrival, the guests, numbering about 250, were received by the Chaplain and Mrs. Fry, Mr. and Mrs. Grove, and Mr. and Mrs. Tyler. The gathering was very representative, including members of the British and American Embassies, while no social distinction was made. The entertainment commenced with a vocal and instrumental concert. The Chaplain gave an address, and then dancing began, which was kept up with great spirit till 2 a.m. Those attending the *Conversazione* had provided themselves with 2 mark tickets, purchasing refreshments at will; and the result was a balance of nearly £10 towards the cost of a harmonium, which has been provided for the choir practices in the Chaplain's house.

An important section of the English residents is that of the governesses, of whom there are 70 or 80 engaged in teaching English. On Sunday afternoon, December 8 [1895], the Chaplain and Mrs. Fry held the first of a series of monthly "At Homes," exclusively for these ladies. Between 30 and 40 accepted the invitation.

During Advent a Ladies' Working Party has been held on the four Saturday afternoons, to provide warm clothing for the poor at Christmas. The Chaplain gave at these meetings a short series of lectures on the Church of England.

1896 – On Thursday, January 30, an official memorial service took place at S. George's Church, in memory of General Runyon, the United States Ambassador, who had suddenly died of heart failure on the previous Sunday night. The service was arranged by the Diplomatic Corps, headed by their *doyen*, the French Ambassador, and the German Foreign Office. The church was hung in black, and a catafalque was placed in the chancel, covered with wreaths from the German Emperor and Empress, the President  
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of the United States, the American Embassy, the Foreign Office, etc. The service, consisting chiefly of the Burial Office, with the omission of the committal prayer, together with three hymns, was choral, and conducted by the Chaplain, and an appropriate address was given by Dr. Dickie, the Minister of the American undenominational Chapel. At the conclusion the Dead March in *Saul* was played. The church was crowded with the specially invited officials. Almost all the plenipotentiaries and ambassadors were present – representing England, Austria, Russia, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Turkey, Greece, Sweden, Roumania, China, Japan, Siam, Persia, Hayti, etc., with military attachés and secretaries. The garrisoned regiments of Berlin were represented by their generals, with numerous officers, and there were also present several members of the Federal German Government and representatives of science and art. The Emperor was represented by H.E. Count zu Eulenburg, and the Empress Frederick by H.E. Count Seckendorff. Prince Frederick Leopold, Prince Maximilian of Baden, the Imperial Chancellor Prince Hohenlohe, and many of the statesmen of the Imperial Government also attended. Mrs. Runyon and other members of the deceased Ambassador's family were present at this solemn service, and received afterwards the respectful condolences of all the distinguished personages. It is seldom that a priest of the Church of England has pronounced the benediction on such a representative congregation, numbering about 400.

On Wednesday, Feb. 5, the day of the funeral of Prince Henry Maurice of Battenberg at Whippingham, a very impressive service was held at S. George's, in memory of his Royal Highness. In accordance with the wish of the Empress Frederick, the service was drawn up by the Chaplain on the model of the service used on Dec. 14 last at the Mausoleum, Windsor, and every member of the congregation had a copy. The three hymns sung were "Ten thousand times ten thousand," "Thy will be done," and "Abide with me," the two last being specially chosen by the Dowager Empress. The congregation was a large one, and included their Majesties, the Emperor and Empress, and the Empress Frederick; Prince and Princess Frederick Charles of Hesse; the Hereditary Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha; Duke Ernst Günther of Schleswig-Holstein; Prince Maximilian of Baden; Prince and Princess Aribert of Anhalt; Prince Albert of Schleswig-Holstein; Prince and Princess Henry XIX. of Reuss; Prince Carolath Schöneich; the complete personal court of the Emperor and Empress, and of the Empress Frederick; and fourteen officers of the Gardes du Corps, to which regiment Prince Henry of Battenberg had formerly belonged. The service was short, no address being given, and most impressive. It commenced with the Dead March in *Saul* and ended with Chopin's *Marche Funèbre*.

The following are the Lenten courses of sermons at S. George's Church. On Sunday mornings on "Struggle"; on Sunday evenings on the Parable of the Prodigal Son; on Wednesday evenings on "The Watchers at the foot of the Cross." Special weekday services are being held by the Chaplain at Hoppegarten, in the Lutheran Church, and at Nieder-schöneweide in the Government schoolroom. The former suburb has a considerable English population of trainers, jockeys, and stable-boys, Hoppegarten being the Newmarket of Germany; while at Nieder-schöneweide there is a large cloth factory, in which many English are employed.

The Bishop proposes to visit Berlin on March 11, and to hold a Confirmation on the following day at S. George's Church.

1896 – The official visit of the Right Rev. Bishop Wilkinson took place in March. In spite of the very fatiguing and deeply important tour in Russia, his Lordship was able to go through the whole of the arranged routine with his usual energy and kindly sympathy. He arrived on the morning of the 11th, after a journey of thirty-six hours, and was, during his stay at Berlin, the guest of their Excellencies, Sir Frank and Lady Lascelles, at the British Embassy. During the Wednesday afternoon the Bishop, accompanied by the Ambassador and Chaplain, visited the Governesses' Home (22, Kleinbeeren Strasse); he then called on the Empress Frederick, the interview having been previously kindly arranged by her Majesty, and paid other visits. On the following day, at 3 p.m., the holy rite of Confirmation was administered at S. George's Church to twenty-one candidates, in the presence of a large congregation, including the Dowager Empress and the Princess Frederick of Hesse. The Offertory, for the Bishopric Endowment Fund, amounted to 136 marks. Later in the afternoon the Chaplain and Mrs. Fry held a reception in the large hall of the Architekten Haus, and, although the weather was very unfavourable, with constant snowstorms, 300 members of the Anglo-American community availed themselves of this opportunity of meeting their Bishop. On Friday, the 13th, his Lordship left Berlin for Dresden.

1896 – The Lenten courses of services were very satisfactorily attended, and the School-room at Nieder-schöneweide and the Lutheran church at Hoppegarten were, on the occasions of the Chaplain's visit to those outlying districts, well filled. On Good Friday the Three Hours' Service – held for the first time in Berlin – was attended by about 150, at least 100 remaining throughout, several of those present having previously attended the 11 o'clock service. S. George's Church was beautifully decorated for Easter Day, and was densely crowded at 11 o'clock, more than 100 being unable to enter. The communicants at the early service numbered 99, and at mid-day 105. The Anthem sung at choral Matins was "This is the day which the Lord hath made" (Hill).

On the Thursday evening in Easter Week a Conversazione of the Anglo-American community was held at the Vier-Jahreszeiten Hotel, entrance by Mk. 2 tickets. The company, numbering some 120, were received by the Chaplain and Mrs. Fry, and were entertained with a concert, followed by dancing, which was kept up till the small hours of the morning.

A faldstool has been presented to the church by Mr. J.L. Bashford.

The total receipts of S. George's Church for the year 1895 amounted to Mk. 13,710, including Mk. 2,200 interest on the Endowment Fund.

1896 – On Sunday, September 27, the unprecedentedly long and glorious reign of her Majesty, Queen Victoria, was signalled in St. George's Church at the eleven o'clock service. At the commencement, "God save the Queen" was sung, some of the Accession prayers were added to the

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service, and the chaplain preached from the text, Prov. viii. 15: "By Me kings reign." The sermon, by special request, has been published.

