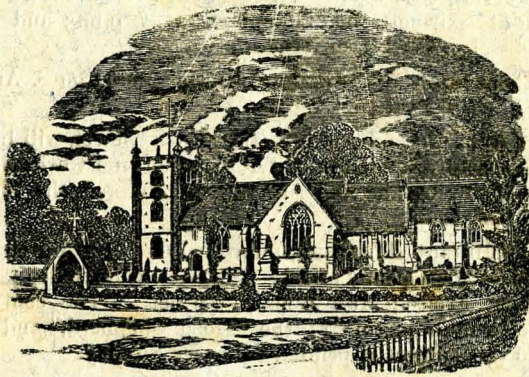




THE
HAMBLEDEN

Magazine.



PRICE THREE HALF-PENCE.

DECEMBER, 1898.



HAMBLEDEN PARISH MAGAZINE.

PARISH REGISTER.

Baptisms.

Nov. 6.—Alice Mabel, daughter of John and Eliza Matilda Dawson.

Skirmett.

Nov. 20.—Maurice, son of John F. and Rosetta Higgins.

„ 20.—Frederick, son of William and Eva Turton, baptised Oct. 16th, was received into the Church.

Missionary boxes and subscriptions should be sent in during the first week of December, otherwise the money is too late to go with the accounts of the different Societies this year.

Advent Sermons. The Rev. A. G. Nash will preach a course at the Parish Church on the four Sunday mornings on (1) "The Master, (2) is come, (3) and calleth, (4) for thee." S. John xi. 28.

There will be Special Sermons as usual at the Parish Church on Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m. (the Rev. F. B. Gunnery, Curate-in-Charge of S. John's, High Wycombe, will preach on December 7th), on Thursdays at Frieth.

A Mission Service, occasionally with Lantern, is conducted in the Parish Room at Skirmett, on Thursdays, at 7 p.m.; and also at Rockall End, at Mrs. Clark's, on Wednesdays.

Special **Intercession for Missions** will be offered on S. Andrew's Day.

The **Offerings** on December 4th in the Parish Church will be given to the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution; on Christmas Day divided between the "Waifs and Strays" Society, and the Sick and Needy of the Parish.

The Church Militant **Almanac**, published by the Church Army, may be purchased for a penny of Miss Thatcher, Hambleden; Messrs. Webb & Collier, Frieth; Miss Wicks, Skirmett. The centre is a copy of a well-known picture of the "Good Shepherd," and a text appropriate to this subject is printed for every Sunday.

Hambleden Schools Prize Giving.

The prizes, kindly given by Lady Esther Smith for the last school year, were presented in the School on Thursday afternoon, Nov. 24th. The general prizes were awarded to those children who got the highest marks added together from three sources: these were the Attendance Register, the Conduct Sheets, the quarterly Examination lists. From this it will be seen that moral excellence gets as good a chance as intellectual. Children cannot altogether be answerable for their sharpness of mind, but they can, to a greater degree, for their good behaviour; and as character is the thing of chiefest importance, and that which tells most in after life, it is what we want to encourage and develop as far as we can in our children. It was a great disappointment that Lady Esther was prevented from coming out to give away the prizes in person, but Mrs. Beever was fortunately able to fill her place. We were glad to have some of the parents present also.

C. L. C. F.

The Bishop of Stepney's visit was a success, we hope we may say for himself and for us. He gave an interesting description of some of his experience in his district, and an encouraging account of the heartiness of Church work in the East of London. The collection at the meeting at Greenlands amounted to £40 for the general fund, and £15 for a special fund of the Bishop's, together with a promise of £25 in annual subscriptions. The collection in the School at night was equally good, according to the standard "of the Sanctuary" amounting to £1 12s. 8d. A Missionary meeting, even though we may not have such a speaker as the Bishop of Stepney, has always this value: that it shews us the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and helps us to believe more steadfastly in the Divine mission of the Church to proclaim the Gospel. In the Mission field, whether at home or abroad, the whole strength of the Church is put forth and tested, and our faith is helped by the sight of results.

All Saints', Skirmett.

The tea on Nov. 1st went off as teas at Skirmett always do. The weather was fine, and the moon did not do badly as "Parish Lantern," as we have not got the electric light. Mrs. Stanton and Mrs. G. F. Eyre, ably seconded by several of the Skirmett ladies, worked away all the afternoon, and got the first part of the programme ready; the second part, namely, conjuring and ventriloquism, was very kindly supplied by Lady Esther Smith. It would be invidious to say which part of the programme gave greatest satisfaction. The conjuror again was most successful in finding out local talent: Mr. Hare did the part of the victim capitally.

