

Extracts from the Parish Registers.

BAPTISMS.

August 15 (Born May 30).—George Ridley, son of John Ridley and Rachel Williams, Earley.

Same day (Born June 8).—Augustus Henry, son of Augustus Edward and Elizabeth Hobbs, Hambleden.

Same day (Born June 29).—Fanny, daughter of Charles and Esther Gray, Pheasants Hill.

Same day (Born July 8).—Edith, daughter of John and Eliza Matilda Dawson, Burrow.

Same day (Born June 25).—Elizabeth, daughter of James and Lucy Webb, Burrow.

August 21 (Privately. Born same day).—Frederick John, son of Frederick and Elizabeth Stallwood, Skirmett.

August 21 (Privately. Born same day).—Thomas George, son of Frederick and Elizabeth Stallwood, Skirmett.

THE SCHOOLS.

We have received the Government Inspector's Reports of Hambleden and Frieth Schools, which are as follows:

HAMBLEDEN. *Mixed School.*—"The children are in good order, and their attainments generally shew careful teaching and very fair intelligence, except in Mental Arithmetic. Spelling, however, is weak in the Fifth Standard, and written Arithmetic in Standards above the third. Map drawing also requires further attention."

Infants' Class.—"The Infants' Classes are very sympathetically managed, and their teaching and training generally very satisfactory. The first class, however, is backward in subtraction, and the third class in counting. A larger gallery would be of advantage."

Grant Reduction	1.00	and the second	118 1	2		
Total received			 116	7	6	

This reduction was made because the School had earned too much in proportion to the Subscriptions and School Pence.

FRIETH. Mixed School.—"Work has been much interrupted this year by sickness, a fact which justifies the recommendation of the highest Merit Grant, although the actual results are not more than good. Spelling is weak in the Fourth and Fifth Standards, and Arithmetic only fair in the three lowest Standards. A great deal of thought and ingenuity is expended in making the instruction intelligent and interesting. It seems doubtful, however, whether the girls are not attempting more than they can do thoroughly."

Infants' Class.—"Some of the children are classed low for their ages, but taking them as classed, they have acquitted themselves very well in Reading and Writing, and, with the exception of the first class in Subtraction, well in Arithmetic. Needlework is also good, but the Object Lessons are not made sufficiently attractive. All Classes should join in these lessons as well as in some manual occupations. Discipline is fair. Grant, £75 10s. 8d. On the whole, we ought to be very well satisfied with the results of the Examinations. Hambleden School has earned the highest Grant yet received from Government, and though the Grant at Frieth is below that of last year, the falling off is satisfactorily accounted for by the illness prevalent amongst the children in the early months of the year. The average attendance was considerably lower than that of last year, consequently the Grant could not be so large. No doubt, if this present year is a prosperous one, there will be a considerable improvement in the Grant next summer.

HAMBLEDEN FÊTE.

Quite a grand afternoon's amusement was provided in the Rectory Meadow on August 7th, for the people of this district, in connexion with the return of Lord Curzon as M.P. for the Wycombe Division of Buckinghamshire, and with the inauguration of a Primrose League Habitation for this district. Amusements of many kinds were provided in the way of Athletic Sports,-Races, Donkey Races, Obstacle Races, Jumping, Hurdle Races, &c., formed the chief features of the programme. It is hardly likely that so many people had ever before been assembled together at one time in the meadow. Refreshments were provided on the ground. The tea tents were well patronized. Several speeches were made, the speakers being Lord Curzon, Mr. Smith, M.P., and Mr. Cripps. The weather was perfect, and everyone seemed thoroughly to enjoy the holiday. We are glad to be able to add that the people separated in good time, and that the village became as quiet as usual by 10.30 p.m. or before. A day's holiday is a fine thing for our people now and then, and when it can be used properly without being abused it does a great deal of good, as it helps to draw all classes together, and to unite them in a common desire to promote one another's welfare.

CHOIR HOLIDAY.

The boys of Hambleden Choir went to London for their annual holiday on August 3rd. In the morning they visited the Zoological Gardens, and in the afternoon, the Colonial Exhibition. Three boys managed to lose themselves in the Exhibition, but turned up again in time for the train at Paddington. The Senior Members of both Hambleden and Frieth Choirs are on the point of going to Woolwich Arsenal for their trip.

FRIETH VEGETABLE AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

In the early summer of this year a Vegetable and Horticultural Society was started at Frieth for the purpose of encouraging and improving Cottage Gardening. A Committee was chosen at a public meeting called in the Frieth Schoolroom, and C. A. Cripps, Esq., of Parmoor, kindly undertook to act as Chairman and as President of the Society. The Society's Show was held at Parmoor, on Monday, August 2nd, and was a successful one, both in the number of exhibits and in the interest shewn by a large number of the Frieth people. No less than 53 persons joined the Society, and there were 246 exhibits in the various classes. 84 prizes were awarded, and only 13 exhibitors failed to get any prize. One prize taker received as much as $\pounds 1$ 9s. 6d., and in subsequent years some rule will be adopted to ensure an equal opportunity to all exhibitors, and to prevent the prizes from falling continuously into the same hands. Mr. Taylor, gardener to Lord Antrim, and Mr. Keane, gardener to H. W. Cripps, Esq., kindly officiated as judges in the Flower and Vegetable department; and Mrs. C. A. Cripps and Miss Bertha Toovey undertook the same duties in reference to the Needlework. In the course of the afternoon, a series of sports afforded great amusement, prizes being provided out of the funds of the Society. Mrs. C. A. Cripps gave away the prizes at 7 o'clock, and an enjoyable afternoon was brought to a close.

The accounts of the Society shew a substantial balance in hand, and it is hoped that next year the Show may be enlarged and rendered more attractive.

It would be specially desirable to give further encouragement to useful needlework. The accounts stand as follows :

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MEDMENHAM CORNER.

The continued fine weather will make Harvest operations quickly over, though the commencement was certainly late. We will hold the Thanksgiving Festival as early as we can after the ingathering. It is always well to say that the offerings of flowers, corn, &c., are very helpful to those who have charge of the long established custom of decorating the Church.

Some kind and considerate friends lately responded to a proposal that our Village Choir should have an excursion on the river. As this was the first which the Choir have ever had, the occasion was not the less pleasing through its being quite unique. Monday, August 23rd, was selected for the time, Windsor for the limit, and the "Alaska" as the means of conveyance. The weather was charming all through the daylight, and we shall not be far out if we say that a more delightful trip could not have been found. Eton to begin with, and then Windsor were well viewed. The luncheon and tea were both provided—and right well, too —on board the launch by Mr. H. J. Todd, of the Ferry Hotel. One object was to make everything as unlike as possible to the usual manner of things. Even the rain of the darker hours was more than tolerable when it drove the company into the cabin, where they could sing and talk to their hearts content in comfortable shelter. To the Right Hon. W. H. Smith and Mrs. Smith, to Major and Mrs. Browne, Mr. and Mrs. Cripps, Mr. Burn, and Mr. Treherne, and Mr. Wilkinson, the Choir are very grateful for their pleasant and instructive holiday.