The Harvest Festival was held on Sunday, October 11. The church was crowded at the mid-day service, and was effectively decorated. A large sheaf of wheat, girdled with grapes, stood in the chancel, and a beautiful basket of choice fruit on the pulpit gave a point to the text chosen for the morning sermon: "Behold a basket of summer fruit" (Amos viii. 1). The offertories during the day amounted to 432 marks.

1896 – A very successful *Conversazione* was held on Nov. 11, at the Vier Jahreszeiten Hotel, arranged by the Chaplain and Churchwardens of St. George's Church, for the benefit of the Anglo-American community. The entrance tickets were issued at Mk. 2, suppers and refreshments being provided to suit the taste and purses of all. The entertainment consisted of an excellent concert, arranged by Mr. Eben Jackson, organist of St. George's Church, with vocal and instrumental performances of the highest order, followed by dancing, which was maintained with much spirit up to 2 a.m. Three hundred and forty guests were present, including Her Excellency, Lady Lascelles, and the Secretaries of the British Embassy, Her Excellency, Mrs. Uhl, and the Secretaries of the American Embassy, several German officers, and a general company, representative of every section of the English-speaking community in Berlin.

The Chaplain commenced in October a series of monthly services in the Lutheran Church (kindly lent by the Pastor) at Hoppegarten. They will be continued till April, on each last Wednesday evening in the month.

1897 – The Chaplain, on Wednesday, December 2 [1896], paid a pastoral visit to Grünberg, in Silesia, where there is a small English colony of thirty-three families, the males being employed as foremen in the large cloth-mills. The visit was very encouraging. The Chaplain was hospitably entertained, and the service, held in the evening, in the concert-room of the English Club, was attended by over sixty. It is arranged that these pastoral visits shall take place once a quarter.

The Advent courses of Sermons at St. George's Church have been as follows: On the Sunday mornings upon the Advent watchwords, "Awake," "Watch," "Work," "Rejoice"; on the Sunday evenings, upon the Parable of the Ten Virgins; on Friday evenings upon the Origin, Purpose, and Eternity of Life.

1897 – On Christmas Eve [1896] the Chaplain attended the annual Tea and Concert at Niederschöneweide, and delivered an address. About 120 persons were present, chiefly *employés* at the cloth factories, with their families.

On Christmas Day St. George's Church – beautifully decorated, one of the chief features being a large chancel screen, made and put up by the Chaplain – was attended beyond its capacity for

accommodation. There were nearly 200 communicants at the two celebrations. For the anthem at the 11.0 service, Mr. A. van Eweyck kindly sang Gounod's "Nazareth." In the evening the Chaplain, Mrs. Fry, and family dined at the British Embassy.

The four meetings of the Ladies' Working Party, held on the Mondays in Advent, at the Chaplain's house, resulted in the making of 120 garments, which, together with a large assortment of toys, etc., were sent to the Kaiser und Kaiserin Friedrich Kinder-Krankenhaus. Parcels of clothes, with Christmas dinners, were also sent to the needy English in Berlin.

At Evensong on Sunday, January 3rd, Mr. van Eweyck again very kindly sang at S. George's Church, and so delighted the Empress Frederick that Her Majesty requested the Chaplain to arrange, that she might again hear him sing during the week. Accordingly, on the following Friday afternoon, Mr. van Eweyck gave a selection of five *morceaux* from oratorios, etc. There were present the Empress Frederick, Princess Aribert, and several ladies of the Court, the British Ambassador and Lady Lascelles, the Chaplain and Mrs. Fry, and a few others, invited by Her Majesty.

The Rev. Frank Owen M.A., late Chaplain at Berlin, died at Dunster, England, January 4, aged 74. *R.I.P.*

1897 – The Chaplain held a service on Friday, February 5, at Nieder-schöneweide, and on the 17th paid his second pastoral visit to Grünberg, in Schlesien. At both these places are large cloth mills, with English managers and foremen, and considerable Yorkshire communities. The services were extremely well attended and very hearty.

A *Conversazione* was held at the Vier-Jahreszeiten Hotel, Berlin, on Wednesday, February 10, and attended by some 250 of the Anglo-American community and a few Germans. An excellent concert was arranged by the organist of S. George's Church, followed by dancing. Tickets were issued at Mk. 2, and refreshments provided to suit the taste and purses of all. The Chaplain and Mrs. Fry received the guests, and a very pleasant and successful gathering it was, affording the desirable opportunity for English and Americans to meet socially.

The balance-sheet of the Church of S. George for the year 1896 is very satisfactory, although the expenses have been exceptionally heavy. The receipts by the Sunday offertories have been the highest since the church was built, amounting to Mk. 7,815, the other sources of income being seat rents, Mk. 5,302, and grant from Endowment Fund, Mk. 1,800, making a total of Mk. 14,917. The number of communicants during the year was 2,384.

1897 – A grand Bazaar was held at the British Embassy, by kind permission of the Ambassador, on Wednesday, March 24, in aid of the Endowment Fund of the Home in Berlin for English and American Governesses. The Home was founded in 1887, the Jubilee Year of Queen Victoria, and it was thought that this, the "Diamond Jubilee" of Her Majesty, and the tenth anniversary of the Home's useful work, was a fitting occasion for making a fresh effort towards placing the Endowment Fund in a more satisfactory condition. The Patronesses of the Bazaar were H.I.M. the Empress Frederick, H.R.H. the  
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Princess of Wales, H.R. and I.H. the Duchess of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, H.R.H. the Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, H.R.H. the Duchess of Connaught, H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany, H.H. the Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, H.H. the Princess Aribert of Anhalt-Dessou, H.H. the Princess of Pless, H.E. Lady Lascelles, H.E. Mrs. Uhl, the Duchess of Devonshire, the Marchioness of Salisbury, Lady Ermytrude Malet, Lady Lawson, Mrs. Goschen, Frau von Rottenburg-Phelps, and Mrs. Fry. The Bazaar was opened at 11 a.m. by the Empress Frederick, and visited during the day by the Duke of Connaught, Prince Albert of Schleswig-Holstein, the Princess Aribert, the Princess Victoria, and a large number of the English and American residents and German notabilities. The result of the efforts of the many who held stalls, and worked indefatigably, was an addition to the fund of about £800.

A sadly touching reminiscence of this Bazaar is the fact that it was the last public duty fulfilled by the English Ambassadors, Lady Lascelles. Her Excellency had herself presided at the central stall, never thinking of or sparing herself for the twelve hours during which the Bazaar was open, and no doubt, with her wonted unselfishness, greatly overtaxed her strength. Two days afterwards she was taken seriously ill – the illness culminating in nervous paralysis – and on Saturday, April 3rd, peacefully passed away from earth. The death, so unexpected, came upon the whole community of Berlin, English, Americans, Germans, and those of other nations also, as a terrible shock and grief, for Lady Lascelles was greatly beloved; and the sympathy shown for Sir Frank and his family was universal. Twice Her Majesty Queen Victoria telegraphed, and subsequently wrote a touching letter. Telegrams arrived from the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, Lord Salisbury, and many others in various parts of the world. The Emperor and Empress were most kind in their tokens of sorrow and sympathy, calling themselves at the Embassy, and showing anxious solicitude for the Ambassador and the family, and the same deep feeling was manifested by the Empress Frederick, Prince and Princess Aribert, Prince Albert, the Imperial Chancellor, and other German Ministers, the Ambassadors of various nationalities, and indeed the whole Diplomatic Corps, as well as by private individuals without number.

