

DR. HOUGHTON DEAD AFTER LONG ILLNESS

Rector of 'Little Church Around
the Corner' Dies of Heart
Disease.

'BE KIND' WAS HIS MOTTO

These Were the Parting Words to
the Hundreds of Couples
He Married.

The Rev. George Clarke Houghton, rector for many years of the Church of the Transfiguration, known all over the country as "The Little Church Around the Corner," died yesterday in the rectory at 1 East Twenty-ninth Street, of heart disease. He had been ill for months and had been able to attend only two services in the past winter.

Dr. Houghton, who was 72 years old, had been in poor health for the last two years, and a year ago went South in an effort to regain his strength. On his return he still was unable to take active part in the affairs of his church. The pulpit had been filled since January, 1922, by the Rev. Dwight Cameron as acting rector.

Two months ago Dr. Houghton's condition became much worse, and due to the condition of his heart he was forced to spend all his time sitting up in an easy chair, even sleeping in that position. Yesterday morning he called to his daughter, Mrs. Charles Strombohm, who had been living with him, and she found him suffering from another heart attack. His physicians, Drs. Samuel



REV. DR. GEO. C. HOUGHTON.

Lambert and Edward Cussler, were called, but he died in about an hour.

"Be Kind," His Motto.

The whole of Dr. Houghton's life, which won for him the affection of his parishioners and of the hundreds of couples who were married in the famous little church, might be summed up in the words with which he always said good-bye to those he married: "Be kind." He carried out the tradition of kindly benevolence and a charitable attitude set by his uncle, the Rev. George H. Houghton, whom he succeeded in the church.

It was his uncle who first made the church known among the actors and actresses of New York by his practical Christianity. Joseph Jefferson, the actor, had asked at a neighboring church that funeral services for a brother actor, George Holland, be held. He was refused, but Jefferson was told that there was a little church around the corner where they did those things. "God bless the little church around the corner," exclaimed Jefferson, and his fervent words made the church famous, for from that time on actors knew that they would be welcomed there.

Had Intended to Study Law.

Dr. Houghton was born in New York City on Dec. 17, 1850. His father, Frederick E. Houghton, was a banker and broker. Dr. Houghton had intended to study law, but was dissuaded by his uncle. He was ordained by Bishop Horatio Potter in 1870. His first work in the ministry was when he was made curate in Trinity Church of Trinity Parish. He later was transferred to St. Chrysostom's. After several years he went to Trinity Church, Hoboken, where he spent eighteen years. He was elected Superintendent of Instruction by the State Board of Education in New Jersey in 1885, and held that position for twelve years. In 1887 he organized the New Jersey Industrial Education Association and founded the Manual Training College, of which he was President and one of the Board of Directors for ten years.

Dr. Houghton became rector of "The Little Church Around the Corner" in 1897 after the death of his uncle. He would not marry those who were divorced, and he insisted on parental assent where the persons were young. The funeral arrangements have not yet been made.