Mothers' Union.

On Friday, Nov. 4th, a meeting was held in the School at Hambleton, with a view to starting a branch of the above Union. There was a large gathering of women from all parts of the parish, who quite filled the big Schoolroom. The meeting began with Hymn 261, and after a few prayers the Rector explained the object for which they were met together. Mrs. Raikes, of Marcham Vicarage, near Abingdon, gave a most earnest and beautiful address.

The Rector held the first service of admission in Church on Thursday, Nov. 25th, when eight mothers were enrolled as members. The weather, unfortunately, prevented several others from coming, who had intended to do so.

The Layman's view of the Ritual Controversy was given at the Ruri-decanal Conference at Marlow by Mr. Power. The topic was discussed with animation for two hours. There was a good attendance, though we did not see any of the laity of this parish present. Some, we suppose were prevented by business, others were not sufficiently keen. Why is it that when so much is being said about the part the laity should take in Church matters, they do not come forward and make themselves heard when opportunity is given at the Ruri-decanal and Diocesan Conference? Perhaps a sort of Parochial Church Conference is the missing link. We should be very glad to see such a thing in existence, if there seemed any likelihood

of its being appreciated. It would be a very good thing if it helped to promote a clearer understanding of Church affairs than prevails at present. The speakers at the R. D. Conference were unanimous about the duty of the Clergy (there was not any reference to the duty of the laity!) to obey the Prayer Book; but there seemed to be the widest difference of opinion as to what "obeying the Prayer Book" meant; and yet one would think it was fairly simple if persons read the Prayer Book, it is all in black and white. For example, to look at the directions just before the daily service: "The order for Morning and Evening Prayer daily to be said and used throughout the year," is not this clear enough? Then again the second paragraph below: "And here is to be noted, that such Ornaments of the Church, and of the Ministers thereof, at all Times of their Ministration, shall be retained and be in use, as were in this Church of England by the Authority of Parliament, in the second year of the Reign of King Edward the Sixth," that is 1549, in which year the First Prayer Book of Edward VI. was published, being passed in the House of Commons January 21st, and in that it is directed that "The Priest that shall execute the Holy Ministry shall put upon him the Vesture appointed for that ministration, that is to say a white Albe, plain, with a Vestment or Cope." This seems plain enough. Some of the speakers talked about Daily Service being optional, or this rubric as only intended for a maximum of ritual; that is all very well, but it is not "obeying the Prayer Book;" but if the Clergy, as they were reminded, ought to obey their ordination vows, is it right that they should be left to decide which rubrics are to be observed and which not? When persons, a month ago, decided for themselves that the muzzling order was optional, or that lights on a vehicle after dark are unnecessary, they would very soon have found out that "private judgment" was out of place.

It would be a great step in the direction of unity, and after that to progress (for there can be no solid progress or reform till some measure of unity is secured), if all clergy and laity would study the matter and "obey the Prayer Book," until they were dispensed from doing so by rightful authority.

FRIETH.

For the future all exclusively Frieth news will appear in this column, which the Rector has given us all to ourselves.

BURIAL. Nov. 26.—Elias White aged 81 years.

Advent.—We shall now resume the Thursday night Service, to which you are accustomed during the seasons of Advent and Lent. And Advent is a very favourable season for training ourselves (and who does not need it?) in self-denial and prayer. Because it is not so long as Lent, and so does not call for such a sustained effort, will not, say 30 people, in Frieth make a resolution to attend each of the four Thursday services?

S. Andrew's Brotherhood.—What is it? That question was answered most fully by Mr. Hubert Carleton in the Village Hall on Nov. 25th.

It is *not* an Order of Monks.

It is *not* a Secret Society.

It is simply an Anglo-American alliance, by which young men, all over both great English speaking countries, try to bring their brothers to Christ the King of men.

A.G.N.

OFFERTORY FOR THE MONTH.

Nov. 6.	—£0 19	9½	... 92	coins	... Cancer Hospital.
,,	13.	0 9	6	... 65	,, ... Church Expenses.
,,	20.	0 9	5	... 69	,, ... ,,