The funeral took place on Tuesday, April 6. The Church of St. George was draped with crape, groups of palms being placed on each side of the altar and at the entrance to the chancel, and a draped bier was arranged in front of the altar, surrounded with tall candelabra. The Emperor and Empress joined the *cortège* on its way from the Embassy to the church, while the rest of the immense congregation were arranged before the arrival of the coffin and the mourners. The Chaplain met the body at the west door, and recited the opening sentences as he led the procession up the nave, and the whole service, with the addition of three hymns and suitable music, was touchingly impressive. The interment took place in the Cemetery of the Dorotheen Church. In the royal pews were His Majesty the Emperor, in the uniform of an Admiral of the British Navy, Her Majesty the Empress, Prince and Princess Aribert of Anhalt (representing the Queen), Prince and Princess Frederick Leopold, the Hereditary Prince of Hohenzollern, the Hereditary Prince of Coburg, Prince Albert of Schleswig-Holstein, and others of the Court. As the coffin was placed in the chancel, the following tokens were added to the many wreaths that already completely covered it:— A bouquet of pink roses and lilac from

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the Emperor; a wreath from the Duke of Connaught, by his representative, Colonel Grierson, another by the representative of the Prince of Wales, another from the Empress Frederick, by her representative, Baron Reischach, and another from St. George's Congregation, by Mr. Grove. Among the congregation, besides those already mentioned, were the Duke and Duchess of Ratibor, Prince and Princess Anton Radziwill, Prince Ferdinand Radziwill, Count Eulenburg (Hof Marschall), Count Hochberg (General Intendant), Count Wedel (Master of the Horse), Herr von Usedom, Introduceur of the Diplomatic Body; the chiefs of the military and naval cabinets; Admiral von Knoer (in command of the fleet); the Chancellor, Prince Hohenlohe; the minister of foreign affairs, Baron Marschall; all the ambassadors; the ministers of Bavaria, Argentine, Saxony, Sweden, Belgium, Mecklenburg, Japan, Baden, Portugal, Netherlands, Greece, Roumania, Servia and the Hansa Towns; as well as the principal members of the congregation of St. George's Church. As the *cortège* left the church door, the Emperor remained standing at the door of the royal porch, and saluted as the hearse and each carriage passed His Majesty.

1897 – The Diamond Jubilee of our Queen was celebrated in the following way: On Wednesday, June 16th, a banquet took place at the Kaiserhof, presided over by his Excellency, Sir F. Lascelles, G.C.B. It was followed by a dance. The band of the Royal Dragoon Guards, of which regiment the Queen is Hon. Colonel, attended with their silver kettle-drums presented by Her Majesty.

On the following day an outdoor fête was given at Hoppegarten, with a free dinner for 160 children, sports, races, etc. Jubilee cups and medals were given to the children. On Sunday, June 20, Special Services of Thanksgiving were held at S. George's Church, commencing with the National Anthem. The Church was beautifully decorated, a novel feature being the addition of a few English flags. The Services were very impressive, and the Congregations very large. The special hymn by the Bishop of Wakefield was sung.

The following is the statement of accounts of S. George's Church for the year 1896:

| Dr.                          | Mk. Pf.   | Cr.   | Mk. Pf.   |
|------------------------------|-----------|---|-----------|
| Offertories                  | 7,678.27  | Deficit from 1895   | 22.13     |
| Seat-rents                   | 5,302.20  | Chaplain's stipend  | 8,500.00  |
| Interest                     | 42.27     | Pension to late Chaplain<br>(October 1895 to December 1896) | 2,558.13  |
| Interest from Endowment Fund | 1,800.00  | Organist, etc.  | 872.28    |
| Various payments             | 282.50    | Sacristan   | 1,140.00  |
| Deficit                      | 875.76    | Repairs   | 259.61    |
|                              |           | Fuel, gas, printing and sundries                            | 2,428.85  |
|                              |           | Subscription to the Bishopric                               | 200.00    |
|                              |           | Endowment Fund  |           |
| Total                        | 15,981.00 | Total   | 15,981.00 |

The following is the Balance Sheet of the British Relief Association, Berlin, for the year 1896:

| Dr.                | Mk. Pf. | Cr.               | Mk. Pf.  |
|--------------------|---------|-------------------|----------|
| To Balance of Cash | 296.54  | By Relief granted | 2,493.17 |

|                             |          |                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|----------|
| ” Interest on Invested Fund | 851.00   | ” Expense of Administration | 48.40    |
| ” Subscriptions             | 1,346.15 | ” Balance of Cash in hand   | 4.72     |
| ” Repayments                | 52.60    |                             |          |
| Total                       | 2,546.29 | Total                       | 2,546.29 |

Since the Association was founded in 1858, in no year have there been heavier calls on the funds than in 1896. This is principally due to the fact that so many were attracted by the Berlin Exhibition from England in the hope of getting employment, only to be disappointed and to be left without the means of returning home.

At the Berlin Jubilee Dinner on June 16, Mr. Grove made a statement which caused a flutter of glad surprise among those (about 260) seated at the tables, namely, that Her Majesty’s Consul-General, Herr Geheimrath Schwabach, and the Vice-Consul, Herr Hans von Bleichröder, had each generously given £500 towards a Parsonage in connection with S. George’s Church. A Parsonage Fund is therefore now substantially started by the munificence of these gentlemen.

1897 – The annual meeting of the subscribers to the Home for British and American Governesses took place on July 7 at the house of Mr. Jackson, the First Secretary of the American Embassy. The Rev. J.H. Fry presided. After a vote of condolence at the lamented death of H.E. Lady Lascelles, the report for 1896 was read and adopted. The Home was founded ten years ago by the Empress Frederick, and has done good work in supplying a real want. It is situated at 22, Kleinbeeren Strasse, and is very ably conducted by the superintendent, Miss Nash. During the year 1896, 155 governesses were registered, 65 obtained engagements through the home, and 103 were received as boarders. The subscriptions during the year amounted to 3,162 marks, the payments for board and lodging, and Associates’ fees to 4,208 marks, and the interest on Endowment Fund to 1,327 marks; the total expenditure for the year amounting to 8,896 marks. The result of the bazaar, held at the British Embassy on March 24, was very satisfactory, yielding a profit of over 18,600 marks.

1897 – Mr. David Grove, who has for many years taken the deepest interest in St. George’s Church, has generously given £50 to the Parsonage Fund, which was nobly started at the Jubilee Celebration by Her Majesty’s Consul-General, Herr Geheimrath Schwabach, and the Vice-Consul, Herr Hans von Bleichröder, with donations of £500 each.

1898 – The first *Conversazione* for the benefit of the Anglo-American community was held at the Vier Jahreszeiten Hotel on October 5, the arrangements being made by the Chaplain and Churchwardens of S. George’s Church. The guests, to the number of two hundred, were received by the Chaplain and Mrs. Fry, and the entertainments provided were the farce of *Ici on parle Français*, under the direction of Mr. Roy Fry, and dancing, which was kept up with much spirit till 2 a.m. The entrance

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tickets were, as usual, two marks, refreshments being obtained, as desired, from the proprietor of the hotel. These conversaciones are greatly appreciated, and afford the needed opportunity of social intercourse between the scattered members of the community.

