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A FORM

FOR THE

CONSECRATION OF A CHURCHYARD ;

OR OTHER CEMETERY.

BY THE

REV. GEORGE MORGAN HILLS, D. D.,

DEAN OF BURLINGTON.

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A FORM

CONSENT OF A CHURCHYARD  
OR OTHER CEMETERY

I, the undersigned, being the Minister of the Parish of St. Mary's Church, in the County of London, do hereby consent that the above-named Churchyard or Cemetery may be used for the purposes mentioned in the Statute in that behalf made.

Witness my hand and seal of Office, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 18\_\_\_\_.

Attest my hand and seal of Office, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 18\_\_\_\_.

This is a true and correct copy of the above consent as given and attested by the undersigned.

For the Minister

A FORM  
FOR THE  
CONSECRATION OF A CHURCHYARD;  
OR OTHER CEMETERY.

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¶ *The Bishop and Clergy, with the Choristers, shall be received at the entrance of the Ground, by the Rector, Church Wardens and Vestrymen; with the Instrument of Donation, and the Request to Consecrate, which shall then be read as follows:*

**W**E, the Rector, Church Wardens and Vestrymen of *St. Mary's Church in the City of Burlington and State and Diocese of New Jersey*, having appropriated and devoted this plot of ground exclusively for the use of the Church in her appointed Office for the Burial of the Dead, do hereby request the Rt. Rev. *John Scarborough, D. D.*, Bishop of the Diocese of *New Jersey*, to take said ground under his spiritual jurisdiction, and that of his successors in this Episcopate; and to consecrate it, by the name of *St. Mary's Churchyard*.

**A**ND we do hereby relinquish all claim to any right of disposing of this ground, or any part of it, or of allowing the use of it in any way inconsistent with the terms and true meaning of this Instrument of Donation, and the Consecration hereby requested.

**I**N testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our hands this *twenty fourth* day of *March*, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Eight Hundred and *Eighty-Two*.

¶ *Then the Bishop, and the others, going within the Ground, and there halting, the Bishop shall say:*

Let us pray.

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**A**LMIGHTY, everliving God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, who hast promised to grant the requests of those who are gathered together in thy Name; fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants; that the place whereon we stand may be holy ground, separated from all unhallowed, or dinary and common uses. Accept this offering at our hands, and vouchsafe so to bless it, as shall tend most to Thy glory and the comfort of Thy people, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whom, with Thee, O Father, and Thee, O Holy Ghost, we worship and glorify as One God, world without end. *Amen.*

¶ *Then while a circuit is made by the Bishop and others about the Ground to be consecrated, shall be said or sung this Processional :*

PSALM xc. *Domine, refugium.*

**L**ORD, *thou* hast | been · our | refuge : from one generation | to · an-|oth·= | er.

2. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever the *earth* and the | world · were | made : thou art God from everlasting, and | world · with-|out·=|end.

3. Thou turnest *man* | to · de-|struction : again thou sayest, *Come a-|gain · ye |children · of |men.*

4. For a thousand years in thy *sight* are | but · as | yesterday : seeing that is *past* | as · a | watch · in the | night.

5. As soon as thou scatterest them they are *even* | as · a | sleep : and fade *away* | sudden-ly | like · the | grass.

6. In the morning it is *green*, and | grow-eth | up : but in the evening it is cut *down*, | dri-ed | up · and | withered.

7. For we consume *away* in | thy · dis-|pleasure : and are afraid *at* thy | wrath-ful | in-dig-|nation.

8. Thou hast set our *misdeeds* be-|fore·=|thee : and our secret sins in the *light* | of · thy | coun-te-|nance.

9. For when thou art angry *all* our | days · are | gone : we bring our years to an *end*, as it | were · a | tale · that is | told.

10. The days of our age are three-score years and ten ; and though men be so strong that they *come* to | four-score | years : yet is their strength then but labour and sorrow ; so soon passeth it *away*, | and = | we · are | gone.

11. But who regardeth the *power* | of · thy | wrath : for even thereafter as a man *feareth*, | so · is | thy · dis- | pleasure.

