

E. J. AND F. BLACKWELL, PRINTERS, READING.

Ertracts from the Parish Registers.

BAPTISMS.

January 27th, privately, (born January 10th,) Emily, daughter of George and Fanny Plumridge, of Millend.

Same day, privately, (born December 22nd, 1870,) Harry, son of John and Rose Goody, of Pheasants Hill.

January 29th, (born November 17th, 1870,) Martha Jane, daughter of George and Elizabeth Barlow, of Pheasants.

February 12th, (born January 6th,) Harry, son of Edward and Anne Cook, of The Built.

Same day, (born January 12th.) Edward George, son of George and Fanny Hare, of Skirmett.

February 19th, (born January 1st), Frederick Arthur, son of Charles and Mary Ann Gill, of Hambleden.

February 26th, (born January 3rd), son of Frederick and Fanny Tilby, of Frieth.

Same day, (born January 2nd,) Emily, daughter of Daniel and Rebecca Davis, of Pheasants.

BURIALS.

February 1st, (died January 27th), Lewis Leaver, of Hambleden, aged 1 year and 4 months.

February 11th, (died February 5th,) Thomas Cook, of Burrow, aged 74 years.

The Rector gave the Hambleden Church Choir a supper, as in former years, on the evening of Tuesday, January 24th. On this occasion the party was entertained at the Rectory instead of in the Schoolroom. The change appeared to give universal satisfaction. After the tables were cleared, and cleared away, all the company, older and younger, devoted themselves to games, and it was not without regret that the rapid progress of the clock-hands informed them it was at last time to break up. "General Post," "Magic Music," and "Musical Chairs," afforded extreme amusement to grave men as well as to merry little boys.

The Frieth Choir supper did not come off at all. The members of the Choir requested the Rector to devote the sum which the supper would cost, to the fund for providing the proposed new organ. It was therefore handed over to the Treasurer, the Rev. F. H. Slocock, as a nest egg for that fund. We hope that it will soon attract other sums into that nest.

FRIETH SCHOOLROOM ENTERTAINMENT.

Monday, February 13th, was a day of great excitement at Frieth, the day of the first public performance at Frieth. The preparations for it had occupied much time and labour, and the thoughts and hopes of very many persons all around had been turned to it, not that day only, but ever since it had been announced. We are happy to say that it was altogether a great success. No pains had been spared by the members of the choir to ensure that success; though the time for preparation had been short, it had been supplemented with extra exertion, and extra good-will. The room was crowded before the time for commencement, and many went away from lack of room. We are happy to say that the behaviour of the audience was altogether highly They enjoyed themselves most thoroughly, and creditable. laughed with a ready will, and yet did not forget themselves, nor at other times interrupt those who listened to the graver performances. The Rector opened the proceedings with a brief statement of the object proposed, and a few words respecting the entertainment itself. His promise that there should be something of all sorts, and something suited to all tastes, was, we think, abundantly fulfilled. The readings were grave, but persons were glad to listen with deep attention to "The fall of Corinth," the selections from "Hamlet," the description of St. Polycarp's sufferings, Eric's death for his master, and the musings of the "Queen of the May." The musical performance was all good. It would be invidious to particularize, beyond saying that Ward's comic songs were sung in character as well as any that we have ever heard. They presented a feature, which we hope he will always be particular to preserve, of being done quite naturally, without affectation or thought of himself. They were capital songs capitally sung.

Our friends will, we doubt not, spare no pains in preparing for the next entertainment, which they propose to give at Easter. They must not expect that the charm of novelty will wear for ever. We hope they will gird themselves up to face difficulties, which, if their undertaking is a good one, and such as we may hope God will bless, will be certain to wait upon them. Let them be bold, modest and painstaking. Thus relying on God's help they will not fail. We hope that in our next number we shall be able to announce the day of the next performance. The profits on the 13th of February, were a little over £2.

HAMBLEDEN CHURCH EVENING SERVICE.

On Sunday, February 12th, there was a collection at the Evening Service, towards providing the cost of lighting the Church. The total expenditure is about £8. Some of the gentry have contributed half that sum, and so about £4 remains to be otherwise provided. The collection amounted to 18s. $2\frac{1}{2}d$.

SKIRMETT SCHOOL CHAPEL.

On Sunday evening, February 19th. there was a collection at Skirmentt, to help to pay for the lighting for the Evening Service. It amounted to 7s. 4d. The total cost is about 10s. in the year.

We have not before congratulated the congregation on the arrival of the harmonium. It has proved, so far, a valuable addition to the Chapel. We hope the congregation, which has improved so much of late, will continue to attend, and that every one will try, by joining in the singing, to make the service hearty and prove the value which they set upon the harmonium.

LENT SERVICES.—HAMBLEDEN CHURCH.

Daily, at 10.30 a.m., and 7 p.m. On Wednesday evening, Litany with a Sermon.

The Rector has announced a course of Sermons for both Morning and Evening Services on the Sundays during Lent.

FRIETH CHAPEL.

Wednesday and Friday, Litany at 11 a.m. Thursday evenings, Litany and Sermon, at 7 p.m.

SKIRMETT SCHOOL CHAPEL.

Friday Evenings, Litany with short Sermon, at 7 p.m.

CONFIRMATION.

The Lord Bishop of the Diocese will hold a Confirmation in Hambleden Church, on Wednesday, March 15th, at 3.30 p.m. We hope God-parents and other friends of those who are to be confirmed, will make a point of attending.

At the Evening Service on that day the Bishop will preach.