Two beautiful stained-glass windows have been lately added to S. George's Church – the large east window over the altar, given by H.I.M. the Empress Frederick in memory of the late Emperor, her husband, and one in the south wall, by H.E. Sir Edward Malet, formerly Ambassador at Berlin, "in memory of Hastings, 9th Duke of Bedford, ob. 1891." The subject of the east window is the four Evangelists, with a half-figure of Christ in the rose window above, flanked by the Evangelical symbols, while beneath are the English, German, Saxon, and Prussian coats of arms. In the other window are figures of S. Michael and of S. George and the Dragon. The designs are by Professor Ewald, which have been well executed by Herr Carl de Bouche, of Munich.

All interested in the "Home for British and American Governesses" will regret to be informed that Miss Nash, who has for eleven years ably performed the duties of Lady Superintendent, feels obliged to resign the office, and will leave Berlin at the beginning of the new year. Applicants for the vacant post may send in their qualifications, testimonials, etc., during the first fortnight of November, to the Chairman of the Committee, the Chaplain.

1898 – After a short address by the Chaplain, dancing commenced, and was kept up till 2.30 a.m., when the English National Anthem was sung, and the successful evening came to a close.

On Advent Sunday sermons were preached at S. George's Church on behalf of Foreign Church Missions, and the offertories, amounting to about £17, were given to the S.P.G. The other subjects of sermons during Advent were, on the Sunday mornings, "Faith in God, in Immortality, in Jesus Christ"; on the Sunday evenings, "Realizing, Loving, Watching for, Hastening unto, the Second Advent"; on the Friday evenings, "Thoughts, Words, Deeds, Prayers."

During the Advent season weekly meetings of the "Ladies' Working Party" were held at the Chaplain's house, and a considerable amount of clothing for the poor and of toys for the children in hospitals was provided, the contributions to the fund being very liberal, and the attendance of working ladies very satisfactory. The Chaplain read aloud at these meetings Bishop Wilkinson's lately-published book, *Saat, the Native Slave-Boy of Khartoum*.

His Excellency, Sir Edward Malet, G.C.B., requests that it may be stated that the window lately placed in the south wall of S. George's Church was given not by himself alone, but, jointly with him, by the children of the late Duke of Bedford, namely, the present Duke, Lady Ela Russell, and Lady Ermyntrude Malet.

On Sunday, December 11, the holy rite of Christian Baptism was administered to a Jew and Jewess, husband and wife, after due preparation by the Chaplain.

1899? – The sixteenth Conference of the Anglican Chaplains of Northern and Central Europe will be held in London, on Thursday and Friday, May 4 and 5. The programme as at present arranged is as follows:

... ii. *The Papal Bull and English Orders*. Readers: The Right Rev. the Bishop of Stepney, D.D., and the Rev. H.E. Noyes, D.D. (Paris). Selected speaker, the Rev. James H. Fry (Berlin).

1899 – In the absence of the Chaplain in Switzerland the Rev. James Bishop Thomas very kindly undertook the duties at S. George’s Church on the 5th Sunday after Easter. This is the first Sunday for two years that the Chaplain has not taken the duty.

During the past month the Sacrament of Baptism was administered to three adults, one of them a Jew.

1899? – .... governesses, past and present, with a beautiful writing-table, and by the members of the Committee with a silver inkstand, bearing the following inscription:

“Presented to Miss Nash by the Working Committee of the English and American Home for Governesses in Berlin, in recognition of eleven years of faithful service (1888-1899).”

She will henceforth conduct a Pension at Schwalbach. Miss Lake has commenced her duties as Lady Superintendent.

The British Ambassador entertained the Berlin chimney-sweepers to a New Year’s Eve dinner at the headquarters of the Chimney-Sweepers’ Association, which was presided over by the First Secretary of the Embassy.

1899 – *The Fourteenth Annual Report of the Anglican Community in Berlin, 1898*, has been issued. It gives a résumé of the principal events connected with the Church of S. George during the past year, including the alteration of the rules, the N. and C. Europe Anglican Church Conference, the Confirmation, the visits of the Chaplain to English colonies in the neighbourhood, special services, etc. During the year there were seventeen Baptisms, three marriages, and four funerals. The number of Communicants was 2,282 (147 more than in the previous year). The Chaplain preached 134 out of the total number of sermons – 137. The financial condition of the Church is noted as very satisfactory, the Churchwardens having been able “to meet all the expenses without applying for any part of the interest of the Endowment Fund – for the first time since the consecration of the Church,” in 1884. The following is the Statement of Accounts for 1898:

|             |         |                    |         |
|-------------|---------|--------------------|---------|
| Dr.         | M. Pf.  | Cr.                | M. Pf.  |
| Offertories | 7324.06 | Deficit from 1897  | 535.87  |
| Pew Rents   | 5420.60 | Chaplain’s Stipend | 8500.00 |
| Interest    | 57.00   | Organist           | 755.00  |
| Sundries    | 440.89  | Sacristan          | 1260.00 |

|           |                  |                                   |                  |
|-----------|------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Deficit   | 114.78           | Bellows-blower                    | 148.50           |
|           |                  | Fuel, gas, etc.                   | 833.10           |
|           |                  | Printing, Postage,<br>Music, etc. | 367.00           |
|           |                  | Repairs                           | 103.55           |
|           |                  | Sundries                          | 308.63           |
|           |                  | To N. and C.<br>Europe            | 200.00           |
|           |                  | Bishopric<br>Endowment Fund       |                  |
|           |                  | To Foreign Missions               | 345.54           |
| <br>Total | <br>M. 13,357.33 | <br>Total                         | <br>M. 13,357.33 |

It will thus be seen that the receipts for the year amounted M. 13,242.55, and the expenses to M. 12,821.46.

The fund for the decoration of the church at the festivals of the year is a separate one, and amounted to M. 646.

The accounts of the N. and C. Europe Anglican Church Conference were also kept separate, amounting to M. 1,674.

The St. George's Church Endowment Fund stands at M. 46,482. It increases year by year by the interest rather than by fresh subscriptions; but its sister-fund, the Jubilee Parsonage Fund, grows satisfactorily, and has now reached nearly M. 23,000. The difficulty of securing a suitable site seems to be at present insuperable, but the practical utility of the fund is already felt, as the greater part of the interest is devoted to the Chaplain's rent, which in Berlin is exceptionally heavy, and it is hoped that in due time it will be possible to say that the Chaplain lives rent-free.

The *Forty-first Annual Report of the British Relief Association* for 1898 has also been lately published. The receipts, including M. 1,445 from subscribers, amounted to M. 2,292, and the expenses to M. 1,857. Forty-nine British subjects were forwarded to their destinations, thirty were assisted with pecuniary relief, and ten with temporary loans. The B.R.A. has an Endowment Fund of a little over M. 23,000.

1900 – On June 2 the Annual Meeting of subscribers to the Home for British and American Governesses was held at the Home, 22, Kleinbeeren Strasse, with H.E. Sir Frank Lascelles, the British Ambassador, in the chair. The receipts for the year amounted to M. 9,286.95, the expenses to M. 8,820.80. During the year 71 governesses obtained situations through the Home, and 42 through local agencies or through friends; 130 governesses were received at the Home as boarders, as compared with 108 in 1897. Among the receipts is a sum of M. 615 – the result of a concert kindly given by Professor and Mrs. Klindworth. The Endowment Fund stands at M. 54,616. Miss Lake is the Lady Superintendent.

In honour of the Queen's Birthday the German Emperor and Empress gave on May 24 a banquet at the Neue Palais, Wildpark, near Potsdam. Among the guests were the British Ambassador and other members of the Embassy.

