

INSCRIPTIONS IN CHURCHYARD OF THE
CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY,
PHILADELPHIA.

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY—

Organized 1833

Incorporated Feb^y 12th 1834.

Corner Stone laid March 24th 1834 by Rt. Rev^d William White. Bishop of Pa.

First Service held in basement of the Church. 1st Sunday in August 1834

Church Consecrated Oct^o 12th 1834 by Rt. Rev. William White. Bishop of Pa.

RECTORS.

1. REV. STEPHEN H. TYNG D D. Oct^o 1. 1833—May 24. 1845
2. REV JAMES HENRY FOWLES. Sept 2. 1845—March 5. 1854
3. REV DUDLEY A. TYNG April 25. 1854—Nov. 4. 1856.
4. REV WILLIAM O. PRENTISS. July 27. 1857—July 8. 1858
5. REV JOHN W. CRACRAFT. Dec 23. 1858—March 2. 1862
6. REV. RICHARD NEWTON. D. D. April 7. 1862—June 29. 1881 (Rec-
tor Emeritus. until May 22. 1882.)
7. REV GEO. HERBERT KINSOLVING Sept 24. 1881.—
8. REV THOMAS TIDBALL

[Tablet on the wall of S. S. Building.]

Erected / as a monument of / gratitude by the efforts / of the teachers &
scholars / of the Sunday Schools of / this church in the tenth / year of their
history / A. D. 1844. / Rebuilt A. D. 1853.

[Tablets in the Church.]

[On the east wall.]

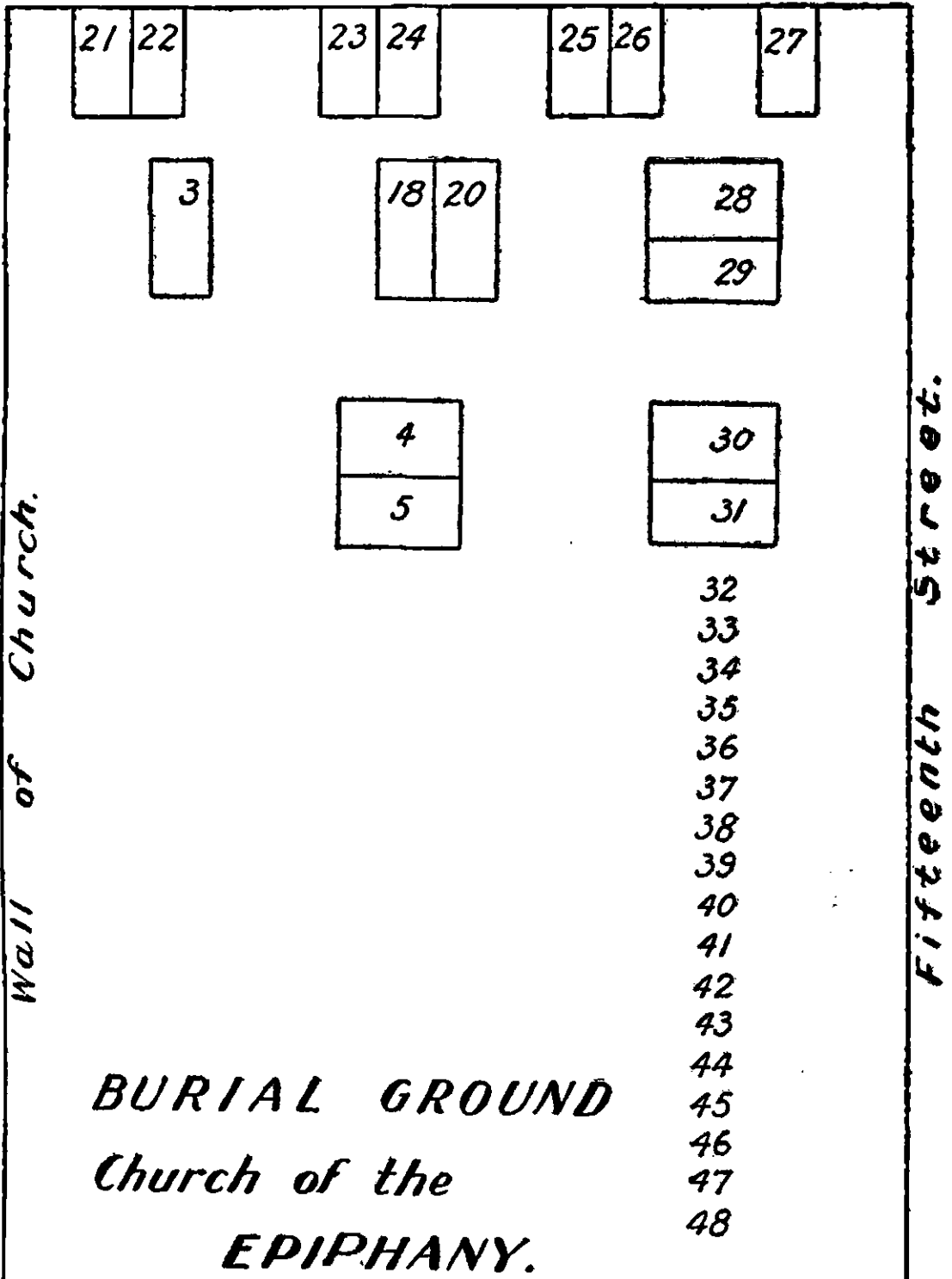
In Memory of / the Rev. James Henry Fowles / Second Rector of this
Church. / A faithful Servant of Jesus Christ. / A gentle and experienced guide
of / Souls. A shining example of the power / of the grace of God. / Born at
Nassau N. P. / November 27th A. D. 1812: / Died at Richland S. C. / March
5th A. D. 1854. / “He being dead, yet speaketh.”

