

April

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HAMPTON HILL PARISH MAGAZINE.

S.S. "Cuzco"

THE MEDITERRANEAN,

Near CRETE,

March 21st, 1904.

MY DEAR FRIENDS.

Our voyage is now approaching its end. Since my last letter we have visited Syracuse in Sicily, where St. Paul was allowed to stay for three days when he was being taken as a prisoner to Rome, and where he was the first to preach the Gospel. We crossed the mouth of the Adriatic Sea, where the same Apostle was "driven up and down" for three days in a storm. We have "sailed under Crete," and seen its high mountains covered with snow. We landed at Rhodes, an island visited by St. Paul on his third missionary journey. It was once the chief naval power in the world, but now belongs to Turkey. The Crusaders had possession of it for many years, and upon many of the houses are still the coats of arms of members of the English nobility. From Rhodes we went to Cyprus, famous in early Christian times for its missionary spirit. St Paul passed through it from east to west with St. Barnabas, and won the Deputy, Sergius Paulus, to Christianity at Paphos. Happily Cyprus now belongs to England, and everywhere you see the results of British rule: order, cleanliness and prosperity. The Mohammedan feast of Beiram was going on when we were there, and the natives were dressed in their gayest costumes and looked most picturesque. From Cyprus we went to Beyrout, in Syria, a large prosperous seaport. As we approached land we could see the whole range of the mountains of Lebanon covered with snow. We took train at Beyrout, and crossed the Lebanon at a height of 4800 feet and descended to Damascus, one of the oldest cities in the world and still great and prosperous. It is surrounded with immense orchards of apricot and other fruit trees, and looks extremely beautiful from the hills. The streets are narrow and

dirty, and crowded with Arabs, Jews and Greeks. We crossed the rivers Abana and Pharpar, which Naaman the Syrian thought "better than all the waters of Israel." We visited the house of Naaman; the place of St. Paul's conversion; the house of Ananias, and many other historical sites. From Damascus we went to Baalbek, where we saw the ruins of what once were the most beautiful heathen temples in the world, dedicated to the worship of Baal. Some of the single stones of the temples are said to weigh over 1000 tons, and no one knows by what means they were put in their places. At Beyrout, Damascus and at Baalbek, I visited the British Syrian Schools and heard the children sing both in Arabic and in English. The most useful missionary work seems to be amongst the children. From Beyrout we went to Jaffa, the ancient Joppa, and there we saw the house of "Simon the Tanner, by the sea shore," where St. Peter stayed. The whole neighbourhood is a vast orange grove. From Jaffa we went by train to Jerusalem, the most interesting city in the world to Christians. It is scarcely possible to enumerate all the sacred sites we visited. We stood on the Mount of Olives and looked on the City from the spot on which the Saviour stood when He approached it from Jericho and pronounced its doom. We visited Calvary and the Holy Sepulchre, and the site of Solomon's Temple, the tombs of the Kings, Solomon's stables with their 3000 pillars, Solomon's quarries, the pools of Gihon, Hezekiah, Siloam, and Bethesda, the garden of Gethsemane, the Valley of Hinnom, &c. We went to Bethlehem and saw the cave in which it is said the Saviour was born. We saw the "fields in which Shepherds watched their flocks by night," when they heard the angels' announcement of the Birth. We went "down from Jerusalem to Jericho," under a guard of four cavalry-men, because the road is still infested with robbers. Jericho is now a small village of mud huts, occupied mainly by Nubians and Arabs. We tasted the water of the Dead

Sea, which covers the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, and we stood by the Jordan where the Israelites crossed, where John the Baptist preached and where Jesus was baptised. From the Holy Land we went to Egypt, and saw all that was left of Heliopolis, where Moses was brought up and became "learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians." We visited the pyramids of Ghizeh, the tombs of kings who lived nearly 6000 years ago, and one of whom employed 100,000 slaves for 30 years to build his tomb and make a road to it. We went to Memphis, where we saw two immense statues of Rameses II, the king "who knew not Joseph," and who for 66 years cruelly oppressed the children of Israel. We went up the Nile, and were shown the place where Pharaoh's daughter found the infant Moses in the cradle of bulrushes. In the museum we saw the mummied body of the Pharaoh of the Exodus. Egypt is showing everywhere the happy effects of British rule, and the towns are prosperous, clean and orderly. We are now on our way home, having yet to visit Palermo, Naples and Pompeii. The voyage has been a delightful experience that one will never forget and for which I can never be too thankful; but, after all, the trees and green fields of England will be very pleasant to look upon, and one feels more than ever that there is no better place to live in than England, and no rule better than English rule.

I am, my dear Friends,

Yours very sincerely,

CHARLES R. JOB.

OFFERTORIES.

	11 a.m.		7 p.m.		TOTAL.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Feb. 28—Church Expenses ...	3	16 11	1	5 4	5	2 3
Mar. 6—Curate's Fund ...	3	6 9	1	19 8	5	6 5
„ 13—Church Expenses ...	4	0 10	1	10 9	5	11 7
„ 20—Church Expenses ...	4	6 6	1	9 8	5	16 2
„ 9—Archbishop Temple Memorial Fund... ..					1	2 6
Early Celebrations (Poor Fund) Feb. 28, 4/7; Mar. 6, 5/10; Mar. 13, 6/10; Mar. 20, 6/2					1	3 5
Children's Services (Missions), Feb. 28, 1/6; Mar. 6, 2/-; Mar. 13, 2/-; Mar. 20, 4/6					0	10 0
Special Celebrations, Feb. 24, St. Matthias, 2/-; Feb. 25th, Thursday, 8/7; Mar. 3rd, Thursday, 6/6; Mar. 10, 8/2; Mar. 17, 8/5					1	13 8
					£26	6 0

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."

- Mar. 13—James David Frampton.
- „ 13—Violet Anne Godwin.

MARRIAGES.

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

- Feb. 24—Daniel Sebire to Amy Steadman.
- „ 25—George Avery to Florence Elizabeth Manning.

BURIALS.

"I am the resurrection and the life saith the Lord, he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live, and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die."—*St. John*, xi, 25, 26.

- Feb. 24—Hugh McPherson, aged 5 years.
- „ 26—Elizabeth Maynard, aged 83 years.
- Mar. 1—William Samuel Biffin, aged 71 years.
- „ 12—Harriet Elsam, aged 79 years.
- „ 19—Reginald Napier Sherwood, aged 9 months.
- „ 21—Richard Archer Springle, aged 65 years.

HYMNS FOR THE MONTH.

DATE.	MORNING.	AFTERNOON.	EVENING.
Good Friday	114 111 101	625	102 120 122 123
Easter Eve.	...	...	125 132 141
Easter Day.	134 135 499	134 125	134 Anthem
	497	197	137 129 140
April 6	...	...	126 pt. 1, 132
„ 10	131 Anthem,	566 504	131 Anthem,
	126 pt. 2, 302 504	569	499 130 136
„ 13	...	...	125 130
„ 17	127 128	334 571	133 139 141
		333	
„ 20	...	...	301 504
„ 24	500 132 137	330 335	501 271 232
		337	
„ 27	..	...	410 197