

opposition decided to build Christ Church in Folkestone Road because the Canon was going to "Raise the Roof".

Well before John Puckle's time at St. Mary's – in 1829 – the church was visited by Sir Stephen Glynne, a noted authority on old churches and his subsequent comments were that the church had been sadly neglected, many frightful windows had been inserted and the roof was too low.

Returning to Canon Puckle one notes that in 1869 he was presented with a piece of silver and £1,200 by parishioners and townspeople. He was a great worker for the Dover Hospital and was Chairman of the Governors from 1863 until just before his death in 1894.

On the first of January 1894 Canon Puckle collapsed whilst celebration Holy Communion and after another seizure he died on the twenty-sixth of February. His remains were conveyed to St. Mary's Cemetery, followed by Clergy, the Mayor and Corporation and a vast concourse of the townspeople. The grave is close to the path next to the lower entrance to Connaught Park. The base of his memorial cross is still visible though it was damaged by a shell in the last war. The Nativity painting by Heaton and Butler was put over St. Mary's Tower Arch to commemorate his fifty years of service to the church.

#### *Illustrations:*

Canon Puckle, from an engraving in 'Dover Day by Day', a year book dated 1895 and

Vaults under the floor of a church in Bristol, similar to those found under St. Mary's Church, Dover in 1843.

#### *References:*

John Bavington Jones. *Dover Year Book*, 1895

Sir Stephen Glynne. *Kent Churches*.

*Archæologica Cantiana*, Volume XX p119

Miss Mary Horsley. *St. Mary's, Dover*, 903 – 1903.

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## Deadline for CONTRIBUTORS

The Editor welcomes contributions and illustrations, particularly line drawings, or other appropriate visual materials.

The deadline for issue No. 16 for publication on 1st April 1993, is 26th February. The producer would prefer "copy" to be typed and, in any case, asks that it be double-spaced. Single spacing, especially in manuscript, is a frequent source of typesetting error.

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