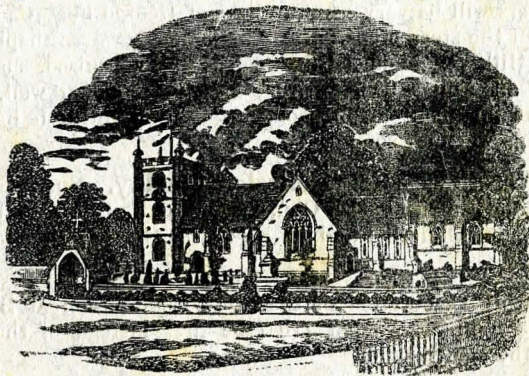


THE
HAMBLEDEN

Magazine.



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PARISH REGISTER.

Baptism.

July 3.—Eva Florence, daughter of William and Annie Chipping.

Frieth.

July 3.—Eliza Marion, daughter of William and Phebe Saunders.

„ 10.—Wilfrid, son of Frederick and Annie Bond.

„ 10.—Fanny Elizabeth, daughter of Philip and Susan Jane Keeley.

Parish Notes.

Until a definite appointment is made, the **Organ** at the Parish Church will be played by S. J. Taylor, Esq., of Queen's College, Cambridge, and Elmside, Marlow, though his place will be filled by a deputy, Mr. E. Clark, on August 7th.

Our readers will be very sorry to hear of George Feesey's accident. He fell down the steep steps outside his home at Mrs. Shepherd's, at Pheasants' Hill, and besides being considerably bruised, sustained a fracture of his collar bone. Everything is going on well, and we hope to see him about again soon, but it is doubtful if he will be able to do his work for some time.

August 7th will be a **Home Mission Sunday**. Special Sermons will be preached in the Parish Church, and at Skirmett, in behalf of the East London Church Fund, at Frieth for the Additional Curates' Society.

The monthly Celebration of the Holy Communion at **Skirmett** will be at 8 a.m. on August 7th (the first instead of the second Sunday in the month.)

August 6th is the date of the **Flower Show** at Parmoor. There will be also an Exhibition of the various industries of the place. By the way, the Rector left Frieth on Tuesday morning, July 26th, but found himself sitting on Frieth chairs in the afternoon, both in the Cathedral and in the Church of S. Mary-within-the-Walls, at Chester.

The Hambleden Show will also take place in August, but the date has not yet been announced.

Ritual and Ritualism.

“Ritualism surely means an undue disposition to Ritual. Ritual itself is founded on the Apostolic precept, ‘Let all things be done decently and in order,’—in right, graceful, and becoming figure, and by fore-ordered arrangement.”

“The life and teaching of Christ Himself are marked by frequent employment of signs, in which are laid the ground, and the foreshadowing, both of Sacraments and of Ritual.”

“The principle which gives us Ritual in religion, gives us the ceremonial of courts, the costume of judges, the uniform of regiments, all the language of heraldry and symbol, all the hierarchy of rank and title, and descending through all classes, presents itself in the badges and the bands of Foresters' and Shepherds' Clubs and Benefit Societies.”—W. E. GLADSTONE, A.D. 1874.

Bazaars, etc.—These are very sensible words of an American Bishop, formerly a well-known Clergyman in England, the Right Rev. A. C. Hall, D.D. :—

“The parochial reports (of the Diocese of Vermont) show a large sum of money to have been raised for various Church purposes by entertainments, fairs, suppers, and similar means. To my mind this is a most objectionable method of raising funds for religious purposes. I know how commonly it is resorted to throughout the community, and by almost every religious body. So far from vindicating the practice, this is to me an evidence of the degenerate character of our modern Christianity. Two cautions I would lay down at the outset :

(1) I would disclaim any objection to social gatherings of our Churchpeople. These, I believe, when rightly conducted, to be distinctly helpful. The Church has its social side. But from this pecuniary calculations should be jealously excluded. Where pecuniary considerations are allowed, the desire will, of course, be to gain as many attendants as possible, rather than to bind together the members of the congregation.

(2) I quite recognise that there are many persons in our villages who have not money to give, but who can give labour. No objection can be made to the honest sale of articles on which time and skill have been employed. But two conditions must be observed to constitute an honest and legitimate sale :—(i.) the prices charged should not be exorbitant. Extortion is not less objectionable when practised in the interest of religion. (ii.) On the other hand, goods ought not to be offered at unreasonably cheap prices ; otherwise you may undersell those who have to depend for their livelihood upon like handiwork. One or the other of these conditions, perhaps both, is apt, you will agree with me, to be disregarded in Church fairs and bazaars, even when still more objectionable methods are excluded, such as lotteries, raffles, or (worst of all) prizes for the largest number of votes received, than which I can hardly imagine anything more demoralising practised in the supposed interests of religion. Moreover, a Church sale of varied articles takes on the form of charity, which it caricatures. Let handiwork, of whatever kind, be sold privately, or through ordinary business channels, and the proceeds, devoted, like any other legitimate earnings, to the cause which the person wishes to support. My objection to parochial entertainments for the purpose of raising money is that the system lowers the dignity of religion in the estimation of the people.”

MEDMENHAM.

DEATH. July 23.—Elizabeth Palmer, aged 26 years.

During the last month we have been anxious concerning the health of Mr. Spowart. We are glad to hear that he went through the operation on one of his eyes, and has been doing well since. We sincerely trust that he may come back quite relieved of the trouble from which he has been so long suffering.