12. So teach *us* to | number · our | days : that we may apply our *hearts* | un-to | wis = | dom.

13. Turn thee again O *Lord*, | at · the | last : and be *gracious* | un-to | thy = | servants.

14. O satisfy us with thy *mercy*, | and · that | soon : so shall we rejoice and be *glad* | all · the | days of · our | life.

15. Comfort us again now after the time that *thou* hast | plagued | us : and for the years wherein *we* have | suffer- | ed · ad- | versity.

16. Show thy *servants* | thy = | work : and their | child- ren | thy = | glory.

17. And the glorious Majesty of the LORD our *God* | be · up- | on us : prosper thou the work of our hands upon us ; O prosper | thou · our | hand- y- | work.

Glory be to the Father, etc.

¶ *Then. the procession halting, shall be read this Lesson :*

GEN. XXIII. 13.

I pray thee, hear me : I will give thee money for the field ; take *it* of me, and I will bury my dead there. And Ephron answered Abraham, saying unto him, My lord, hearken unto me : the land *is worth* four hundred shekels of silver ; what *is* that betwixt me and thee ? bury therefore thy dead. And Abraham hearkened unto Ephron ; and Abraham weighed to Ephron the silver, which he had named in the audience of the sons of Heth, four hundred shekels of silver, current *money* with the merchant. And the field of Ephron, which *was* in Machpelah, which *was* before Mamre, the field, and the cave which *was* therein, and all the

trees that *were* in the field, that *were* in all the borders round about, were made sure unto Abraham for a possession in the presence of the children of Heth, before all that went in at the gate of his city. And after this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah before Mamre: the same *is* Hebron in the land of Canaan. And the field, and the cave that *is* therein, were made sure unto Abraham for a possession of a burying-place by the sons of Heth.

¶ *Then, the procession again moving, shall be said as follows :*

**I**F a man live many years, and his soul be not filled with good, and also *that* he have no burial; I say, *that* an untimely birth *is* better than he.

*R.* *Is there* not an appointed time to man upon earth? *are not* his days also like the days of an hireling?

*V.* The days of man are but as grass; for he flourisheth as a flower of the field.

*R.* For as soon as the wind goeth over it, it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.

*V.* For what *is* your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

*R.* What man *is he* that liveth, and shall not see death?

*V.* All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again.

*R.* For out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou *art*, and unto dust shalt thou return.

*V.* One dieth in his full strength, being wholly at ease and quiet.

*R.* And another dieth in the bitterness of his soul, and never eateth with pleasure.

*V.* Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was; and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

*R.* There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit ;

*V.* Neither hath he power in the day of death.

*R.* The wicked is driven away in his wickedness : but the righteous hath hope in his death.

*V.* Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his !

*R.* If a man die, shall he live *again* ? all the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.

*V.* Thou shalt call, and I will answer thee : thou wilt have a desire to the work of thine hands.

*R.* For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them : even so the Son quickeneth whom he will.

*V.* Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God : and they that hear shall live,

*R.* And shall come forth ; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life ; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

*V.* For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God : and the dead in Christ shall rise first.

*R.* For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

*V.* For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

*R.* Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Glory be to the Father, etc.

¶ *The procession again halting, this Lesson shall be read :*

## ST. JOHN XIX. 38.

**J**OSEPH of Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave *him* leave. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus. And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound *weight*. Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury. Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid. There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' preparation *day*; for the sepulchre was nigh at hand.

¶ *Then shall be said:*

Let us pray.

**O** God, who didst move the patriarch Abraham to provide a possession of a burying-place, and didst hallow the sepulchre of Joseph of Arimathea; make this ground, we beseech thee, to be a field which the Lord hath blessed: that it may be a sure possession, and a quiet resting-place, until the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall arise: All which we beg for His sake, who lay down in the grave and rose again for us, thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

¶ *Then, while a Cross is set up for a memorial of the Atonement, and to mark the place as a Christian Cemetery, may be sung a hymn; and afterwards shall be said this Litany:*

**R**EMEMBER not, Lord, our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers; neither take thou vengeance of our sins: spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and be not angry with us for ever.

