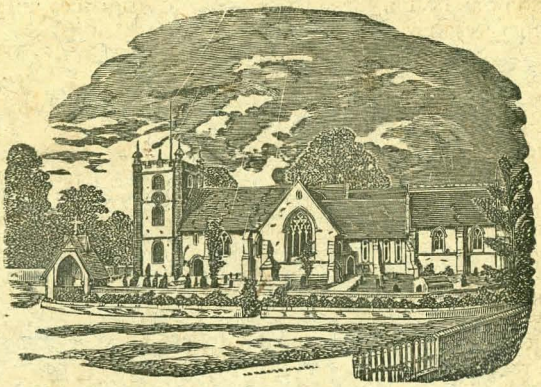
THE

HAMBLEDEN

Magazine.



PRICE THREE HALF-PENCE.

SEPTEMBER, 1891.

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

HAMBLEDEN.

BAPTISMS.

Aug. 2.—Rhoda Mary, daughter of David and Rhoda Bennett. Maidenhead.

„ 7.—(Privately). Margaret Mary Hunter, daughter of Thomas and Margaret Jess. Parmoor.

„ 16.—Charlotte Rebecca, daughter of Edward and Elizabeth Rebecca Cook. Yewden-in-the-Wood.

„ 16.—Albert Leslie, son of Patrick Francis and Harriet Caroline Dalton. Skirmett.

„ 16.—Daisy, daughter of James and Elizabeth Janes. Spurgrove.

„ 16.—Mabel Louisa, daughter of George and Emma Louisa Edwards. Frieth.

BURIAL.

August 18.—John Turner. Frieth. Aged 71.

The death of John Turner was awfully sudden. He fell down in his hay field and expired instantly. We beg to express our sympathy with his widow and family who have been called upon so unexpectedly to part with one so near and dear to them.

THE SCHOOLS.

We have received the Reports of Her Majesty's Inspector upon Hambleden and Frieth Schools.

Considering the difficulties at Hambleden caused by infectious illness during the past year, the Report and Grant in connection with that School are better than we anticipated. In fact, all we could possibly have earned (unless the attendance of the children had been better) was £87 17s. 6d. The Report and Grant at Frieth would both, doubtless, have been better had the attendance of the children been more regular. We must add, however, that Frieth has received the highest possible award for "Drawing" this year, which is all the more creditable as it is the first attempt.

Hambleden.

Mixed School.—"Considering the unfortunate circumstances of the year, the proficiency of the children has been well maintained. The teaching is careful and intelligent, and much of the work is very well done. The Spelling of the Fourth Standard, and the Arithmetic of the Fourth and Fifth, however, require much attention, and the Reading and Handwriting of the First, Fourth, and Fifth are only fair. Recitation is very good, and the Class Subjects creditable. I was much pleased with the tone and discipline of the School. No blanks may be left in the Registers."

Infants' Class.—"The Infant Class is excellently conducted and extremely well taught."

Grant, £83.

Mixed School.—"The requirements as to discipline seem to be well fulfilled, but the attainments have fallen off. Reading is well delivered except in the Fourth Standard, and Arithmetic is generally accurate; but in neither of these subjects is much intelligence shown. Handwriting is very creditable on slates, fair or pretty good on paper. Spelling is very poor, and must improve. English and Recitation are very fair on the whole, and Needlework satisfactory. Note Singing is not up to the mark. The Managers should verify the Registration during the course of each quarter at irregular intervals."

Infants' Class.—"The management of the infants is kind and pleasant, but would be better for a little more life and brightness. The children are in good discipline, and their instruction is in general satisfactorily carried out. There is still room for improvement in Reading, but, on the whole, the attainments show an advance on last year's results."

Grant, £72 12s. 6d.

We subjoin the School Accounts of the past year, which have already been published, in accordance with instructions from the Education Department, both at Hambleden and Frieth, and placed upon the notice boards at both Churches.

HAMBLEDEN SCHOOL.

For the year ending June 30th, 1891.

Income.	£	s.	d.
Balance in hand (July 1, 1890)	11	15	11
Grant from Education Department	84	17	6
Voluntary Subscriptions	86	8	9
School Pence	24	3	10
Needlework sold	3	8	1
	210	14	1
Balance overdrawn, 30th June, 1891	2	2	1
	£212	16	2

Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
Master and Mistress' Salary	93	7	0
Assistants	29	3	4
Monitors	12	16	6
Books and Apparatus	10	10	4
Fuel, Light, and Cleaning	10	14	8
Repairs, &c.*	53	11	0
Fire Insurance	0	16	6
Sundries	1	16	10
	£212	16	2

* Painting, Colouring, Sanitary Improvements, the expense of which was mostly met by *special* subscriptions, which are included in the Income of the School under Voluntary Subscriptions (£86 8s. 9d.)

FRIETH SCHOOLS.

For the year ending June 30th, 1891.

