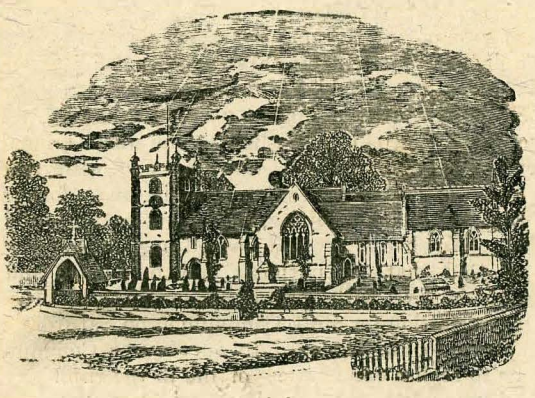
THE

HAMBLEDEN

Magazine.



PRICE THREE HALF-PENCE.

MARCH, 1899.

BLACKWELL AND GUTCH, Printers, London Street, Reading.

Baptisms.

Feb. 5.—Nelson, son of George and Mary Ann Tilbury.
,, 19.—Richard Denis, son of Richard and Alice Gertrude Vernon.
William Edward Cook was received into the Church.

Burial.

Feb. 19.—Henry Barksfield, aged 52 years.

Preachers on Wednesday Evenings, 7.30.

March 1.—The Archdeacon of Buckingham.
,, 8.—Rev. J. N. Blagden (Great Marlow).
,, 15.—Rev. H. G. J. Meara (Vicar of S. Luke's, Maidenhead).
,, 22.—Rev. B. S. Batty (Vicar of Medmenham).
On Friday, March 24th, 7.30 p.m.—Rev. E. D. Shaw (Vicar of High Wycombe).

"Lady Day" (March 25th), is the principal festival connected with the Blessed Virgin Mary, in whose name our Parish Church is dedicated. It is natural then for us to regard it as our **"Dedication Festival."** But as it comes in Lent it is not a convenient time for keeping festival in the old-fashioned sense of the word. There is, however, no reason against our observing the day with special Services in the Church. On such an occasion we should gather together as members of one body in our Parish Church for thanksgiving, for penitence, for new resolve. We thank God for grace given at Font and Altar, for opportunities of worship and instruction, for the hallowing influence of the Church in the domestic joys and sorrows of our life. We must humble ourselves as the congregation of Christ's flock for our shortcomings, for the dimness with which the light of the Gospel burns in us to lighten the world around us. We should blend our penitence and our gratitude with renewed self-dedication into a three-fold cord of new resolve to go forward another year answering to our high calling, relying more faithfully upon the grace of God. We should try to bring all our Church work into the Sanctuary of God that our purposes may be refined and purified. The Service on the Eve, with Sermon by the Vicar of Wycombe, will be a helpful preparation for Holy Communion on Saturday morning.

We shall all be looking forward to our Easter Communion, when we endeavour to realise our newness of life in the risen Saviour: but one thought is enough for us at a time, and we shall come before the throne of grace on Lady Day with the special thought that Christ has called us all here in this parish to serve Him side by side in one body: not seeking our own advantage, or praise, or even salvation, so much as that of others. See I. Cor., xii., 12 to end, and xiii.; Rom. xii., 4, 5, xv., 1—6.

The Church Committee for Church Defence and Church Instruction.—A Meeting was held at Greenlands, by kind invitation of the Hon. W. F. D. and Lady Esther Smith, on February 1st. The Clergy and Churchwardens and Sidesmen of each parish in the Rural Deanery were invited. There was, however, not quite such a large attendance of the laity as might have been expected. The objects of this Committee were set forth by A. S. T. G. Boscawen, Esq., M.P. Our readers will remember sermons on this subject by Mr. Wells about a year ago.

The Church has two aspects: it has its life in this world and also in the world to come; for the human beings of which it is composed

are citizens at the same time of this Realm of England and of the Kingdom of Heaven. The two spheres of life and duty run into each other. It is admitted on all sides that Churchmen, and therefore much more our fellow citizens who are not Churchmen, are ignorant of the nature of the Church, of its relation to God's purpose of redeeming mankind. There is nothing so likely to remove this ignorance and the prejudice consequent on this ignorance as instruction in the history of the Church from the Acts of the Apostles onwards. The more her members understand the Church, the more chance there will be of union and efficiency in the Church's work. The object of this Committee is to spread such knowledge by lectures and publications. It publishes a monthly periodical called "The National Church" (price 1d.). Mr. Nutt's lectures in our School, though not organised by this Committee, carry out its intentions. Church people would do well to read some of the many books now published on the history of the Church, such as Wakeman's "Introduction to the History of the Church of England. There is a series of small volumes edited by the Bishop of London called "Epochs of Church History": another series of histories of "National Churches" in different lands. Those who require more special information about matters of controversy in regard to the position of the Church of England, especially in relation to the Church of Rome, will find what they want in small compass in the publications of "The Church Historical Society" (S.P.C.K.) of which the Bishop of London is President.