1900 – On February 7 the third and last *Conversazione* of the season was held at the Vier Jahreszeiten Hotel. The attendance was a record one of nearly 350. The concert had one novel and interesting feature – the action-songs of a band of seventeen little English children, of from eight to twelve years of age. The Chaplain, in his address, explained the need of the lately-started Fund for Work among Sailors in N. and C. Europe, to which the profits of the entertainment were applied, amounting to £17.

An interesting ceremony took place at S. George's Church on February 9 – the marriage of the Rev. E.F. Scofield, Chaplain at Memel, to Miss Margaret Plaw. The Berlin Chaplain officiated. The Service was choral, and hymns (A. and M.) 266, 210, and 193 were by request sung. The Sanctuary was suitably decorated.

The subjects of the courses of sermons at S. George's Church during Lent are as follows: On Sunday mornings, The Holy Eucharist; on Sunday evenings, Repentance and Obedience; on Friday evenings, The Path of Sorrow (The Agony, Betrayal, Scourging, Crown of Thorns, Condemnation, Bearing of the Cross); at the Children's Services, Tidiness, Industry, Obedience; in Holy Week, The Last Passover, Last Sermon, Last Prayer, Last Hymn, Golgotha, The Seven Words from the Cross, The Voice from the Tomb, Preparation for Easter.

Meetings of the Ladies' Working Party are held at the Chaplain's house on the Thursday afternoons during Lent.

1900? – The Holy Week and Easter Services were well attended, with the exception of the one on the Monday before...

1903 – The German Emperor has graciously consented to become Patron of S. George's Church, and thus the death of her late Majesty, the Empress Frederick, has not been allowed to sever the link between the English Church and the German Court. There is a very practical side to this arrangement, as it implies the continuance of an annual rent of £30 for the Royal Pew.

Very handsome memorial brasses, by Messrs. Frank Smith and Co., London, will shortly be affixed to the walls of the Sanctuary, to the memory of their late Majesties, Queen Victoria and the Empress Frederick.

"The principal Church events for the year 1902," writes the Chaplain, "are as follows: *Jan 22*: A solemn service in memory of Queen Victoria, attended by the German Emperor and Empress, Prince and Princess Henry of Prussia, Prince and Princess Friedrich Leopold, the Duchess of Albany, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, Princess Alice, Princess Henry of Pless, many of the Court officials, the staff

of the British and American embassies, the British Consul-general, and a large congregation. *Jan. 31*: Episcopal visit of Bishop Wilkinson, with Confirmation on the following day, at which seventeen candidates were presented. On Sunday, Feb. 2, the Bishop preached and celebrated. *June 8*: Special thanksgiving service for the restoration of peace in S. Africa. *Aug. 5*: Memorial Service, it being the anniversary of the death of the Empress Frederick. *Aug. 9*: Coronation Service, at which Prince Friedrich Leopold represented the Emperor. *Advent Sunday*: Sermons preached by the Chaplain on behalf of the proposed new Bishopric in S. Africa, towards which Bishop Wilkinson has undertaken to raise £5000. The total offertories amounted to M. 464.55, from which, by the decision of the Church Committee, M. 126.32 (the average) were deducted for Church Expenses, the balance of £16.9.11 being forwarded to the Bishop.

“During Lent and Advent the usual Ladies’ Working meetings were held at the Chaplain’s house, the work done in the former season being sent to S. Africa for the soldiers, and that done in Advent being for the poor in Berlin, at Christmas.

“On the first Wednesdays in Jan., Feb., March, April, May, Nov. and Dec., the Chaplain held services in the Dahlwitz parish church, kindly lent and prepared by the German Pastor. These services were attended by the trainers and jockeys and their families, living at Hoppegarten.

“During the year, 18 Baptisms, 2 Marriages and 6 Burials were registered at S. George’s Church. The total number of communicants for the year was 2235.

1903 – The Jubilee Parsonage Fund stands now at the sum of M. 23, 387. The general receipts on Chaplaincy account during the year 1902 were unsatisfactory, and a strongly worded appeal has been issued to the congregation inviting a better support of their Church organization. Offertories during the year show a fall of M. 386, and pew-rents M. 903, making together a deficit of M. 1146. The only outside objects helped during the year seem to have been the N. and C. Europe Bishopric Endowment Fund (M. 200) and the South African Bishopric Fund (M. 338). Seventeen candidates for Confirmation were presented to the Bishop in February.

1904 – Two mural brasses, placed in St. George’s Church, in memory of the late Queen Victoria and the Empress Frederic, were unveiled on Friday, January 22, in the presence of the Emperor and a large suite, together with the members of the British and American embassies. The service consisted of special Collects, Psalm XXIII, a Lesson (Wisdom III, 1-9), Hymn 437 (A. and M.) and an anthem, “I heard a voice,” by Mr. W. H. Williams, organist of the American church in Dresden. The ceremony of unveiling took place after the Lesson, and was performed by the Bishop of Rochester. The musical portions of the service were carried out by Dr. Sinclair, organist of Hereford Cathedral, and Mr. Cate, organist of St. George’s. The brass tablets, which are greatly admired, and bear inscriptions, are by Messrs. Smith and Son, of London. The Bishop of Rochester preached in St. George’s Church on Sunday, January 24.



The Anglican Bishop for N. and C. Europe arrived in Berlin on Friday, February 19, and on Saturday, at 3.0 p.m. administered the rite of confirmation to twenty-two candidates, ten of the number being Americans. After the confirmation service a reception was held at the British Embassy, to meet the Bishop, at which a large number of the English and American Colony were present. His Lordship preached at the eleven o'clock service on Sunday, February 21.

1905 – On the morning of Sexagesima Sunday, Feb. 26, the Bishop of Ripon arrived in Berlin, with Prince Arthur of Connaught, in order to take part in the ceremonious opening of the Evangelische Cathedral on the following day. Although the Bishop had been travelling all night, he preached at the 11 o'clock service in St. George's Church, to an over-flowing congregation, from St. Matt. XXIII, 19, "Whether is greater, the gift, or the altar that sanctifieth the gift?"

The Chaplain was officially invited to the ceremony in the new Cathedral on Feb. 27, and attended it in his canonicals, wearing a white stole.

On the evening of Feb. 27 Bishop Wilkinson arrived, and was the guest of the Chaplain, having kindly consented to hold a special confirmation at Berlin on his way to Russia. This not being the regular biennial visitation, at the Bishop's request no reception was held, or any formal recognition taken. On the afternoon of Feb. 28 nine candidates were confirmed in St. George's Church, and on the following evening the Bishop left for Danzig, *en route* to Russia.

1905 – The Right Rev. Bishop Wilkinson visited Berlin June 6-8, confirming fifteen candidates in St. George's Church on the 7th. His lordship, in recording in the Chaplaincy Book the events and impressions of his visitation, made the following special Note: "I sincerely hope that Mr. Fry will long be spared in health and strength to this chaplaincy. It is most desirable that he should have help. No man should be left quite alone to the labours and anxieties of so large and important a chaplaincy. Such single-handed work would never be attempted in, or allowed by, an English priest, even where help is within easy call. Here, where such help is altogether out of call, and unobtainable, it is a burden too much for any man to bear, however strong and capable. I would suggest that steps be taken to supply such help, and I feel sure that the generosity of Berlin, so often experienced in other directions, will not be wanting to effect this."