(340)

[On the west wall.]

IN

Memory of / the / Rev. Erasmus J. P. Messinger / A missionary to Western Africa / where he departed this life / in full assurance of hope / March 28th A. D. 1846, / aged 34 years / erected by the Sunday Schools / of this in which he was / long a faithful teacher.



[On a tablet on the north wall.]

In the Vault beneath / are deposited the / Remains of / Hannah Ella
Grasby. / My Mother / Who fell asleep in / Jesus / October 16. 1855 / Aged
70 years / "The hour is coming in / which all that are in the / Graves shall
hear his voice / and shall come forth: They / that have done good unto / the
resurrection of life"

21.

Hannah E. Grasby's / Family Vault / Beside her Friend and Sister / Here
rest the remains of / Mary Ella / who died August 9th 1857 / in her 82nd year /
Thou hast been faithful over a few things / I will make thee ruler of many
things

Here lieth the body of / Elizabeth Ella Grasby / who died September 5.
1862 / Aged 48 years / Herself a sufferer she learned to / succour those who
suffer. By her last will / she bequeathed her entire estate to the / Hospital
of the Protestant Episcopal Church / in Philadelphia / to be applied to the
support of a ward / to be called the Hannah Ward / As a memorial of my
loved and honored / Mother Hannah Grasby at whose suggestion I / thus de-
voted to the service of Jesus the property / which with true parental affection
she left to / descend to me for my comfort during life. / I was sick and ye
visited me / Math. xxv. c. 36. v.

22.

[No inscription.]

23.

[No inscription.]

24.

Joseph E. Erwin

25.

Isaac S. Hone. / Born Feb. 14. 1794 Died June 5. 1856. / Catharine Ash-
hurst / Born 17th October 1841. Died 12th January 1859 / Eliza widow of Isaac
S. Hone / Born February 16. 1796. Died April 29. 1877 / William Henry
Ashhurst / Born Aug 16. 1815 Died June 27. 1885.

26.

[No inscription.]

27.

[No inscription.]

28.

[No inscription.]

29.

Wells / Richard Wells / Born Dec^r 8. 1818. Died Feb^r 2. 1846. / Richard
W. Wells / Born Sep^t 23. 1792. Died Dec^r 25. 1852

30.

[No inscription.]

31.

[No inscription.]

3.

William Thaw / Here are entombed the remains of / Mary Ann Thaw / wife of William Thaw / Born Oct^r 25th 1800. Died Dec^r 23^d 1842 / Mary Ann Louisa / daughter of William & Mary Ann Thaw / Born August 13. 1835. Died Feb. 4. 1848 / William Thaw / Born January 31st 1786. / Died June 25th 1856

18.

Allin Robinett

20.

J. Cowpland

4.

John D. Donaghy / Born March 12th 1842 / Died March 12th 1843 / Mrs. Mary Rollings / Died August 3rd 1852 / aged 73 years

5.

Bryant / Here are entombed the remains of / Rev. William Bryant / Born June 19th 1780 / Died December 12th 1841 / Jaquette Bryant / Son of the Rev. William Bryant / Born March 24th 1826 / Died October 21st 1837

32.

