



*The late Canon Tucker.*

## 1864 - - - Arthur Tudor Tucker - - - 1953

**B**ERMUDA bade a sorrowful farewell in September to a colourful and memorable personality. Canon Arthur Tudor Tucker who, in his 65 years with the church, won a place in the hearts of all who knew him, died peacefully at the Paget Island home of his son, Arthur St. George Tucker. He would have been 89 on November 12th.

The "merry Canon," as he was sometimes called, had become an institution in himself. He was a rotund, jovial figure, whose understanding humour had often lightened an otherwise starchy occasion. His parishioners adored him, just as an earlier generation had adored his maternal grandfather, the Reverend Joseph Lightbourn. Canon Tucker bore one of the oldest names in Bermuda's history, and was a descendant of Daniel Tucker, Governor in 1616. Once, when asked if he were related to Bishop Henry St. George Tucker of Virginia, he replied: "No, he is related to me."

In 1949, when he was made Canon Emeritus following his retirement from more than half a century's energetic work, he expressed himself as being very fond of the title Canon.

"It has a comfortable sound," he said, "and has nothing formidable about it like Bishop, or Dean, or Archdeacon. And yet it can be very dignified withal, and I try to uphold that dignity."

**B**ORN in Worcestershire, England, of Bermuda parents, Arthur Tudor Tucker went to Halifax Grammar School and

took his B.A. and M.A. degrees at King's College, Nova Scotia. He came to Bermuda in 1888 as deacon of historic St. Peter's Church, St. George's. His hobby was historical research, and his "Notes on the Parish Church" of St. George's were the outcome of persistent exploring into ancient records. He was also the author of "A Child's History of Bermuda."

In his early years at the Mission House on St. David's Island (long before there was a bridge to the mainland), he used to visit his parishioners in St. George's by means of a sailboat. A familiar sight was the vigorous young clergyman with his wife and five children sailing along in their little boat *The Skiff*, to take Sunday service. The first Mrs. Tucker, whom he married in 1891, was the daughter of a St. John, N.B., minister. She died in 1940. His second wife, the former Miss Lillian Hayward of St. George's, also predeceased him.

His four living children are Mrs. Dorothy Shelly, of St. George's; Edmund Richard Harvey in Canada; Arthur St. George, head of the Non-such Training School on Paget Island, and Leonard Nigel ("Dickie"), director of the Sailor's Home in Hamilton.

In his tribute to the late Canon Tucker, the Rt. Rev. J. A. Jagoe, Bishop of Bermuda, said: "No one who knew him could fail to be influenced by him. His passing causes a great upsurge of sorrow for the loss of not only a faithful pastor but a personal friend."