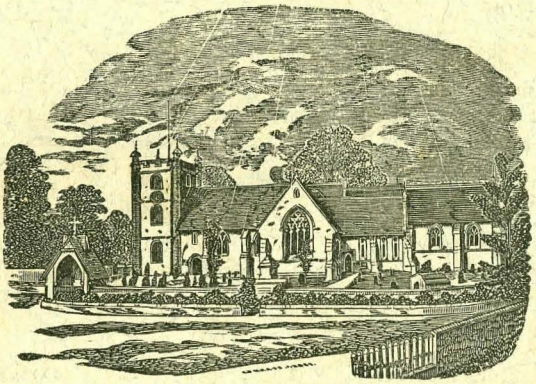
THE

HAMBLEDEN

Magazine.



PRICE THREE HALF-PENCE.

JULY, 1891.

E. J. Blackwell, Printer, London Street, Reading.

HAMBLEDEN.

BAPTISMS.

May 31.—Lydia Olive, daughter of John Brown and Elizabeth Creed. Millend.

„ 31.—Bertha, daughter of Frank and Harriet Hawkes. Luxters.

June 7.—Thomas Robert, son of Robert and Mary Higgs. Little Frieth.

„ 7.—Maurice Thomas, son of George and Annie Heath. Skirmett.

„ 7.—Alice Amy, daughter of George and Alice Jane Bunting. Hambleden.

„ 21.—Robert Francis, son of James Joshua and Hannah Jollye. Little Frieth.

„ 21.—Ada Eliza, daughter of Annie Wing. Moor's End.

„ 21.—Millie, daughter of James and Emma Higgins. Pheasants.

MARRIAGE.

June 20.—James Walter Leonard to Lizzie Denham.

THE SCHOOLS.

The Official Notice of the dates of the Examinations has not yet come, but we expect to hear any day now. The first Examination in "Drawing" has taken place at Frieth, and Mr. Harcourt Smith, the Examiner, expressed himself as pleased with the result. We hope that "Drawing" in our Schools may do good, but it does not seem to be likely that it will be of equal advantage to all, and as the Grant is very small in proportion to the labour and expense entailed, it will not be of much advantage to the Schools from a money point of view.

CHOIR HOLIDAY.

The Rector of Henley is trying to organize an Excursion Train to Southsea in a few weeks' time which might possibly work in with our Choir Holiday, provided the day does not clash with the visit of Her Majesty's Inspector to the Schools. Last year a very pleasant holiday was spent at Bournemouth by availing ourselves of an Excursion Train which the Rector of Henley secured for the trip, and we feel disposed to try again—but we want *subscriptions*. One pound is all the response as yet in answer to the appeal in last month's Magazine—and the Choir cannot go for that!

THE CHURCHES.

We hope that the Morning Service on Sunday at Skirmett will recommence on the first Sunday in July; and during the months of July and August there will be *Evening* Service at Frieth instead of Afternoon. There are some who would like *Evening* Service *always* at Frieth, but this cannot be as there are three Churches to serve and it is not easy to carry on three Services without interruption at the same time when there are only three Clergy. It is most important

that the *Evening* Service at *Skirmett* should *not* be changed to the *Afternoon*, as there is no Evening Service at either Fingest or Turville, so that Skirmett supplies that district in the Evening with a Service and helps those two adjoining Parishes. There is Morning Service at Turville, and Afternoon at Fingest, so that there is an abundant supply of the Means of Grace even if the Morning Service at Skirmett has sometimes to be interrupted.

THE CHURCH IN EAST LONDON.

There are some in this Parish who take great interest in the East London Church Fund, who help it by having Missionary Boxes or who work for it in other ways. They at least will be glad to hear that we are to have Special Sermons for this most deserving Mission on the 26th of July. It is possible that the Bishop Suffragan for East London will come and preach this year, at any rate, he will if he can.

We have lost our friend, Mr. Hilliard, who was so popular here. He has accepted an important Living and has, therefore, been obliged to give up his office of Secretary to the East London Fund. We sincerely hope that as much interest will be shewn in the work as was the case last year, and that whoever may be the preacher a liberal response will be made to the appeal. Last year the Offertory Collection was unusually large and we ought not to go back in such a good cause.

THE INFLUENZA.

It was not to be expected that this Parish would altogether escape the prevailing epidemic. We have, however, fared much better than many Parishes. There have been some cases and a few bad ones, but we are thankful to say that none have proved fatal. After the much more serious disease of "Diphtheria" which has been the cause of so much sorrow and anxiety in the Parish during the last twelve months, "Influenza," although bad enough has not fallen heavily upon us. We are very thankful that the Diphtheria is gone and we trust that this lighter disease will soon disappear as well. It is evidently dying out.

GRAVE DECORATIONS.

The Rector is sorry to find that in the new Cemetery artificial wreaths under glass shades are becoming common as tokens of remembrance upon the graves of the departed. They are not desirable memorials, although we often see them used now-a-days. Real flowers, or small shrubs, are so much more appropriate and becoming. These artificial wreaths, which cannot in any way remind us of the resurrection to eternal life, are much used in foreign burial grounds, but we do not like to see them in our English Churchyards or Cemeteries. We hope that better taste will prevail, and that those who care for the resting places of the departed will plant their graves with flowers—God's good gifts to us,—which are real and beautiful, and speak to us of the brightness of the world to come.

MEDMENHAM.

THE SCHOOL.—The visit of H.M. Inspector took place on the 4th June. The result at least bears witness commendatory of the discipline and order of the School. The full Report and also the School Account Sheet can be seen posted in the School Room by anyone who is interested in the information contained in them. The Grant may be considered satisfactory amounting to £15 13s. 6d. We have now to meet an altered state of things and if we do not rise to it we shall assuredly suffer. We cannot do well next year unless the children attend regularly. We sincerely hope that all parents will see to this without delay and perseveringly. It is of importance to add that, as we are at present directed, Drawing will henceforth be a compulsory subject of teaching in the School. Notice of this has been sent to the Manager by the Department.

On Wednesday, June 24th, the "Walford Family" gave an Entertainment with handbells (chiefly) and other musical instruments, in our School Room. A person who had never been at one of these Entertainments would never believe how much that is calculated to surprise and please can be produced by means of bells and water-glasses. The skill of the performers is beyond praise. The Room was full to overflowing, so much so that one only regretted that the accommodation was so limited.