

The Hampton Hill Parish Magazine.

JULY, 1893.

OFFERTORIES.

	£	s.	d.
Sunday, May 28th.—General Fund.....	3	17	0
„ June 4th.—General Fund.....	6	2	0
„ „ 11th.—General Fund ..	3	1	0
„ „ 18th.—General Fund.....	2	13	11

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EXTRACTS FROM PARISH REGISTERS.

BAPTISMS.

May 27.—Reginald Panton Singleton.

June 7.—Catherine Mary Dorrell.

BURIAL.

May 26.—Mary Cox.

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A WORD FROM THE NEW VICAR.

My dear Friends,

Although I am writing this in my old parish of Newington, by the time the magazine is in your hands, I hope to be resident amongst you.

In the providence of God I have been called to be your minister, and I am glad to avail myself of this opportunity, to address a few words to those with whom I am, in the immediate future, to have such close relations. The circumstances connected with my appointment seem to me to indicate, beyond all question, that it is of God's ordering, and this thought enables me to come with a degree of confidence which I could not possibly have had without it.

I feel that one of my first words must be an expression of deep gratitude to your former beloved Vicar, and to Mrs. Bligh for their very great kindness to me; indeed, had it not been for them, it is not probable that I should have become Vicar of Hampton Hill. And they have, by giving Mrs. Job and myself

opportunities of becoming acquainted with some of you, and in many other ways, done their best to pave the way for our coming, so that the work of the parish might be continued with as much smoothness as possible.

The responsibility of succeeding one who is so deservedly beloved as your late Vicar, I feel to be very great indeed. I know it will not be easy to follow in his steps, and to maintain the various organizations of the parish in that state of proficiency which is now their characteristic. I hope, however, and believe, from what I have heard of you, that I may count upon your kindly sympathy and patience. And I would appeal to you to give, still, that generous help to the work of God in the parish which has been so significant of genuine Christianity amongst you in the past.

I have already met so many of my new parishioners, that I no longer feel like a stranger to you. I hope to take the earliest opportunity of calling upon you, and trust that under the blessing of Almighty God you may learn to regard me as your friend as well as your pastor.

You are, I believe, justly proud of your beautiful Church, and its well-ordered services. I pray with all my heart that you may all continue to find a delight in worshipping there.

It is a source of immense satisfaction to me to know that you are devotedly attached to our beloved Church of England, which has played a vital part in moulding the character of our great nation in the past, and which, I believe, has a still greater future before her.

I am thankful to know that so much attention has been given to the training of the children and young people, both in the day and Sunday Schools. I must rely upon the many earnest workers, in these spheres, for help in continuing the good work.

I trust that the harmony prevailing in the parish may always be maintained, and that the happy spirit existing between the Church and Nonconformity may never be disturbed.

In conclusion I would earnestly ask for your prayers for myself, that in all things I may be rightly guided for the work of God in the parish; that souls may be built up and strengthened in our most holy faith.

I am, yours very truly,

CHARLES R. JOB.

Communicants' Class Tea.—Nearly the whole of the Communicants' Class met at the Vicarage, on Monday, May 29th, for their Annual Summer Tea. In consequence of a heavy thunder shower, which flooded the lawn in the course of a few minutes, all idea of an outdoor repast was abandoned, but the weather having improved, there was a good muster by 6 o'clock, and upwards of 50 sat down to tea. After the tea was over a Testimonial was presented to the Vicar, from all

the members of the Communicants' Class. It consisted of three altar vases and an altar desk (and altar book from one individual of the class) for the Vicar's new Church of Holy Trinity, Fareham. The presentation was made in the drawing room, where all the members of the class were assembled, by Major Balguy, who said many kind words. The Vicar spoke a few words of thanks, and expressed his sorrow that he must give up the conduct of the class, which, however, he said was modified by the knowledge that his successor would take the greatest interest in the class, and do all he could to sustain it and develop it further. At 8.30 there was a most hearty and devotional service in the Church, and the Vicar addressed some words of farewell to this portion of the flock which he was leaving.

Crystal Palace Excursion.—On Thursday, June 1st, was carried out the largest and perhaps the most successful of the 12 excursions to the Crystal Palace which have taken place during the late Vicar's term of office. The weather was all that could be desired, fine and dry, and neither too hot nor too cold, and the party, numbering in all 256, assembled at Fulwell Station in time to start by the 10.19 train. The palace was reached by 12.0, and then there was as usual a general dispersion of the forces. Many of the older children are well experienced in the various amusements which may be enjoyed in the Palace and Grounds. The swings, roundabouts, and coker nut shies drew off a good many at first. Then the switch-back railway, the aerial flight and a voyage on the lake were attractive to many. There are always the quieter attractions of the Palace itself, the concerts, the organ, the aquarium, the monkey house, the crystal maze, endless variety of amusements, supplemented by the charm of visiting the stalls and inspecting *ab libitum* all the various articles put out to secure the children's savings. At 4.30 the whole party assembled in the large tea-room; none were reported to be missing. Another dispersion, a couple of hours more pleasure-seeking, and then it is time to re-assemble before the Great Organ to count the roll and move towards the station. The homeward bound train reached Fulwell at 9 p.m., and there, as usual, was a large assemblage and the Hampton Hill Band to lead the travellers home to the School. Here the band played, some kind cheers were given for the leaving and coming Vicars, for Mrs. Bligh and Mrs. Job, for Mr. deRitchie, and then all went off to bed. Thus ended a very enjoyable day.

