

HAMBLEDEN

Magazine.



PRICE THREE HALF-PENCE.

May, 1868.

We have to apologize to our readers for the delay in issuing our present number. It was caused by an unfortunate error of the Printers in using a wrong address.

Ertracts from the Parish Registers.

BAPTISMS.

April 12th.—(Born January 26th.)—Eliza, daughter of Ruth Stallwood, of Luxsters.

Same day.—(Born March 1st.)—Hezekiah, son of Charles and Eliza Harvey, of Skirmett.

April 19th.—Constance Jessie, daughter of Thomas and Charlotte Neighbour, of Frieth.

Same day.—James, son of Daniel and Mary Ansell, of Moor's End. April 23rd.—Mary, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chambers of Millend.

BURIALS.

April 23rd.—Mary Chambers, of Millend, Infant. April 27th.—Sarah Mascall, of Pheasants, aged 29 years.

CONFIRMATION.

The Lord Bishop of the Diocese held the Confirmation according to notice, in Humbleden Church on Palm Sunday, April 5th. There was early Communion at 8 a.m. Morning Service commenced at 11 a.m. The candidates, 68 in number, assembled in the Schoolrooms, and went across to Church just before 11 o'clock. Litany ended, the Bishop ascended the pulpit, and delivered a very simple and impressive address, partly to the congregation in general, and partly to the candidates specially. There was a very large congregation, who all seemed to listen to the addresses, and to join in the Service very reverentially. Immediately before the Bishop left the pulpit to lay on hands, he requested all present to join in silent prayer for those who were to be confirmed. After this, while those to be Confirmed remained kneeling, the choir and congregation sang, softly and solemnly, the Hymn called "Veni Creator," No. 93 in our collection. This had a very beautiful and striking effect. Many of the young people, who all behaved most devoutly, seemed much affected during the imposition of hands. We pray God that the effect of the Service may be lasting.

The Service ended, the newly Confirmed remained in their seats while the rest of the congregation left the Church, and the Rector

gave to each a Tract to be read that day.

In the Evening, at 6 p.m. there was again a very large congregation, as it was known that the Bishop would preach. The Sermon was very impressive, but unfortunately the Bishop was suffering from a bad cold, and consequently his Discourse was delivered in so low a voice that many persons could not hear it.

There was a collection made at the doors towards the expenses of lighting and warming the Church. It amounted to £4 4s. 8½d.

EASTER SUNDAY.

This great and blessed Festival was well observed. The day was fair though not very bright. The number of Communicants was very large and included nearly half of those who had been Confirmed the Sunday previous. The congregations at all the Services were large. The singing at Hambleden Church was very good both morning and evening. In the evening, the Service was fully Choral, instead of being only sung in monotone. The Anthem after the 3rd Collect was "And the glory of the Lord" out of the Messiah, which was sung very nicely. After the Sermon the Hallelujah Chorus was sung.

We are sorry to find that there were some members of the congregation who did not enjoy this Service, not being able to enter into and appreciate so much music. On the other hand, there were not a few to whom it was a great enjoyment and who felt themselves enabled by it to offer a more hearty offering of real worship to Almighty God. In order to prevent any mistakes respecting the recurrence of such Services, notice is given that a full Choral Service will be performed on the evening of the 1st Sunday in each month, as well of Easter Day and Whitsun Day; but that on other Sundays the Service will be read, as usual. Our musical friends will, we hope, bear with the less-musical taste of others; while we remind these latter friends, that the question is not one of mere pleasure in hearing sweet sounds, but of the help afforded by music in worshipping God more heartily. If they have two Services each Sunday which are not Choral, they can hardly grudge their brethren one Choral Service a month. They will forgive us for expressing an opinion that if they took part in a Choral Service more constantly, some of them, at least, would not only become more reconciled to it, but would very greatly prefer it. We may add that the singing a second Anthem at the conclusion of the Service was only because the "Hallelujah Chorus" seems so suitable for Easter Day, and there was no other opportunity of singing it.

The singing at Frieth shewed how much pains the singers had taken in preparing for the day.

CONCERT.

The Concert given in the Schoolrooms on the Evening of Easter Tuesday was a great success. We gladly avail ourselves of the earliest opportunity of thanking all friends for contributing, as in various ways they did, to its most satisfactory performance.

The change in the position of the Orchestra from the East end of the Infant's Schoolroom to the South end of the Boys' Schoolroom, while it very greatly improved the sound and general effect, tended to diminish the space available for the audience. The company was much larger than on previous occasions, and many, we regret to say, could not obtain even standing-room within sight of the platform. We may safely say that all parts of the Concert were well executed. The Choir as a whole, sang the Chorusses not only with spirit, but much more softly and sweetly than is too often the case. Of the sacred pieces "The marvellous work" and "Most beautiful appear," both out of the Oratorio of the Creation, were the best. The Duetts on Pianoforte and Cornet were a great treat. Everyone seemed to enjoy the wind instrument played with so subdued and delicate a force; and as was natural, they testified their pleasure by encoring the performances. The glees "Mynheer Vandunck," "Hark! the Curfew's solemn sound," "The Chough and Crow," and "Ye Shepherds tell me," were all well given and received with evident satisfaction. But the most exciting performances were the Pianoforte trio by the Misses Ridley, which was most enthusiastically cheered and most perseveringly encored; "The Bashful Wooers" which Head and Millington sang with their accustomed spirit and humour; and Mr. Sumner's comic songs. The audience were not satisfied till they persuaded him to sing a third, which he did most good naturedly, accompanying himself on the Piano-forte. The amount received for admission exceeded £8. As the expenses were small, the net profits will greatly help towards the end proposed, viz., a summer excursion for the Choir.

We regret to have to record three more accidents. On April 2nd, little Owen Futter of Huttons, aged 7 years, had his thigh broken by a kick from a cow. On April 16th, Miss Keene, daughter of Mr. Richard Keene of Pheasants Hill, was thrown out of a cart upon her head, and was severely, if not seriously hurt. Her sister also had both wrists strained. This is the more sad, and calls for the greater sympathy, because Mrs. R. Keene has not yet recovered from the dislocation of her collar bone.

On Friday, April 24th, the youngest child of Henry Munday, of Frieth, drank some boiling water from the tea-kettle. The child died the next day.

On Easter Monday, the Frieth Band, having performed at Stonor, while walking thence to Greenlands, had the great misfortune to let the great drum fall, whereupon one of the heads split to pieces.