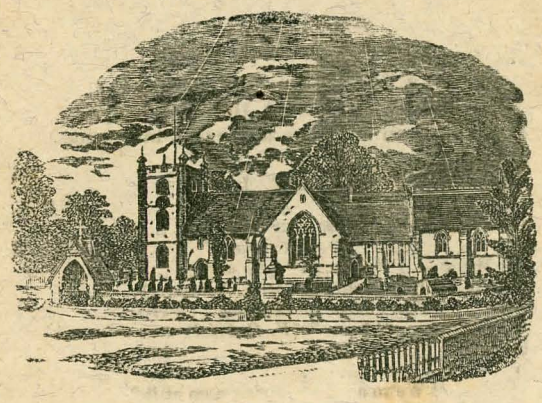
THE

HAMBLEDEN

Magazine.



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FEBRUARY, 1899.

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HAMBLEDEN PARISH MAGAZINE.

Baptism.

SKIRMETT. Jan. 15.—Frederick James, son of William and Sarah A. Ward.
(*Privately.*) Jan. 23.—William Edward, son of William and Sarah E. Cook.

Marriage.

Jan. 7.—John Last and Alice King.
,, 28.—John Thomas Stringer and Anne Eliza Newman.

The Law relating to School Attendance.

With a view to removing any doubt about the paragraph thus headed in our last number, the Clerk of the School Attendance Committee at Henley suggests that it would be well to state that "reaching" a Standard means "passing" a Standard; just as a child who has reached 13 years of age has passed 13 years.

The National Society was represented, not by Mr. Chandler, the Organising Secretary for this district; but by his colleague, Rev. C. H. Spurrell, Organising Secretary for the North of England.

"Waifs and Strays." The Rev. Johnson Barker will preach morning and evening on February 19th (not on the 5th), the first Sunday in Lent.

A Lecture will be given in the School on Tuesday, February 7th, at 7.30 p.m., by the Rev. F. P. Harnett, Vicar of Highmore, near Henley. Subject:—"Among the Stars with a Camera."

The Concert was a "record" one in more ways than one. The promoters of it, however, regret that they did not receive much encouragement to admit an audience at such a low price in the future. We subjoin the programme.

PART I.

1.	Pianoforte Solo		Mr. W. G. Bayley
2.	Glee	"See our Oars"	The Choir
3.	Comic Song	"Betsy Wareing"	Mr. R. G. Elwell
4.	Instrumental Music	"Gavotte" (*Rameau*)	See below
5.	Instrumental Music	"Moment Musical" (*Schubert*)	See below
6.	Song	"The Village Blacksmith" (*Weiss*)	Mr. E. R. Willis
7.	Song	"Luna" (*V. Gabriel*)	Miss D. Simpkins
8.	Zither Solo		Mr. Winfield
9.	Violin Solo		Miss Laugher
10.	Comic Song	"We've all been having a go at it"	Mr. Winfield
11.	Quartette	"Health to my Love" (*Spofforth*)	Messrs. Bartlett, White, Feesey, and Tranter

PART II.

1.	Glee	"The Four Jolly Smiths"	The Choir
2.	Song	"One Morning in May" (*Daniels*)	Miss Simpkins
3.	Violin Solo		Miss Laugher
4.	Comic Song	"Widdicome Fair"	Mr. R. G. Elwell
5.	Instrumental Music	"Graceful Dance" (*Cowen*)	See below
6.	Instrumental Music	"Morgenblatter Valse" (*Strauss*)	See below
7.	Song	"Oh! the Soldiers of the Queen"	Mr. J. Plumridge
8.	Zither Solo		Mr. Winfield
9.	Song	"Father O'Flynn" (*Pinsuti*)	Mr. E. R. Willis
10.	Song	"When the heart is young" (*Buck*)	Miss D. Simpkins
11.	Comic Song	"The Gorgonzola Cheese"	Mr. Winfield
12.	Quartette (*Hatton*)	Messrs. Bartlett, White, Feesey, and Tranter	

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

Performers of Instrumental Music:—Miss K. Monk, Miss Simpkins, Miss D. Simpkins, Mr. T. Barnard, and Mr. W. G. Bayley.

Performers in Glees:—The Choir, assisted by Ladies.

LENT.