John Drake Sen^r / Born Sept. 1. 1771 Died Sept. 19. 1846 / Sarah / Wife of John Drake Sen^r / Born March 28. 1778 Died Aug. 26 1854 / John Drake Jun^r / Son of John & Sarah Drake / Born Jan 4. 1826 Died June 29. 1844 / Also the following Children of / Thomas & Matilda Drake / Emma M / Born May 31. 1833 Died Aug 4. 1834 / Sophia / Born April 22 1836. Died Jan. 11. 1844 / George W. / Born Feb 27 1848: Died Aug 10. 1854 / Josiah L / Born Nov. 12 1843: Died March 9. 1857 / Thomas W. / Born Feb. 27. 1841: Died May 1. 1857 / Clara M / Born March 23. 1851: Died March 22. 1873

33.

No inscription

34.

No inscription

35.

W. Musgrave / Departed this life / on the 17th of April 1856 / William Musgrave / Son of / James and Mary Musgrave / in the 56th year of his age

Blessed are the pure in heart
For they shall see God

36.

S. H. Tyng. / Here are deposited the remains of / Ann D'Wolf Tyng /
Wife of the Rev. Stephen H. Tyng / who died May 16th 1832. aged 27 years
& 7 months / Mary Matilda Tyng daughter of the / Rev. Stephen H. Tyng.
born Jan 31st 1837 died Oct 10. 1838

37.

No inscription

38.

H. Filley / Here are deposited the remains of / Laura M Filley wife of
Harvey Filley / who died March 22. 1830. aged 27 years / 3 months and 16
days / Also William H. Filley son of Harvey / & Laura M. Filley. who died
August 13. 1828 / aged 18 months & 15 days / Harvey M Filley / Son of
Harvey and Laura M. Filley / Died Sept 5th 1853 / aged 23 years 5 months
and 24 days / Caroline A. Filley / daughter of Harvey & Chloe Filley / Died
June 2nd 1856 / aged 23 years 10 months and 9 days / Harvey Filley / Died
August 21st 1877 / aged 83 years 1 month and 21 days

39.

No inscription

40.

Robbins / Enoch Robbins / Born July 1st 1797 Died August 14th 1842 / Ann
Robbins / Wife of Enoch Robbins / Born May 14th 1792. Died August 19th
1856 / Aged 64 Years 3 Months & 5 Days / Randal Rodgers / Son of Enoch &
Ann Robbins / Born July 27th 1828 Died November 16th 1835 / Edmund
Evans / Born December 14th 1812 Died September 11th 1844 / Aged 31 Years
8 Months & 27 Days / Edmund E. Robbins / Died December 30th 1870 Aged
30 years

41.

Byrd / Entered into Rest / July 1 1845 / in the 21st year of her age / Lucie
Virginia / daughter of the late / Charles Carter Byrd M. D. / and of Jane F.
Turner his wife / of Virginia. / Her dying testimony was

42.

Robert T Bicknell / Robert Thaxter Bicknell a native / of Quincy Mass.
Born January 1st 1807 Departed / this life at Philadelphia May 9th 1839. /
Clara Eliza daughter of Robert T & / Marinda A. Bicknell Born March 9th
1835 died / April 26. 1840 aged 5 years 1 month & 17 days / Robert Morris
Bicknell Born February 16 1831 / Died May 3. 1849 aged 18 years 2 months
and 18 days / Dr. Joseph Hawley Dorr a native of Boston Mass / Born De-
cember 7th 1807 Departed this life at / Philadelphia April 13th 1855 / Edith
daughter of Charles P. & Frances W / Bicknell. Born August 25. 1858 Died
September / 17. 1858. aged 3 weeks and 4 days / Clara Frances second daughter
of Charles P. / & Frances W. Bicknell. Born March 16th 1861 / Died March
27th 1862 aged 1 year and 11 days / Marinda A. widow of Dr Joseph Hawley
Dorr / and relict of Robert Thaxter Bicknell / Born August 20th 1810 Died
January 30th 1889.

43.

Caspar Morris

44.

Edward Olmstead

45.

L. R. Ashhurst

46.

A. W. Johnston / Family Vault

47.

Charles Smith / Family Vault

48.

No inscription.

49.

[West side.] Rev / James H. Fowles / Born Nov^r 27 / A. D. 1812 / Died
March 5 / A. D. 1854

[East side.] Rector / of / this church / A. D. 1845 / to / A. D. 1854.

[South side.] Erected / by a / grateful / and sorrowing / congregation

[North side.] The / Lord God / Omnipotent / reigneth.

EMPTYING EPIPHANY'S VAULTS.

REMOVING BODIES THAT WERE BURIED THERE MANY YEARS AGO.