Income.	£	s.	d.
Grant from Education Department	81	15	0
Fairfax Charity	3	0	4
Miss Hind's Legacy (two dividends)	14	18	6
Voluntary Subscriptions	73	19	2
School Pence	23	15	6
Needlework sold	2	5	2
	199	13	8
Balance overdrawn, 30th June, 1891	11	18	9
	£211	12	5

Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
Adverse balance, July 1st, 1890	14	10	5
Master's Salary	70	8	9
Assistants	30	0	0
Pupil Teacher	20	16	0
Monitors	18	18	6
Books and Apparatus	12	5	6
Fuel, Light, and Cleaning	15	17	5
Repairs	13	13	6
Rent	12	6	0
Fire Insurance	0	13	6
Sundries	2	2	10
	£211	12	5

As usual, the voluntary subscriptions and rate have been distributed between the two Schools as their needs required; and as by far the greater portion of subscriptions comes, of course, from Hambleden and not from Frieth, this is absolutely necessary.

FREE EDUCATION.

We do not feel quite sure whether the parents of the children attending our Schools fully understand that when School work recommences in this Parish after the present holidays School Fees will be abolished—that is to say, parents will no longer be asked to pay any School Fees for their children's education. This will apply to Skirmett as well as Hambleden and Frieth, although Skirmett School will not receive from the Education Department any Fee in the place of the usual School Fees, as that School is not under Government Inspection. It would, however, be ridiculous in the same Parish to make any difference between the Schools in this matter—and as the School Fees at Skirmett have amounted to quite a nominal sum, the abolition of them *without compensation* will not cause any real difficulty.

We hope that parents will shew their gratitude for Free Education by sending their children to School *regularly*, and a great deal *more regularly* than has been the case in this Parish of late years.

The success and welfare of the Schools depend more than anything else upon the regular attendance of the children. *All Grants*, whether Fee Grants, or Grants after Inspection, will be reckoned upon the *average attendance of the children*, and so, if the attendance be good, the Schools will be benefited accordingly, but if the attendance be bad, the Schools will lose very considerably. It is surely, then, the duty of all parents—and more especially now that they are not to be asked to pay *anything* for their children's education—to assist the Managers and the School Teachers in obtaining a satisfactory Grant.

The Schools cannot go on without a rate or voluntary subscriptions, and the money provided in this way must come out of somebody's pocket. The more that can be earned by the Schools from the Government Grants, the less will be required by voluntary aid or rate to raise the necessary income for carrying on the Schools efficiently.

Will not the parents in return for the Free Education of their children do their best to help the Schools by sending their children *regularly?* This is the best return they can make and the way in which they can best shew their gratitude.

No School can possibly prosper where the scholars attend irregularly, no matter how much the Managers and Teachers may strive to bring about a satisfactory result. Apart from the consideration of "Grant" or "Fees," the *work* of the School cannot be carried on efficiently if some of the children are habitually attending irregularly, —the ultimate result of this to the parents of course is that their children cannot pass the required "Standard," and so when they most want their help cannot possibly leave School to go to work.

Numbers, ere this, have been kept at School in our own Parish a year, or even two years, longer than they would have been, because when they ought to have been at School they were allowed to stay at home.

We sincerely hope that "Free Education" will be the occasion for a fresh start in School matters, and for a very great and much needed improvement in the regular attendance of the children at School.

NOT SURE IF THIS PAGE BELONGS HERE

FRIETH SUNDAY SCHOOL HOLIDAY.

Not only have the Teachers at this School had a holiday of their own this Summer, and paid a visit to the Naval Exhibition, but on Tuesday, August 11th, they took the children to Greenlands for a most enjoyable trip, where every arrangement had been made for their accommodation and pleasure.

Inclusive of Teachers and friends about 120 sat down to an excellent tea, which did great credit to those kind friends who had so bountifully catered for their wants. After tea and a ramble over the beautiful grounds, cricket and various other games were indulged in. At this time, too, a kind friend from Hambleden, the Rev. E. A. McConnell, came on the scene and took many of the children, in parties of five or six at a time, for a short trip in his pleasure boat. About seven o'clock a start was made for home, the joy and excitement of the little ones bearing evidence how successful and enjoyable, this, the first outing of the Frieth Sunday School children, had been. Many thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Reade for having so successfully organized and carried out so delightful a trip; also to those friends who so kindly lent their horses and vehicles to convey the happy party.

MEDMENHAM.

BURIAL.

August 15. Sarah Marshall, aged 57.

It will be a cheerless recollection that the month of August has laid up for the country to think over. Notwithstanding an unkind summer, in which there was no dependence (as we say) to be placed on the weather—a fine day or two now and then, but mostly wet—still the prospect of the harvest was at the beginning of August particularly good, but since that time we have had a long month of incessant rain interfering with harvest operations, and seriously damaging the crops; the outlook is now very alarming for grain and potatoes. The Church uses the prayer for fine weather daily. There is nothing like it for our immediate wants and for its soothing influence which will help us to bear up patiently.

The School now takes as it were a new departure. Fees are abolished. The Government undertakes in future to pay the scholar's pence. Certainly the relief to parents is a very trifling one in this Parish, for the payment was never more than one penny per week for one family of children, but we ought to call attention to the fact that this relief, such as it is, comes at a time when increased demand is made upon the School for efficiency. We have had our intimation that more will be expected of us next year, and it so happens that a subject altogether unknown to the School course hitherto is to be prepared for examination by May next. We mean the subject of drawing. It has to be done. It is compulsory, and so there is nothing to be said about its desirableness or usefulness. We would only most earnestly beg parents and others who have influence over the children to see that attendance is regular and punctual. Then it will be for the managers and teachers to do their best for the children.