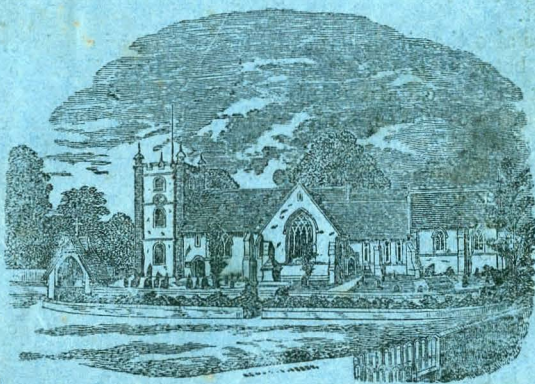


THE  
**HAMBLEMEN**  
*Magazine.*



PRICE THREE HALFPENCE.

**December, 1873.**



# Extracts from the Parish Registers.

## BAPTISMS.

- Nov. 2nd.—(Born Sept. 7th) William, son of Thomas and Anne Shepherd, of Rockwell End.  
Same day.—(Born ) Rebekah Elizabeth Eliza, daughter of William and Rose Anne Holloway, of Skirmett.  
Nov. 9th.—(Born Oct. 2nd) Charles, son of Henry and Eliza Munday, of Frieth.  
Nov. 16th.—Born Aug. 18th) William Elias, son of John and Mary Hinton, of Woodley, Sonning.

## MARRIAGE.

- Nov. 1st.—Frederick Butler and Charlotte Holloway.

## BURIAL.

- Nov. 28th.—(Died Nov. 25th) Mary Anne Gutridge, aged 88 years.

## AGRICULTURAL CHILDREN.

An Act of Parliament was passed this year which very materially affects many persons, both among employers and labourers, in this parish. It is desirable therefore that, as far as possible, they shall all be made acquainted with its provisions. The Act provides that after the First of January, 1875, it shall not be lawful for any employer to employ any child under eight years of age, except he be the child's parent.

It provides also that it shall not be lawful for any employer to employ a child between the ages of *eight* and *ten*, unless the child's parent bring a Certificate from the Principal Teacher of the School near to which the child has lived, stating that the child has kept 250 attendances at that School during the preceding year; that is, between January 1st and December 31st.

It also provides that it shall not be lawful to employ any child between the ages of *ten* and *twelve* unless the parent bring a similar Certificate stating that the child has kept 150 attendances at the School during the last twelve-month.

Any employer employing a child without such Certificate is liable to a penalty of *Five Pounds*: and the parent allowing the child to be employed is liable to a penalty of *One Pound*. The Principal Teacher of the School is bound to give the Certificate to the parent when it is applied for; but if he or she give a false Certificate, the punishment is *three months' imprisonment*.

All parents therefore who have boys of seven years of age, who wish them to do any farm work the year after next, must take care that they attend regularly at School all this next year, and keep their full number of attendances, and those whose boys are now nine or ten years old, must in the same way take care that they keep at least 150 attendances next year and the year after. A boy who will be eleven years of age by January, 1875, will not be able to work then, unless he has been at School half the time during this coming year of 1874.

The provisions of the Law about Lacemaking girls are much the same. No child under *eight* years of age may be employed at it at all. All girls between *eight* and *thirteen* years of age *must* attend School as half-timers. We may expect the Factory Inspector very shortly to explain this to the parents, and to put the Law in force.



## NATIONAL SCHOOLS.

Her Majesty's Inspector, the Rev. H. A. Pickard, paid the Annual visit of Inspection and Examination, to Frieth, on the 27th, and Hambleton on the 28th of November. His report will not be received for two or three weeks. The average number of children, and the number of children keeping the required number of attendances, has been greatly reduced at Hambleton by the sickness which visited us last winter, first, Measles, which kept half the children away for some weeks, and secondly, Scarlet Fever, which kept away the Pheasants Hill children for a considerable time.