Henry Barksfield.

Just as we are going to press the Passing Bell announces an event which will cast a gloom over the Parish, and will cause a shock to our readers at a distance, namely, that one who filled a large place in the life of the Church and Parish and who was in the prime of life, has been called to his rest. The summons came at midnight on Sunday, Feb. 19th. "At midnight there is a cry; Behold the bridegroom! Come ye forth to meet Him." (S. Matt. xxv., 6, R.V.) He had suffered for some time from the disease to which he succumbed: but it was not till about three weeks ago that he gave in and sought medical aid. There has not been time yet to realise our loss. An enumeration of the different offices he held—Clerk to Parish and District Councils, Assistant Overseer, School Attendance Officer, Member of the Choir—does not sufficiently describe the position he held. All these duties he discharged with conscientious faithfulness. But a man's worth in this world is often best gauged by what he does in less direct ways. We can hardly think what a Church-workers' outing, or Parochial tea, or School treat, or entertainment in the Schoolroom, will be without his ever ready help. Mr. Barksfield was one of those persons who knew instinctively what wanted doing, and with singular self-forgetfulness would give efficient and ready help. It was, indeed, a pleasure to him to contribute to the happiness of others. Such men are sorely needed, and when taken away are sorely missed: but these things are in the hands of a loving and wise Father, "Who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not, as though they were."

Lifeboat Lectures.—On Jan. 30th Mr. Eyre gave an illustrated Lecture on the Lifeboat in the Institute. There was a good muster

of members. In the absence, by doctor's orders, of the President, Mr. J. Mason took the chair, and afterwards operated the lantern. 11s. was collected for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

On Feb. 1st the Lecture was repeated in Hambleden Schools. The large audience (many of whom had to stand) listened attentively for nearly two hours. During a pause the models sent by the R.N.L.B.I. were exhibited. Mr. Mason again kindly officiated, and was helped by Mr. Pulleyn. Thanks are also due to Messrs. Willis and F. Webb for preparing the room. The collection amounted to £2 12s. 7d.

G. F. E.

Rev. J. W. Nutt will give his concluding **Lecture** on March 7th, at 7.30 p.m.

HAMBLEDEN PARISH NURSE.

Treasurer—Mrs. Beever, Yewden. *Secretary*—Mrs. Eyre, Hambleden Cottage.

Rules for Persons requiring the Nurse.

1.—Persons requiring the Nurse must apply for an order to the Secretary, and in her absence to the Treasurer.

2.—Annual Subscription: Labourers, 2/-; Artizans and others in receipt of 20/- a week and over, 4/. Non-Subscribers will be charged a fee of 10/- a week.

6.—When attending a cottager's wife the Nurse will be expected to do all that is required for the care of her patient's family, with the exception of the washing.

N.B.—All Subscriptions for the current year must be paid to the Secretary before April 1st. All those who subscribed to the last Nurse will not be asked for a subscription during the present year, unless they had the use of her services.

SKIRMETT.

The Reading Room have organised two Social Evenings this winter. The first, in Christmas week, was more or less limited to members and their friends, who danced and sang from 7 to 11 p.m. The second, on Feb. 9th, brought several visitors from Hambleden, Frieth, and Turville. We were pleased to see the Secretary and some members of the Hambleden Institute. Dances, songs and glees followed each other rapidly from 7.30 till 1 a.m., when the last of a large party went home. The Committee and those who assisted with the decorations deserve every credit for the success of the evening, while they also were much indebted to those who provided songs, &c.

The Skirmett Reading Room has received an additional attraction in a new **Bagatelle Board**. Mr. Eyre has received £1 from Messrs. C. T. Barnett and Sons, £1 from Mrs. F. J. Eyre, 10s. from Mrs. G. F. Eyre, 10s. from Miss Eyre, 5s. from Miss Thompson and 5s. from Mr. James Hobbs, making altogether £3 10s. towards the cost, £5 10s. He will be very glad to receive further subscriptions to this or to the expenses of the Room.

On Feb. 2nd, Mr. Eyre, assisted by Messrs. Mason and Courtney, gave a Lecture on the Lifeboat, with lantern pictures. There was a numerous and attentive audience. The acetylene gas "worked" perfectly, and 6s. 8d. was collected.

G.F.E.

FRIETH.

Baptisms.

Jan. 29.—Charles John Thomas, son of John and Lucy Emma Martin.
Feb. 12.—Kathleen Mary, daughter of James and Julia Ann Audrey.

During Lent a Short Service will be held on Thursdays at 7.30 p.m. Addresses will be delivered by the following:—

March 2—Rev. F. L. Nash, Vicar of Lane End.
„ 9—Rev. M. Graves, Vicar of Turville.
„ 16—Rev. E. Shaw, High Wycombe.
„ 23—Rev. A. G. Nash.