During the absence of the Rev. J. H. Fry, at the London Diocesan Conference and at the Lille Anglican Church Conference, the Rev. Reginald Gibson, of Eastbourne, very efficiently performed the duties of chaplain.

1906 – The chaplain writes, referring to a recent Confirmation: "All the sixteen confirmees of Thursday came to the early Celebration this (Sunday) morning, though the day was very wet; one with his wife, another with her (German) father, another, a budding jockey, with his elder sister, from

Höppegarten [sic], eighteen miles away, another, a governess who had an hour's journey by tram and train.... These details are characteristic of the chaplaincy.”

1906 – The annual *conversazione* organized by the Chaplain and Wardens of St. George's Church was held on November 18. An excellent concert was provided by British artists, and the dancing which followed was kept up till 2.30 a.m. About two hundred and fifty guests were present, including all the members of the British Embassy; and the pecuniary result was eminently satisfactory, enabling the Chaplain to send 1 l. to Danzig, 1 l. to Antwerp, for the Sailors' Christmas entertainments, and the balance of 15 l. 14 s. to the Rev. R. Acland-Troyte, the treasurer of the N. and C. Europe Sailor Mission.

1908 – Bishop Wilkinson arrived at Berlin on Saturday, Feb. 15, from Hanover, and was entertained at the British Embassy during his short visit. He preached on Sunday morning at St. George's Church, and administered the holy rite of Confirmation on the Monday afternoon. As he had to leave for Riga that same evening, no reception took place.

The Bishop of London, on his return from Russia, stayed two days at the British Embassy, and preached at a special service of Evensong on Thursday, February 27, in St. George's Church.

1908 – The Rev. James H. Fry, for thirteen years chaplain in Berlin, has exchanged with the Rev. W.H.C. Dunkerley, Vicar of Castle Morton, Tewkesbury, and Archdeacon of Singapore. In a letter to his congregation announcing the change, Mr. Fry says: “Looking back upon the thirteen years of my work in Berlin, I am deeply conscious of two things, my own shortcomings and the extreme kindness received by us. We shall never forget the sympathy and the generosity which have been constantly shown to us, and I shall always look back upon my tenure of the chaplaincy in Berlin with thankfulness as a very happy period of my life.”

1908 – The decision of the Rev. James H. Fry, R.D., to remain in Berlin, and renounce his projected translation to an English living has given wide-spread satisfaction throughout the British community.

The annual *Conversazione*, consisting of a concert and a dance, took place on November 19th, and was attended by over two hundred members of the congregation and their friends. The proceeds enabled the chaplain to send a cheque for 9 l. 8 s. to the N. and C. Europe Sailor Mission, and also 1 l. each to Antwerp and Danzig towards the sailors' Christmas entertainments. In his address the chaplain expressed his happiness at remaining in Berlin.

During Advent Ladies' Working Meetings were, as usual, held at the chaplain's residence, for the purpose of making garments for the poor at Christmas. The result was the sending of large parcels of clothing, together with toys and meat, to ten poor English families, and a quantity of articles to the Emperor and Empress Frederick's Hospital for Children.

Much kind help has been given to the chaplain during the past year by the Rev. A. Paterson, B.D., who has been staying in Berlin in order to study Assyriology.

1909 – Sir, - Allow me to supply an omission in the general statement of account, N. and C. Europe Sailor Mission, p. 165 of your [last?] issue, viz.: Berlin, Frs. 393.15 and also Frs. 25 to Antwerp and Frs. 25 to Danzig. T.H. Fry

\* The Honorary Secretary of the Fund also writes to express his regret that the Berlin details were accidentally omitted from the report. ED. ACM.

1909 – The deputation of English residents which presented an address of welcome to the King and Queen upon the occasion of their recent visit to the German capital, was the largest and most representative which has ever been brought together for such a purpose. Headed by Mr. Louth, who has been for long connected with British commercial interests in Berlin, and by the Chaplain, the Rev. Jas. H. Fry, it included Mr. F. S. Delmer, Lector in English at the University; Mr. Ford, correspondent of the *Morning Post*, who has taken an active share in the religious and charitable work of the colony; Mr. Edward Kershaw, Warden of St. George's Church; Dr. Roman; Mr. Steffen, British Proconsul; together with a goodly representation of the various trading interests of the community. In his reply to the address of welcome and congratulation, his Majesty gave a most useful and gentle reminder to his subjects of the important part which, as residents in various European centres, they are bound to play in the friendly or unfriendly feelings with which their country is regarded. "You who reside in this fine capital," he declared, "can do much to convince the Germans amongst whom you reside of the sincerity of our friendship towards them, and I know I can reckon on your doing your utmost in this sense."

Before leaving Berlin the Queen graciously donated 50 l. to the Governesses' Home. The authorities were most indulgent to the British residents during the royal visit, allotting to them nine hundred places on the route of procession, to witness the entry of the sovereigns.

1910 – The Bishop arrived in Berlin, for his annual visitation of the chaplaincy, on Monday, February 28, and was the guest of the Ambassador. On Tuesday afternoon he confirmed twelve candidates in St. George's church, in the presence of a large and keenly interested congregation. His lordship left for Dresden the same evening.

1910 – An exchange of benefices has been arranged between the Rev. James H. Fry and the Rev. H.M. Williams, rector of [??]thorpe, Leicestershire, to take effect at the end of September.

On the day of the funeral of King Edward VII. three memorial services were held in St George's church : at 11.0. a.m. for the Court, diplomatic body, State officials, etc, etc, the church being filled by special invitation; at 12.15 for the British residents and seat-holders; at 1.15 p.m. for those who were crowded out of the second service and for the British delegates from all parts of the empire attending

the Conference of the Y.W.C.A. The chaplain gave an address during the second service. In all about 1400 persons took part in the services, of the solemnity of which the Empress expressed to the chaplain her appreciation.

1911 – The Anglican Bishop for N. and C. Europe made his first visitation of the Berlin chaplaincy April 7-9, holding a confirmation in St. George's Church, at which thirteen candidates were presented.

1911 – The beautiful Church of St. George has lately undergone considerable restoration, the interior having been re-decorated throughout, and it now presents a much improved appearance. The sum of nearly £300 necessary for the completion of this work has been raised during the past twelve months by the efforts of the congregation. The Church sustains a heavy loss in the retirement of Mr. T.W.W. Melhuish from the office of chaplain's warden. Mr. Melhuish is leaving Berlin with his family to take up his residence at Brussels. It is very largely owing to his untiring and devoted work for St. George's Church that its recent restoration has been carried out so satisfactorily.

1913 – On Sunday, May 25, King George and Queen Mary, who were staying as the guests of the German Emperor at the Royal Schloss in Berlin, attended the eleven o'clock service at St. George's Church, accompanied by their entire suite. Their Majesties were received by the British Ambassador, Sir Edward Goschen, and the Chaplain, the Rev. H.M. Williams. The morning was beautifully fine, and the Church was crowded in anticipation of the Royal visit, some hundreds of people being unable to obtain admission. By the wish of their Majesties, the ordinary service was held. The Lessons were read by the British Military Attaché, Lt.-Col. the Hon. Alick Russell. The Chaplain preached from the text "Trust in the Lord and do good", Ps. XXXVII, 3. (R.V.) and remarked that Englishmen must not be content to have a sense of duty as their national characteristic: they must also see that they are holding to the true sense – the Christian conception – of duty which springs from, and is sanctified and exalted by a real trust in God. He added that the makers of England's greatness had made the acknowledgment of God to be the first and most precious of their country's traditions.

