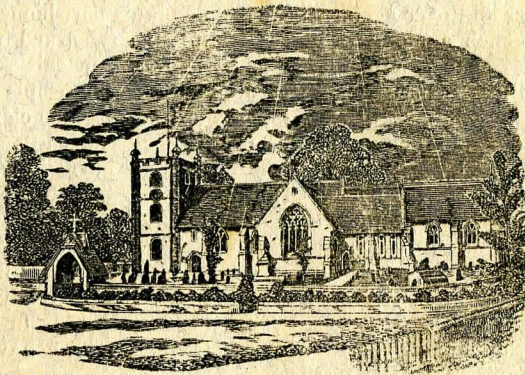


THE  
HAMBLEDEN

Magazine.



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MARCH, 1897.



# HAMBLEDEN PARISH MAGAZINE.

## PARISH REGISTER.

### Baptisms.

- Feb. 21.—Stephen Ernest, son of George and Eliza Higgs (the Folly), at Frieth.  
,, 25.—Thomas William Charles, son of Thomas Giles and Minnie Ada Louisa Clark.

### Marriage.

- Feb. 20.—Robert Henstridge and Marion Parkins.

### Burial. (*Frieth*).

- Feb. 9.—Sarah White, of Rockall End, aged 86.

### Lent.

There is a story told of a clergyman who preached the same sermon over and over again. When some of his parishioners remonstrated at such a monotonous proceeding, he remarked that when they had taken to practice the lessons inculcated in this sermon, he would gladly preach a new one. I do not think the people nowadays can complain of want of variety in sermons, perhaps the clergy might still make the same complaint as the gentleman referred to. Lent is a time when it has grown to be the custom to have not only extra sermons, but extra preachers. There is a paper in the Parish Chest in the handwriting of Rev. H. Colborne Ridley, in which he states, among other notes, for the benefit "of my successor at Hambleden" that "Church Duty is one sermon from the last Sunday in October to Easter day, then two," though, he adds, "I have lately preached two throughout the year" and "on the first Sunday in Lent and following Sunday the children are catechised and I have read a short lecture."

We must, however, bear in mind that the object of Lent is to deepen our Spiritual life. Sermons may help those, who have ears to hear, in doing this. But the chief duties of which our Lord speaks as likely to promote this spiritual life are Prayer, Almsgiving, and Fasting (see S. Matthew vi.). Those who wish to profit by this solemn season of the Church's year should endeavour to dedicate their body, soul, and spirit by careful exercise in these duties. The pride of the spirit is corrected by prayer, the pride of the soul (*i.e.*, the mind), by almsgiving; the pride of the body by fasting. We need by persistent watchfulness and effort to keep each of these in subjection, the body to the soul, the soul to the spirit, and the whole being (body, soul, and spirit) to God.

The antidote to pride (the cause of the Fall of both angels and men) is to know that we are "not our own." We are not our own as regards the body so as to indulge it. Our powers and that which they get for us in position, influence, wealth, are not our own. We, ourselves, as regards the spirit are not our own. If sermons help us to



realise this, and to fashion our lives accordingly they are not unprofitable; but if they do not they are worse than useless. Take the advice of good George Herbert:—

“Resort to sermons, but to prayers most,  
Praying is the end of preaching.”

### **The Rural Dean**

Will perform one of the important functions of his office, and inspect the Churches in the Parish on April 1st. He will begin with the Parish Church at 2.30 p.m. It is desirable that the Churchwardens and Sidesmen should be present on this occasion.

### **The Mothers' Meetings**

At Hambleton, will be held *every* Friday during Lent; and will be discontinued after Easter during the Summer months. A short service for women will be held in Church at 2.30 p.m. The Mother's Meeting will begin at the Rectory at 3 p.m.

### **Inspection of the Schools in Religious Knowledge.**

This annual event took place at Hambleton and Skirmett on February 25th, S. Matthias' Day; at Frieth on February 27th. The Rev. F. L. Nash, assistant to the Diocesan Inspector for our Rural Deanery, was the examiner. His reports are not yet to hand, but he expressed himself as, on the whole, pleased with the work. At Hambleton the Bishop's prize was won by May Steers, Walter Elliott being precluded from taking it a second time. Ernest West received it at Frieth.

### **The Parish Church Dedication Festival.**

The Festival of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, or Lady Day, would be the natural day on which to hold our Dedication Festival. But as it falls in Lent, it will be more fitting to postpone any social entertainment till after Easter. We shall try to arrange for a Parochial Tea on Thursday in Easter week, followed by an entertainment. It would be nice if the ladies in the parish would be good enough to provide “tables” at the tea and that the Choir and others should help with the entertainment. A small charge will be made for admission, the profits to go towards the summer excursion of the Choir and Church Workers. Any persons willing to assist with the Tea are requested to communicate with Mrs. Stanton before April 1st, those who will help with the entertainment with Rev. G. F. Eyre.

The Dedication Festival is one in which we ought especially to make an effort to appear before the Lord as “one family,” with thanksgiving and prayer for all the ministries of which the Parish Church in our midst is a witness. All who can should come with that special intention to “the sacrifice of Praise and Thanksgiving” at the Holy Communion, on Lady Day or the Sunday after. There will be a service on the eve at 7.30 p.m. at which the Venerable C. F. Bourke, Archdeacon of Buckinghams, will preach. He will preach at Frieth on the Thursday.



## MEDMENHAM.

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### MARRIAGE.

Feb. 13.—Francis T. B. Hancock to Ada Savage.

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### CRICKET.

A very important matter is the preparation of the ground. This has been better attended to this year than at any time previously. We have had the great advantage of a heavy roller, kindly lent by R. W. Hudson, Esq. By its help, we ought to have wider space for practice, and the pitch will be immensely improved. We hope the Club will be supported, and that a large share of enjoyment will be got from it. The engagements of the Club for the coming season have so far been made as follows :—

May 15th *v.* Frieth at Frieth.  
„ 29th *v.* Turville Park at Turville Park.  
June 5th *v.* Frieth at Medmenham.  
„ 12th *v.* Bisham at Bisham.  
July 3rd *v.* Turville Park at Memenham.  
Aug. 28th *v.* Bisham at Medmenham.

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### THE SCHOOL.

The Organising Inspector of the Diocese will visit the School on March 12th. We have found it of great service in previous years to have the advice of an expert with regard to the whole work and system of the School. By the adoption of this method, we are more than repaid for any expense incurred.

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### LENT.

During Lent there will be an Evening Service, with Sermon, each Wednesday at 7 o'clock.