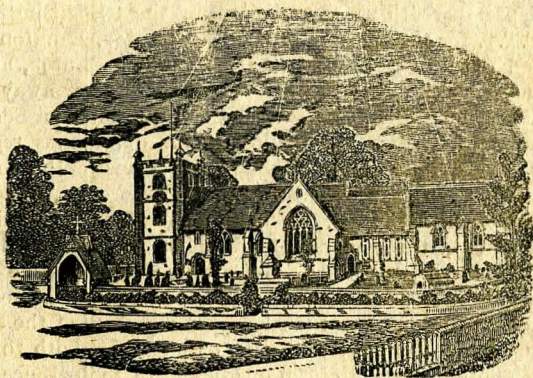


THE  
HAMBLEDEN

Magazine.



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OCTOBER, 1896.



## HAMBLEDEN.

### Baptisms.

#### *Parish Register.*

Sept. 15, (privately).—Norman Strafford, son of Stanley Daws and Emily Rose Dewey.

*In S. John's, Frieth.*

Sept. 27.—Archibald Theodore, son of Arthur Herbert and Annie Hobbs, of Rockwell End.

### Marriages.

Sept. 12.—George Preston to Beatrice Eleanor Guttridge.

„ 19.—John Lyford to Francis Selina Annie Tarrant.

„ 22.—William James Johnson to Florence Eleanor Sadler.

### Burial.

Sept. 14.—John Austin, of Skirmett, aged 74.

### Parish Chronicle.

Many will remember the Fifth of *September* for some time, and the rejoicings to celebrate the coming of age of Mr. Frank Scott Murray.

Upon September 6th we were visited by the Organising Secretary of the C.E.T.S. for the Diocese of Oxford, the Rev. Langton Douglas. He preached morning and evening at the Parish Church, and in the afternoon at S. John's, Frieth; and was able to carry away a cheque for £4 0s. 7d. for the funds of the Society. This is a Society that has done a great work in instructing public opinion as regards the right uses of alcoholic liquors: it is probably answerable for the van loads of aerated waters sent out in the brewers' carts, in addition to more old-fashioned beverages. If drunkenness has not diminished to any great extent, the general standard of moderation has much improved. The Society is still doing much in the same way, and more especially in rescue work by police-court Missionaries. There is still much to be done. Whether we are members of the Society or not we must remember that it is part of our duty, both towards our neighbours and ourselves, to keep our bodies in temperance (*i.e.*, self-restraint in general) soberness and chastity.

September 13th was observed at Hambleden and Frieth as Harvest Festival. Without making any comparisons (which are proverbially odious) the Parish Church looked very nice: the long and spacious Chancel lends itself to decoration, in fact, it wants it; and on this occasion it had it in the beautiful plants from Greenlands that filled the Sanctuary, and in the most appropriate sheaves of corn that stood in the centre of the Choir. One could not help feeling when the decorations were removed how much a little colour, either in the way of "hangings" or fresco paintings on the walls, a little painting on the roof, and, perhaps, a handsome oak screen, would do towards taking away a little of the coldness that seems to prevail at less festive seasons. Thanks to zealous hands, both the Churches looked exceedingly well on the Harvest Festival. The offerings were devoted, as in late years, to the Reading Hospital and the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution. These are excellent objects, and worthy of our support; but there is also something to be said for Foreign Missions, as was the custom in



Canon Ridley's day. The connection between the harvest and this object is more scriptural, and also there is less suspicion of the hope of getting something back for oneself and one's friends.

The Harvest Festival at Skirmett was held on the 27th. There were not the sheaves of corn there, but what was equally suggestive and symbolical, an enormous loaf of bread placed before the Altar.

The weather was a trifle unfavourable on each occasion.

On Friday, Sept. 27th, a large gathering of "mothers" assembled at the Rectory. In spite of the boisterous weather about 80 came and gathered in the Dining Room. It was arranged to hold a Mothers' Meeting on the 2nd and 4th Friday in each month at 2.30, to which all are invited. It is hoped that the Skirmett Mothers' Meetings will be carried on again. We very much want a good Parish Room for such occasions; such a room might also contain the Parish Library, and would be useful in many ways.