At the close of the Service, their Majesties went into the Vestry and expressed to the Chaplain the very great satisfaction and pleasure which the service had given them, adding a special word of praise for the beautiful singing of the Choir.

Their Majesties used the Prayer-books which the Empress Frederic, to whose efforts the existence of the Church is largely due, so often used as a worshipper in the Church. Before leaving, their Majesties signed their names in the Preacher's Book, in which the Queen had already once written her name as Duchess of York. The King wore the uniform of his Prussian Dragoon Regiment.

The Chaplain subsequently received a gratifying token of His Majesty's interest in the Church in the shape of a sum of M 800 which was handed to him by the Oberbürgermeister of Berlin on the King's

behalf for the benefit of the Church. The British Governesses' Home in Berlin and the British Relief Association have also been recipients of His Majesty's ...

1922 – St. George's Church, Berlin, was the only English Church in Germany that remained open during the War. This was due to the special permission of the ex-Kaiser, whose Mother had built the Church. The Church was served during this time by the Rev. H.M. Williams, who also did perfectly splendid and self-sacrificing work among British prisoners, travelling all over Germany from camp to camp.

The present chaplain took up the work in August 1919. The pre-war Community, with the exception of a few residents, has vanished, and in its place has come an altogether different Community composed for the most part of British-born wives and children of German working-men. These had lived in England till the war came and the husbands were interned in the Isle of Man and elsewhere in England. After the armistice, the husbands were repatriated and their families followed them. Most of these wives and children came here not knowing a word of the language and to a country that was altogether strange to them. Their homes were, and the thoughts of many of them are still, in Whitechapel, East Ham, Liverpool, Birmingham, etc. Many feel home-sick. Some have found life here impossible, have left their husbands and returned to England. The brave ones, devoted to their husbands, have remained and are gradually finding a new and true home here.

The present chaplain worked during the war amongst the German civilian prisoners in England, and on coming here found many men whom he had known in camp in England. This has been a valuable point of contact.

Considering the nature of the present Community, it was thought that the methods of work employed in an English artisan parish might be adapted here. It has been very successful. We have our Meetings for Mothers, Clubs for Boys and Girls, etc. A visitor coming to one of these meetings might think that he was in East London; but alas! growing acquaintance with German is robbing the Cockney speech of its pristine beauty. We have immense difficulties to overcome. Most of us are poor. Fares are continually rising and distances are great. Imagine a London parish scattered by some upheaval to Woolwich, Dulwich, Putney, Hampstead, Harrow and Shoreditch, continuing its corporate life with a Church in the City as the centre. That is what we are like. But we are all one big family and love our far-off "parish Church" more than the one round the corner in the old days.

Since 1920 we have visitors here in the shape of the Inter-Allied Commissions of Control, Reparations Commission, Naval and Air Force Commissions, etc., etc. This has meant the presence among us of some hundreds of British Naval and Military officers and men. We have ministered to them so far as we were able and they have been of the greatest possible help to the Church and Community. General Sir Neil Malcolm was for a long time the Chairman of the Church Committee. In Major Edwards and Captain Eliot Warburton we have had excellent Churchwardens. The latter, by his energy and charming personality, collected the funds which saved us from having to close the Church for lack of

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funds. It will be a long time before we forget all that these British visitors, sent here by the Peace Treaty, have done for St. George's Church.

The British and American Embassies have always shewn us the greatest kindness. Our own Ambassadress has paid several visits to the Mothers' Meetings, besides having had them at the Embassy. The latter was a special joy to them. That Lady D'Abernon won their hearts is proved by this saying that was overheard: "She's awfully nice; she's not a bit of a lidy!"

Berlin lies on the high-road of Europe and we get in consequence interesting visitors. There have communicated at St. George's in the last years, besides British and American, Chinese, Brazilian, Armenian, Russian and, of course, German members of the Anglican Church. Our own Bishop Bury has visited us twice. We have had visits from the Bishop of Durham and from Bishop Taylor Smith.

We can never forget that our beautiful church was founded by a British-born woman married so happily to a German monarch, and, more than ever St. George's ministers to other such women and draws through them men of this country to a better understanding of Britain at her best, worshipping in her glorious liturgy the Father of All. We believe and shall ever pray that our little Church will be a strong link between the two great countries and point the way in the lives of its members to that fellowship which purifies and transcends at times our patriotisms and gives them a deeper and more Christlike meaning.

1923 – Through the great generosity of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, our Church, after many years, has been thoroughly cleaned and repaired. The interior has been brightened by restoring to the walls the colour of the original building as it left the hands of the architect, Professor Raschdorff in 1885.

The Church possesses a great treasure in what has hitherto been the West window. The window was given to us in 1888 by the Duke of Bedford in memory of Lord Ampthill. The cartoons for it were designed by Burne-Jones in 1886 and the work executed by William Morris. Through the great kindness of the present Ambassador, H.E. the Lord D'Abernon, this window has now changed places with what was the East window. The beauty of the Church has thereby been greatly enhanced. Life in Berlin is very drab just now. For some of us it is full of anxiety and uncertainty. The morning sun, as it lights up at our early services the glorious colours of Burne-Jones' figures of St. Michael and St. George and the emblematic figures of Peace and Justice, has a real message of courage and hope for us. If there are "sermons in stones", there is certainly a "sermon in glass" in this window.

We were very busy at Christmas. As in previous years, we decided to do what was possible for poor Britishers not only in Berlin, but in Germany, especially for the children who had had to leave England with their German fathers. The Vice-Consul, who is the Chaplain's Warden, issued a touching appeal. The result was a little over 1,300,000. (We are all of us millionaires in these days!) And those Marks (they are pretty worthless things at the time of writing) had a wonderful power for creating joy. Poor Britishers in Hanover, Danzig, Breslau, etc., who thought that England had forgotten them, spent almost

a pre-war Christmas. Most touching of all was the letter of a dog-trainer, an old lady close on eighty from Hanover. The war had swept away her work and all her savings.

The Christmas services were well attended. The British and the American Ambassadors read the lessons at Mattins.

At the present time we have among our communicants British, American, German, Indian, Chinese, Finnish and Russian members of the Anglican Church.

The future is very uncertain. Can we pay our coal-bills? Can our people afford the high fares to the Church? So far, thanks to the splendid help of the various British Commissions, we have been able to carry on. They will not always be with us. But we have learnt not to worry. It means wasted energy.

When the French march through the Brandenburger Tor, we shall collect a few Franks from them, and all will be well. The Frank has not been quite "up to the mark" lately, but by that time it will be up to a few million Marks.

1923 – Bishop Bury visited this Chaplaincy on the 13th. of October, remaining in Berlin until Monday the 15th. He arrived late on Friday night, the 12th., and was met at the Station by Mr. Geo. Liebig the People's Warden, as our Chaplain has been confined to his bed with serious illness for some time. Both the Ambassador and Lady d'Abernon being absent from Berlin, the Bishop was unable to follow his usual custom of staying at the Embassy. Mr. Liebig had therefore engaged a room for him at the Central Hotel, and conducted him there as the guest of the Church Committee during his stay. Saturday was a busy 11 hours day for the Bishop, who had many business calls to make, including a visit to our Chaplain Mr. Pocock at the surgical nursing home where he was staying.