Mothers' Meeting Presentation.—On Friday, June 2nd, the members of the mothers' meeting, which has been conducted weekly by Mrs. Bligh at the East Bank Mission Room, met for the last time under her auspices, and took the opportunity of presenting to her a tribute of their love and affection in the shape of a very pretty folding photograph frame. At the same time an enlarged photograph of the mothers was also presented by Mr. and Mrs. Somerset.

Presentation to the Vicar and Mrs. Bligh, and Mr. deRitchie.—On Saturday, the children of the Sunday School who were too little to go to the Crystal Palace, or were left behind for some other cause, came to tea in the Vicarage Field. Advantage was taken of the occasion to gather together the good people of Hampton Hill who

were kindly anxious to bid good bye in person to Mr. and Mrs. Bligh, and also, as we shall presently narrate, give substantial and lasting evidence of their good will. Although the events of the afternoon have already been well reported in our excellent local paper, it seems but fitting that there should be a still more permanent record of the kindness then shewn, in the pages of the Parish Magazine. Shortly after tea there was a gathering upon the lawn, and unmistakable evidence that some event was near at hand. First the teachers of the Sunday School presented to Mrs. Bligh a very beautiful copy of Tennyson's Poems. Then there was a present by both Boys' and Girls' Schools (in each case including the teachers as well as children) to the Vicar and Mrs. Bligh. These were vases for table decorations, and an ornamental earthenware umbrella stand. Willie Dobson, Mrs. Bligh's godson, gave her a pretty basket of flowers. Then Mr. de Ritchie received a testimonial from the teachers of the Boys' and Girls' Schools, respectively, an inkstand from the former, and a copy of Hymns Ancient and Modern from the latter. The assembled company then moved into the field, where a platform had been erected and a strange looking building behind, formed of the tops of the Parish Tea tables draped with some of the Vicarage window curtains. This building sheltered a very precious and most handsome "Grandfather Clock," the kind present of the whole parish to the Vicar and Mrs. Bligh. We never saw a more handsome clock, nor do we believe one could be found. Throughout the afternoon there was a continual gathering round the platform, of parishioners admiring the beauty of their present, and listening to the chimes which were made to strike the quarters, in quick succession, on Harrington Tubes. At seven o'clock a large number assembled round the enclosure, and the presentation was made by Mr. H. Bowling-Treanion, in behalf of the Committee and all the 290 subscribers. The Vicar endeavoured to express his gratitude for the kindness and love evinced by this memento of his parishioners' good feeling, and also for the memorial signed some time since, begging him to reconsider his decision to leave Hampton Hill. He assured them of his love for them, and that neither he or Mrs. Bligh could ever forget them, or the time which they had spent amongst them. One more present was given by the Organist and the Choir, consisting of two photographs, beautifully mounted and framed, of the interior of S. James' Church. A testimonial in the shape of a purse of money from the parishioners was then made to Mr. de Ritchie, who has just completed his third year as Curate of Hampton Hill. The inscription on the brass plate on the clock was as follows:—"Presented by his old parishioners and friends to the Hon. & Rev. Henry Bligh, on his leaving the parish, after being nearly twelve years vicar of Hampton Hill, as a mark of affectionate regard to himself and the Hon. Mrs. Bligh, June 3rd, 1893.

Our Schools.—We must not forget to gather in the subscriptions upon which our Schools so much depend. Owing to a press of other matters the collectors have not yet been round, but may now be expected shortly. We give a list of subscribers for 1892 and trust that this list may be fully maintained and supplemented by the names of additional subscribers:—

CHURCH CALENDAR

FOR

JULY, 1893.

1	S	Induction of the New Vicar at 5 p.m., by the Ven. Archdeacon THORNTON, D.D.
2	S	5th after Trinity. Celebrations, 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.
3	M	
4	Tu	
5	W	
6	Th	
7	F	
8	S	
9	S	
10	M	Flower, Fruit, and Honey Show, Manor House.
11	Tu	
12	W	
13	Th	
14	F	
15	S	
16	S	7th after Trinity. Celebrations, 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.
17	M	Working Men's Club and Institute Athletic Sports.
18	Tu	
19	W	
20	Th	
21	F	
22	S	
23	S	
24	M	Communicants' Class, C., Vicarage, 8 p.m.
25	Tu	S. James. Celebrations, 7.30 a.m. and 10 a.m.
26	W	Communicants' Class, A., Vicarage, 2.30 p.m.
		" " B., " 8 p.m.
27	Th	National Schools Treat, Vicarage Gardens. Service for Children, 3.15 p.m.
28	F	
29	S	
30	S	9th after Trinity. Celebrations, 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Anniversary Services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Children's Service, 3.30 p.m.
31	M	

WEEK-DAY SERVICES.

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. 5.30 p.m.
 Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. 10 a.m.