It is said that this name, by which we denote the Forty Days of Fasting, preparatory to Easter, is an old English word meaning "spring." Bright sunshine and piercing winds are the characteristics of Lent in the kingdom of nature. It is the time when most of us in the country are busy on the land—it is the time for cultivation and sowing the seed: so much so that the claims of the Kingdom of Grace fall into the back-ground. And the claims of the Kingdom of Grace are also more exacting during Lent than in other seasons of the Christian year, or are thought to be so. But the God of Nature is the same as the God of Grace; His "commandments are not grievous." In both kingdoms we must "wait upon the Lord" with thankfulness, and use what opportunities He has given us. "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand." Let us then make the most of the season of Lent, when it comes. It is a time for cultivation: for bringing the soil of our hearts into a condition as favourable as possible for the growth of the seed "which is the Word of God." Those who keep all the seasons of the year in obedience to the guidance of the Church according to the Prayer Book, will keep Lent best. They make a great mistake who think they can crowd the religion of the year into Lent. There is a wholesome and growing desire upon the part of Church people to conform to the principles of the Prayer Book. The guidance our Prayer Book gives us as to the observance of Lent is to be found in the "table of the Vigils, Fasts and Days of Abstinence to be observed in the year," where the Forty Days of Lent are put foremost among the Days of Fasting, or Abstinence; and in the exhortation at the beginning of "A Commination, or denouncing of God's anger and judgment against sinners, with certain prayers to be used on the first day of Lent," just before the Psalms. The capacity of each person for fasting or abstaining from food, is as various as the capacity for almsgiving. The two, fasting and almsgiving, are well called the wings of prayer—see St. Matt. vi. And surely our prayers want wings.

The purpose of Lent is a more adequate idea of sin, and consequently, of repentance; and certainly, there is need of this amongst us, possibly not more now than at all times. We are always ready to lament the short-comings of others; let us, however, not waste the time, but deal with our own sins. Fasting, like Prayer and Almsgiving, is the Christian's weapon to be used at all seasons, but specially in Lent. If sermons help you, resort to hear the additional sermons in Lent, but remember "praying is the end of preaching." You are not any better after hearing a sermon—however much you may feel better—until you have put what you have learned into practice. You may possibly gain more help by reading books, such as the Clergy would gladly recommend you. It is, however, helpful to others, and a witness to the world, if you attend the daily prayers at Church. It should be a time for searching the heart in the presence of God, for combating our threefold enemy—the world, the flesh, and the devil. It may be well to shut out the world by abstinence from society, as well as to combat the flesh by fasting; while Prayer and Communion with God render harmless the assaults of the devil.

Sermons will be preached as usual on Wednesday evenings in the Parish Church. The Rev. H. O. F. Whittingstall, Vicar of Marlow, and Rural Dean, will preach on February 22nd.

History of the Church of England.—The Rev. J. W. Nutt has given us two very interesting lectures during the past month. The period treated of was the stormy time, including the reigns of Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth, and concluded with the death of Charles I. The Lecturer spoke in plain terms of the faults of Henry VIII., and of the advisers of Edward VI.; and remarked upon the wonderful way in which GOD used such faulty instruments to bring good to the Church. He pointed out the good done by the monasteries as the sole providers of education and dispensers of charity; and condemned the greed with which the king plundered them. He gave a brief account of the origin of the Book of Common Prayer and the translation of the Bible. He showed some interesting slides, descriptive of the Spanish Armada, and the trial of Archbishop Laud and Charles I. All who heard him must have gone away with the conclusion that evil and good were much mixed up during the Reformation; and that we have much reason to be thankful that the Church of England should have recovered its independence to some extent, without losing any of its essential features, in particular the Apostolic ministry. Mr. Nutt will lecture again on Tuesday, February 21st. He will begin with the Disestablishment of the Church under Cromwell.

FRIETH.

By the kindness of Mr. Cripps, the **School-children** and all the various Classes connected with the Church, were entertained to tea in the Schools on January 12th. Though the night was rough and wet, there was a large attendance, who appreciated the good fare provided. Afterwards, all adjourned to the Village Hall to enjoy a most laughable performance, in which the young people from Parmoor quite surpaseed themselves.

An excellent **Concert** took place on January 14th, at which Mr. Seddon Cripps presided. The Negro Troupe earned their accustomed ovation; while the usual shining local talent was reinforced by the "star" engagements of the Misses Cripps and Mr. Elwell, who were kind enough to assist.

The inclemency of the weather no doubt hindered many from being present at Rev. F. G. Pearson's account of **Missionary** Work in British Guiana on January 16th. However, about 40 attended the meeting in the useful Village Hall, and sustained the reputation of Frieth for intelligent interest and sympathy in Church work. Several boxes were applied for at the close of the address, which was listened to with marked attention. A.G.N.

OFFERTORIES FOR THE MONTH.

Christmas Day ...	£3 5s. 4d.	... 175 coins	...	Waifs and Strays
January 1st	0 18 10½	80 „	...	Church Expenses
„ 8th	0 13 10	75 „	...	„ „
„ 15th	0 15 5	65 „	...	S.P.G.

BAPTISM. Jan. 15.—Alfred Thomas, son of Arthur & Letitia Hobbs.

BURIALS. Dec. 28.—Henry Leaver, aged 77.
Jan. 4.—Thomas Barlow, Moor's End, aged 73.