On Sunday the 14th. the Bishop celebrated Holy Communion at 9 o'clock, and again at 11 o'clock, preceded by shortened Matins. This Service was out of the ordinary for two reasons; in the first place the Bishop mentioned, that this was the first time during his 12 years as Bishop of N. & C. Europe, that he had taken all the Services alone, unassisted by other Clergy, and secondly, after the Nicene Creed and before the Sermon, the Bishop publicly instituted Mr. George Liebig, the People's Warden, as Diocesan Lay Reader, an office which *de facto*, but not *de jure*, he has filled in St. George's Church Berlin for nearly 7 years; to be exact, since February 1917, when the United States Embassy left Berlin, and America entered into the war. At that time the then Chaplain, the Rev. H.M. Williams, now Chaplain at Stockholm, asked him to help in this capacity. This explains why St. George's Church, Berlin, was the only English Church in Germany, which was never closed throughout the war, not even for a single Sunday during the whole four and a half years from August 1914 to November 1918. When the Chaplain was indisposed, or detained *en route* on his weekly visits to the numerous Camps of British prisoners of war all over the country, the Lay Reader read Matins on Sunday.

At 3.30 p.m. the Bishop held a Confirmation Service postponed from last spring on account of his illness at that time – 12 candidates were confirmed, three of whom were adults. Both at this and at the morning services there were good congregations, taking into consideration the difficult conditions

prevailing here at present, such as expensive tramway and railway fares, etc. The whole congregation, Chaplain included, resides many miles away from the church, which was built nearly 40 years ago, when Berlin was a very different place, as regards residential facilities, from the Berlin of to-day.

1924 – After a great struggle for the last five years, in which only the gift from time to time of a little Sterling (which produced a host of Marks) kept us above water, we are now, with the advent of the Rentenmark (17 to the £) and the very high cost of everything, faced with a severe financial crisis. The S.P.G. alone contribute to the chaplain's stipend, and it is no longer adequate for a married man. A bachelor, with private means, might hold out here, if he cared to come to a very interesting work and a small but keen congregation. The present chaplain will leave at the beginning of May. A strong Committee has been formed from members of the British Military Commission of Control to make a valiant effort to get together money for the ordinary Church Expenses. At present we have something like 3 Marks in hand.

We should be very sorry indeed to see the Church closed, but, if it must be so, it will not be for lack of keenness and love for the Church, but simply through force of circumstances.

The Chaplain is most grateful to the British and American Embassies, the Churchwardens and Church Committee and Honorary Organist (Miss Langdale), and the members of the British Military Commission for the splendid way in which they have supported him in a very up-hill task. Pray God St. George's, Berlin, may still continue its work!

1925 – English Church life in Germany generally speaking is faced with an uphill task, the Churches are most of them closed, and old supporters have left the country. Here in Berlin fortunately the Church has never had to be closed, and throughout the War Services were regularly held by Mr. Williams supported by Mr. Liebig the Lay Reader. Since the War, Mr. Pocock carried on in spite of many difficulties, his own very poor health, a sparse and scattered congregation, and the appalling cost of living.

When I came out to Berlin one at any rate knew what a given quantity of marks would buy, and was not in the trying position of holding billions of marks, which might not even suffice for the Tram fare to Church.

This has made it possible for many Church people living in outlying parts of Berlin again to come to Church, and so our congregations are improving gradually and consequently it has been possible to revive or start several organizations which are essential for keeping people together.

Business people are slowly drifting back to Berlin, and visitors are fairly plentiful in the season. Not that all the visitors discover St. George's, fairly close though it is to most of the Hotels!! Indeed we are all rather sore at St. George's just now on that account, since it would appear that even dignitaries of the English Church visiting foreign capitals, and even writing about them, do not always lend the encouragement of their presence to the Church of their own Communion.



We have just passed through a General Election here in Germany and to one who was a stranger to foreign elections it was a curious experience.

All that the average man in the street seemed to know of the election, was that there were some 50 parties from which he could choose his candidate, and that as he went about his business through the streets of Berlin he might at any moment be smothered by an armful of leaflets thrown from a swiftly driven motor, by a youth of 18 or so, decked out in the colours of one or other of the aforesaid parties. The leaflets for the most part fell in the muddy gutters and were quickly defaced by passing traffic. Occasionally a passer-by might be seen to turn one over gently with his stick, as it lay in the road and glance at it, but I should imagine that the only people really interested were the writer, the printer and the roadsweeper, and by the time the latter had swept up all the litter of the various parties I should imagine he voted for none.

However that is all over now and the streets are full of Christmas trees and the shops of Christmas goods and as I have to arrange for a Christmas tree for our British Children here and my committee is waiting for me, I must call a halt until I have more time and can send you something for a later issue if you still wish it. R.H.C.

1925 – A meeting to receive the British Relief Fund has been held, H.E. the Ambassador instigating it and launching the Fund before a gratifying attendance. The G.F.S. is full of life, and a monthly Lecture has been arranged, so that every Monday in the month has its special activity. The first lecture was on Thibet, by Major Campbell, and was full of interest. New Associates were admitted on the Feast of the Purification (Feb. 2). A message of good wishes from the London Overseas Branch Secretary was read at the January meeting of the Mothers' Union, and it is interesting to note that the formation of our branch in Berlin was specially mentioned at the Council meeting of the Union at the Church House, Westminster.

1925 – During the Chaplain's short visit to England, the services were taken by the Rev. T. G. Garnett, Rector of Wiskwar, Gloucester. During this period the oldest British resident in Berlin passed away in the person of Mrs Stepney, who was in her 94th year. She was a wonderful old lady and in full possession of her faculties. She received the Blessed Sacrament before the Chaplain left for England, and her end, though sudden, was quite peaceful. In his magazine the Chaplain outlines his series of Children's addresses in Advent, the monthly lectures, and the formation of a Communicants' Guild. A Sale of Work is projected for sometime before Christmas. The Mothers' Union is alive and the Girls' Friendly Society has begun its regular session.

1926 – The Bishop was with us from the 6th to the 11th June, and a full programme awaited his arrival. He was the guest of His Excellency and Lady D'Abernon at the Embassy.

On the Sunday the Bishop celebrated at 9 a.m., joined the family party at breakfast afterwards, preached at 11 a.m., and administered Confirmation in the afternoon at 4. The last named was especially impressive; the large congregation materially helped by their earnest devotions to rivet on the minds of the twenty candidates the Bishop's helpful words on loyalty and Christian service. On the 8th the Bishop visited the Imperial War Graves cemetery at Statensdorf [*presumably Stahnsdorf*] – a lonely spot in the Grunewald forest between Berlin and Potsdam; even there are collected some 1150 graves. In the evening a congregational Reception gave many the opportunity of meeting the Bishop; an enjoyable evening was spent by the large number of Britishers present.

Hospitality was so lavishly offered that it would have been possible for the Bishop to duplicate every meal during his stay. He did however have the opportunity of meeting most of the members of the Congregation during his visit, and gave us all the help and encouragement so much needed in Continental work.

This is our dead season, when everyone is thinking of holidays and of course our congregations in church are depleted. Our organisations close down this month (I write in June) until the Autumn, to start again, one hopes, with renewed vigour and enthusiasm.

St. George's Church has received some useful and valuable gifts – two beautiful sets of vestments, white and green (the red has been promised), and a silver wafer box for the Credence table. This last is the gift of our branch of the G.F.S.

Before the Bishop visits us again, we hope to have a Cope, which will better accord with his mitre and crozier than convocation robes, resplendent though these are.