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We are sorry to have to record a shocking accident, the effect of playing with a gun. On the 12th of November Augustus Hobbs took up a gun in John Williams' Shop in Hambleton, and in play presented it at Matthew Peach as he came into the shop, and fired. The charge took the little boy's left elbow, a few shots passing into his side. Happily and mercifully his elbow probably saved his life. He was removed the next day to Reading Hospital, where we are thankful to say he is going on favourably. His great quietness and patience are a great help towards his recovery, but at present his recovery is quite uncertain. Great blame of course is due to the boy who meddled with the gun at all. But when will older persons learn not to leave loaded guns any where within reach? They may make what excuse they will; but a gun should either be unloaded, or put away where it cannot be got at.

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## DAY OF OBERVANCE FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS.

We earnestly invite our friends to exert themselves to attend one or other or both of the Services on Wednesday, December 3rd. At Hambleton there will be Morning Service, with Holy Communion, at 10.30, and Evening Service at 7 p.m. At Frieth, Morning Service will be at 10 a.m.; Evening Service at 7 p.m.

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There will be the usual Service at Hambleton on the night of December 31st, commencing 20 minutes before mid-night.

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We believe that the Members of the Hambleton Reading Room intend to get up an Entertainment for their friends, on Tuesday, December 30th.

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We are obliged to postpone the Account of the Missionary Meeting to our next.

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## Medmenham Corner.

November has supplied us with very little matter wherewith to fill our "Corner." *E.G.* The Parish Registers have been quite unused. We shall therefore be pardoned if we take this opportunity of inserting a few words which were unavoidably omitted in the October Magazine—to wit—a few memoranda, that is to say, *things to be remembered* when property is lost, and found.



When property is lost it still belongs to the loser, he *is* the owner. When property is found it does not belong to the finder, "no, not for an hour," he *is not* the owner.

If we *lose* property we must hope that some one will find it, feel for us, and bring it back to us.

If we *find* property we must *hasten* to find out the unfortunate loser, who is the owner.

If a reward is offered it is very kind of the owner, but it does not say much for what he justly thinks of some people's ideas of "meum and tuum." As if one pain wasn't enough, but he is to lose and lose again.

We must be very thick-skinned if we do not look on those hand-bills on our walls and gateposts, which the rain refuses as yet to wash off, as so many insults to our sense of honesty. By the way our good old friend Thomas Absalom lost his watch the other day on the road. It was much crushed by a passing wheel, and the finder hastened to restore it to him. His neighbours, we hear, are now subscribing for him. That is something according to "the Royal Law," (James II. 8.)

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We must postpone any account of the Missionary Meeting, held in the Schoolroom, on the Evening of November 28th, till the January number.

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It must have been noticed by all in reading the newspapers lately, that the Archbishop of Canterbury has recommended that December 3rd be observed in all parishes as a day of thanksgiving for the signal mercies following from the observance of December 20th in last year, and for contemplating afresh the great needs of the Mission Field. We shall make response. There will be Morning Prayer at 11, followed by a celebration of the Holy Communion, and Evening Prayer at 7.

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Our Night School is getting up in numbers, but we think there are many young fellows who don't come, that might come. It is a pity they should miss an advantage so readily and cheaply offered to them.

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November 25th was the day for the Diocesan Inspector to visit our School, but we are obliged to go to press before the 25th.

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When there is anything new to be announced about the School Improvement Fund it will be done. The November account is unchanged.

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We cannot close without expressing a hope that Advent will be thoroughly used as a time of preparation. There will be an Evening Service at 7 every Wednesday. Neither can we close without wishing all a very happy Christmas. On Christmas Day there will be two Celebrations of the Holy Communion,—the first at 8.30., the second after Morning Prayer. To those who are young and strong, we earnestly recommend the earlier, and also to those who are kept at home in the middle of the day by household occupations. The best way to find happiness is to let the Church direct us.