We hope to have shortly a Boys' Institute with Mr. Eyre at the head, to be in a way a continuation of the Junior Cricket Club. We shall hope to find room for this somehow and somewhere. If we had a large enough space for drill, we should hope to work up the last-mentioned into a company of the Church Lads' Brigade, which seems to have a very wholesome effect where it is worked.

Sept. 27, 3 p.m. First Quarterly Festival of the Catechism. The Diocesan Conference at Oxford on Sept. 25th, passed a resolution to the effect that "the method of S. Sulpice was worthy of the attention of the Clergy of the Diocese." It is this method that we have been trying to adopt and adapt to our requirements and capacities for the last three months. The principal feature of the Quarterly Festival is the giving of rewards. Besides medals given to those who had obtained the highest marks (viz., boys: C. Richardson, W. Shepherd, F. Freeman, G. Futter, F. Tilbury, J. Steeres, E. and H. Metcalfe, W. Sadler, N. Beale, and H. Keeley; girls: C. Small, L. Sadler, May Steeres, Clara Sellars, and A. Sadler), a beautiful banner (made from the design of Mr. Gilbert Scott) was dedicated for the use of the Catechism. It is in the care, for the quarter, of the class that has got the best average attendance, viz., Boys I. This class will much miss their teacher, Miss Thomson. The Rector gave an address, based upon the device on the banner, the letter M, the initial, in particular, of the word Mother. This should remind the children of their duty to their own Mother, to Mother Church, and of the B.V. Mary, to whom our Church is dedicated. It should also remind the girls, he said, of the ornament of the Meek and quiet spirit with which Christian women should be adorned; and the boys of those Manners which the Winchester College motto declares "makyth man."

#### **Confirmation.**

The Rector will be glad to hear at once of any persons who wish to be prepared for this holy rite of "Laying on of hands." He would particularly urge upon parents and others the desirability of boys and girls being confirmed, at least, as soon as they leave School. The Church lays down no rule as to age: but requires that they should be able to say the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments, and be further instructed in the Church Catechism.



## GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

The Quarterly Meeting for members of the above Society will be held at the Rectory at 3.30, on Sunday, October 4th.

It is proposed to continue the Bible Class for servants and elder girls living at home, on Sunday afternoons, and Mrs. Stanton will be glad to have the names of any who would like to attend as soon as possible.

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## NURSE STYLES.

Many of our readers will learn with much regret that Nurse Styles is still very far from well. She has been in Guy's Hospital for several weeks past, where, under the most skilful treatment, her eyesight has somewhat improved. At present, however, both from impaired sight and failure of general health, she is quite incapacitated for work. Time alone can show whether she will be able to resume her duties.

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## MEDMENHAM.

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BAPTISM. September 20.—Hilda Barksfield.

The 5th of September will hold a cherished place in the memory of many hereabout, being the day on which the coming of age of Mr. F. Scott-Murray was celebrated. Invitations were very kindly sent round to all the tenants and labourers of the estate, past and present, in Medmenham. The call was responded to with much joy, and a great treat awaited those who were fortunate enough to be among the guests. Mr. and Mrs. Scott-Murray may be assured of the hearty goodwill of the people they lived among so long, and their warm interest in the welfare of their eldest son.

We held our Festival of Thanksgiving for the Harvest on Sunday, September 13th. Nothing could well have been more unkind than the weather, which was rough, wet, and cold. The offertory and collections suffered in consequence grievously, indeed, to such an extent that this year we were only able to send one guinea to the Berkshire Hospital, and half-a-guinea to the Cottage Hospital at Marlow.

There will be a meeting in aid of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel on Tuesday, October 6th, in the Schoolroom, at 7 p.m. An experienced "deputation" will deliver a lecture.

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## RURAL DEANERY OF WYCOMBE.

It is most desirable to call attention to the Conference of Clergy and Laity of the Deanery, which will be held at the Music Room in Great Marlow, on Wednesday, October 14th. There will be a meeting in the afternoon from 3 to 5.30; and a second meeting in the evening, commencing at 6.30. The Subjects will comprise, among others—Indiscriminate Alms-giving; Lay Help; Present system of Sunday School Teaching—its faults and remedies.