

# HAMPTON HILL PARISH MAGAZINE.

THE VICARAGE,

*March 1st, 1896.*

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

There is a comparatively small number of matters calling for special notice this month. Last time I addressed you there were the many festive gatherings of Christmas to refer to; now we have passed into the calm season of Lent, with its special services and suggestive lessons, and it is to these I would chiefly direct your attention, only briefly mentioning one or two other matters first.

During last month we commenced to open the Eastbank Mission Room one evening a week, from 7.30 to 9, for the members of the G.F.S. It is intended to be partly for sewing or some other useful occupation, and partly for recreation. It is not intended that girls who are in situations should expect to get an extra evening out for this, but it was felt that in all probability there were many girls who, when they had a free evening, might be glad to spend it in the way suggested. And, from the number already availing themselves of it, it seems likely to meet a want.

The Annual Meeting of the Working Men's Club took place on the 20th ult. The Report was of a very cheering character, and showed that the Club is in a flourishing condition. A spirit of reserve is noticeable with regard to the future, owing to the fact that largely increased liabilities have been incurred in connection with the new billiard table and the enlarged room, but it is felt that there is every reason to hope that these liabilities will be fully met in the current year. Most of the officers were re-elected to their old positions, one or two new names appearing on the Committee.

The Dramatic Entertainment on the 14th proved to be one of the most successful we have had. The room was crowded in every part, and the performances were thoroughly well executed throughout, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Those who took part were Mrs. Harkness, the Misses Foster, Miss Isdell, Miss Hanrott,

Messrs. W. C. B. Hall, Lightfoot, Gerald Hodgson, C. Bourne, Reginald Hall, and Dudley Larcombe, to all of whom we are much indebted, as well as to Miss Storey for her bright music, and to the ladies and gentlemen who arranged and decorated the stage, and to Mr. Dowsett for his valuable attendance at the door.

A Sacred Concert is being arranged to take place during the month. This is a new departure in connection with our Winter Entertainments, and the Committee earnestly hope that it will meet with the support it deserves.

The offertories for the Bishop of London's Fund on the 16th show an increase of more than £4 upon last year. The object is one of the best to which our help can be given; it is to supply the spiritual needs of the densely populated poor parishes in the diocese of London.

I am sorry to say we are losing the services of our excellent Infant School Mistress, Miss Gass, who has been with us about two years. The Managers received most excellent testimony of Miss Gass's ability and character when they appointed her, and that testimony has been more than confirmed by the good work she has done in the School. The Managers part with Miss Gass with great regret. However, we are all very glad that she will still be a parishioner, and I am quite sure that she will receive universal good wishes for her future happiness.

Most of our Confirmation candidates will be Confirmed at St. Alban's, Teddington, on Monday, the 9th instant, at 7 p.m. Twenty-four are attending the classes, about eighteen of whom will be Confirmed this year. Parents and friends are invited to be present at the Confirmation.

So far the special Lent Services have been well attended, and I hope will continue to be so. May I repeat the points, to which I drew attention on Sunday evening last, which seem to me to embrace some of the main considerations that should occupy the minds of Christians during Lent? First there should be self-examination, with the prayer "Show me myself," to ascertain our faults and deficiencies,

then there should be a determined effort, by God's help, to "put off" the old faults, which disfigure and spoil our characters, and to "put on the New Man"—the characteristics of the true Christian—that we may "adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things."

Secondly, there should be an exercise of self-denial, even in things lawful in themselves, that we may the better gain self-control; "that the flesh may be subdued to the spirit," and that we may have something more to give to the work of God. (A list of objects to which any special gifts might be allocated will be found below, only by way of suggestion).

Thirdly, there might well be some extra study of the Word of God, such a book, for instance, as the Epistle to the Ephesians might be taken and read, a few verses at a time, with thought, and if possible by the aid of a Commentary. "Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly with all wisdom."

Fourthly, there should be an effort to make prayer a greater reality; to make it the natural outflowing of a heart full of love to God and man. This applies to all prayer, private and public. How solemn and how thrilling our services would be if the hearts of all present went throughout with the words that were used! The words of Jacob most fitly apply to the Church where such prayer is offered,—“This is none other than the house of God, and this is the very gate of heaven,”—and every one present would feel it so.

Fifthly, there might well be a more regular participation in the Holy Communion on the part of some, and a return to the custom on the part of those who have become neglectful, and a desire on the part of all to draw nearer to Christ in this beautiful service than ever we have done before.

May the season be abundantly blessed to us all.

I am, my dear Friends,

Yours very sincerely,

CHARLES R. JOB.

A list of objects to which any special **Lenten Offerings** might be given:—

*The Parochial Fund (which includes relief to the Sick and Needy).*

*The Day Schools.*

*The Sunday Schools.*

*The Curate's Fund.*

*The Lads' Brigade.*

*The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts.*

*The Church Missionary Society.*

*The British and Foreign Bible Society.*

*The Hampton Almshouses.*

*"Waifs and Strays" Society.*

Any sums entrusted to the Vicar will be sent to their proper quarter.

BAPTISMS.

"Grant, O Lord, that they may have power and strength to have victory and to triumph, against the Devil, the World and the Flesh. Amen."

Feb. 9.—Leslie Mason.

„ 9.—Arthur James Reid.

„ 9.—Vera Hopley.

MARRIAGE.

"O Lord, send them help from Thy Holy Place, and evermore mightily defend them."

Feb. 11.—John Chipperfield to Jeanette Isabella Brown.

BURIAL.

Feb. 18.—Olivia Lucas, aged 47.

OFFERTORIES.

	11 a.m.		7 p.m.		TOTAL
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
Feb. 2.—Curate's Fund...	3	13 2	1	7 0	5 0 2
„ 9.—General Fund...	2	19 0	1	4 11	4 3 11
„ 16.—Bishop of London's Fund	8	7 11	3	9 8	11 17 7
„ 23.—General Fund...	3	2 3	1	1 9	4 4 0
Poor Fund (Early Celebrations)—Feb. 3, 10/-; Feb. 9, 7/5; Feb. 16, 5/8; Feb. 23, 7/1	...	...	...	...	1 10 2
Children's Services (Missions)—Feb. 2, 1/6; Feb. 9, 6/1; Feb. 16, 2/9; Feb. 23, 2/9	...	...	...	...	0 13 1
Special Celebrations—Feb. 20, 11/-; Feb. 24, (St. Matthias' Day), 3/-	...	...	...	...	0 14 0

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