*Spare us, good Lord.*

**F**ROM all evil and mischief; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the devil; from thy wrath, and from everlasting damnation,

*Good Lord, deliver us.*

**F**ROM lightning and tempest; from plague, pestilence, and famine; from battle and murder, and from sudden death,

*Good Lord, deliver us.*

**B**Y thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion; by thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Ghost,

*Good Lord, deliver us.*

**I**N all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,

*Good Lord, deliver us.*

**W**E sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that it may please thee to bless, hallow, and consecrate this cemetery;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

**T**HAT it may please thee to guard it, by night and by day, from all evil and profaneness;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

**T**HAT it may please thee that the bodies herein buried may never be dishonored or sacrilegiously removed;

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

**T**HAT it may please thee shortly to accomplish the number  
of thine elect, and to hasten thy kingdom.

*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

**S**ON of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

*Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.*

**O** Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world ;

*Grant us thy peace.*

**O** Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world ;

*Have mercy upon us.*

¶ *Then shall the Bishop, and the People with him, say the Lord's Prayer.*

**O**UR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name.  
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is  
in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us  
our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And  
lead us not into temptation ; But deliver us from evil. Amen.

¶ *Then the Bishop shall say :*

**I**N the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy  
Ghost. Amen.

**I** consecrate this ground, by the name of *St. Mary's Church-  
yard*, for the use of the Church in her appointed Office for the  
Burial of the Dead ; and I devote and hallow the same forever,  
for this use and for no other, under my Canonical authority, and  
that of my successors in this Episcopate, according to the good

order of The Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America. Amen.

¶ *Here the Sentence of Consecration may be read, by some person appointed, as follows :*

SENTENCE OF CONSECRATION.

**W**HEREAS, the Rector, Church Wardens and Vestrymen of *St. Mary's Church, of the City of Burlington*, and State and Diocese of *New Jersey*, have appropriated and devoted a piece of ground for the Burial of the Dead, according to the provisions of The Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America ; and by an Instrument this day presented unto me have requested me to take said Burial Ground under my spiritual jurisdiction, and that of my successors in this Episcopate, and to consecrate it by the name of *St. Mary's Churchyard*;

**T**HEREFORE, know all men by these presents, that I, *John Scarborough*, *D. D.*, by Divine permission Bishop of the Diocese of *New Jersey*, acting under the protection of Almighty God, on this — day of ———, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and eighty——, have taken the said Burial Ground under my spiritual jurisdiction as Bishop aforesaid, and that of my successors in this Episcopate ; and in the presence of divers of the Clergy, and a public Congregation, have solemnly consecrated it. And I do hereby pronounce and declare that the said *St. Mary's Churchyard* is separated henceforth from all unhallowed, ordinary, and common uses, and dedicated to the honor and service of Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, for the Burial of the Dead, according to the provisions of The Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, in its ministry, doctrines, discipline, liturgy, rites and usages.

**I**N testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed my seal and signature at *Burlington*, on the day and year above written, and in the — year of my consecration.

¶ *Then a hymn, or anthem, may be sung, and an address made.*

¶ *Then shall follow the Creed commonly called NICENE.*

¶ *Supplications.*

**R**EGARD, O Lord, the supplications of thy servants, and grant that all foolish talking and jesting may be put away from this place forevermore. Amen.

**G**RANT that all who shall visit this place may respect the same, as those that are mindful of their own mortality. *Amen.*

**G**RANT that all whose bodies shall be buried in this place may have grace in this mortal life, so to number their days as to apply their hearts unto wisdom. *Amen.*

**G**RANT that all who shall come here to bury their dead may have the consolations of thy Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

**G**RANT that all who shall draw near, like Mary, to weep over the graves of their dead, may remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, I am the Resurrection and the Life; he that believeth in me though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. *Amen.*

**F**INALLY, we beseech Thee, grant unto every one of us here present, always to live in such a state that we may never be afraid to die; and that through the grave, and gate of death, we may pass to our joyful resurrection; for his merits, who died, and was buried, and rose again for us, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

¶ *The Blessing.*

**T**HE God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant; Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*