PHILADELPHIA, *November 24, 1894.*

In consequence of the sale of the Protestant Episcopal Church property at the corner of Fifteenth and Chestnut streets to John Wanamaker, the authorities have begun the removal of the bodies from the vaults.

It has been requested that they be removed by the end of the year, and the first to comply was the venerable James Donaghy, who yesterday superintended in person the transfer of the remains of his ancestors and relatives to Woodland Cemetery. Mr. Donaghy, who is ninety-eight years old, had eight relatives buried in the vault.

No burials have been permitted in the yard for several years past, and the members of the committee despair somewhat of reaching the families or representatives of all the dead. Many years have elapsed since several of the vaults have been used, and their owners or descendants have long since left the congregation and, possibly, the city.

WILL REMOVE THE DEAD.

The Board of Health yesterday granted permission to Undertaker R. R. Bringhurst to remove the bodies now in the vaults of the yard of the Church of the Epiphany. It is said there are now about 100 bodies interred there, none of which have been placed there within the last ten or fifteen years. As some of the vaults will be found to contain old and decayed lumber, the Board also granted permission to the Philadelphia Incinerating Company to burn it.
—*January 9, 1895.*

FROM THEIR "LAST HOMES."

OLD EPIPHANY'S DEAD RAISED AND INTERRED IN OTHER CEMETERIES—
MONUMENT TO REV. JAMES H. FOWLES' MEMORY TO BE PLACED
IN WEST LAUREL HILL—OLD MACHPELAH'S DEAD.

TUESDAY, *January 22, 1895.*

The remains of the persons whose bodies were interred in vaults in the Church of the Epiphany's yard, at Fifteenth and Chestnut streets, are being raised by Undertaker R. R. Bringhurst. Some of the bodies interred in Machpelah Cemetery, at Tenth street and Washington avenue, have been raised and removed to other cemeteries. The monument erected on the corner of Fifteenth and Chestnut streets in memory of Rev. James H. Fowles, the second rector of the Church of the Epiphany, is to be taken from its present resting-place and erected in West Laurel Hill Cemetery.

At the Epiphany churchyard this morning a number of vaults were opened, among them being that of Robert T. Bicknell, known as vault No. 42, in which were the remains of eight bodies. Some of the coffins taken up this morning were intact, while of others nothing remained but fragments. There were six bodies taken out of Harvey Filley's vault, known as No. 38. As soon as the remains are raised they are boxed and carted away to West Laurel Hill, Woodlands, Monument, South Laurel Hill, and other cemeteries. The Epiphany yard contains thirty-three vaults. Some are wider than others, and from twelve to twenty bodies can be placed in them. The vaults are sixteen feet in depth, and in some of them the bodies can be placed two abreast, and in others three abreast.

Riggers were at work this morning placing in position a derrick for the purpose of raising the monument on the corner from its foundation. This work was brought to a standstill by the reserve officer stationed at Fifteenth and Chestnut streets, who would not permit the boss rigger to drive a spike into Fifteenth street, in order to support the derrick, without a permit. However, the remains of Mr. Fowles are supposed to be under the monument. On the north side of the monument is the inscription, "The Lord God Omnipotent Reigneth;" on the south, "Erected by a Grateful and Sorrowing Congregation;" on the east, "Rector A. D. 1845 to A. D. 1854;" while on the west, "Rev. James H. Fowles. Born Nov. 27, A. D. 1812. Died March 5, 1854." At the time of his death Mr. Fowles was forty-one years old.

The vaults which have not yet been opened are No. 20, Joshua Cowpland's; No. 18, Alan Robinett's; No. 44, Edward Olmsted's; No. 23, De Vine's, and No. 39, Tenbrook's.

OLD MACHPELAH CEMETERY.

A visit was paid to the Machpelah Cemetery this morning, and Secretary E. M. Allen, of the Society, stated that no bodies had been raised to-day. He was at his desk exchanging old for new deeds for lots in the North Mount Moriah Cemetery. When the bodies, or mostly bones, are raised they are placed in boxes and interred in cemeteries in different parts of the city and country where lot-holders have procured lots. While speaking of the raising of the bodies, Mr. Allen said it would probably be begun by the latter part of this week or the beginning of next.

Questioned about the exchange of old deeds for new ones, he said: "There has been no serious obstruction to the plan of the removal of the bodies. The lot-holders are all in line and in favor of the movement, and the whole operation will finally be a complete success. No serious trouble has been made, only by those who merely had the privilege of burying in their relatives' lots, and by a few other outside intruders who attempted to interfere with the affairs of the Society."