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PRICE ONE PENNY

FEB. 15, 1901

THE CHURCH MESSENGER

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE
FOR
THE PEOPLE . . .

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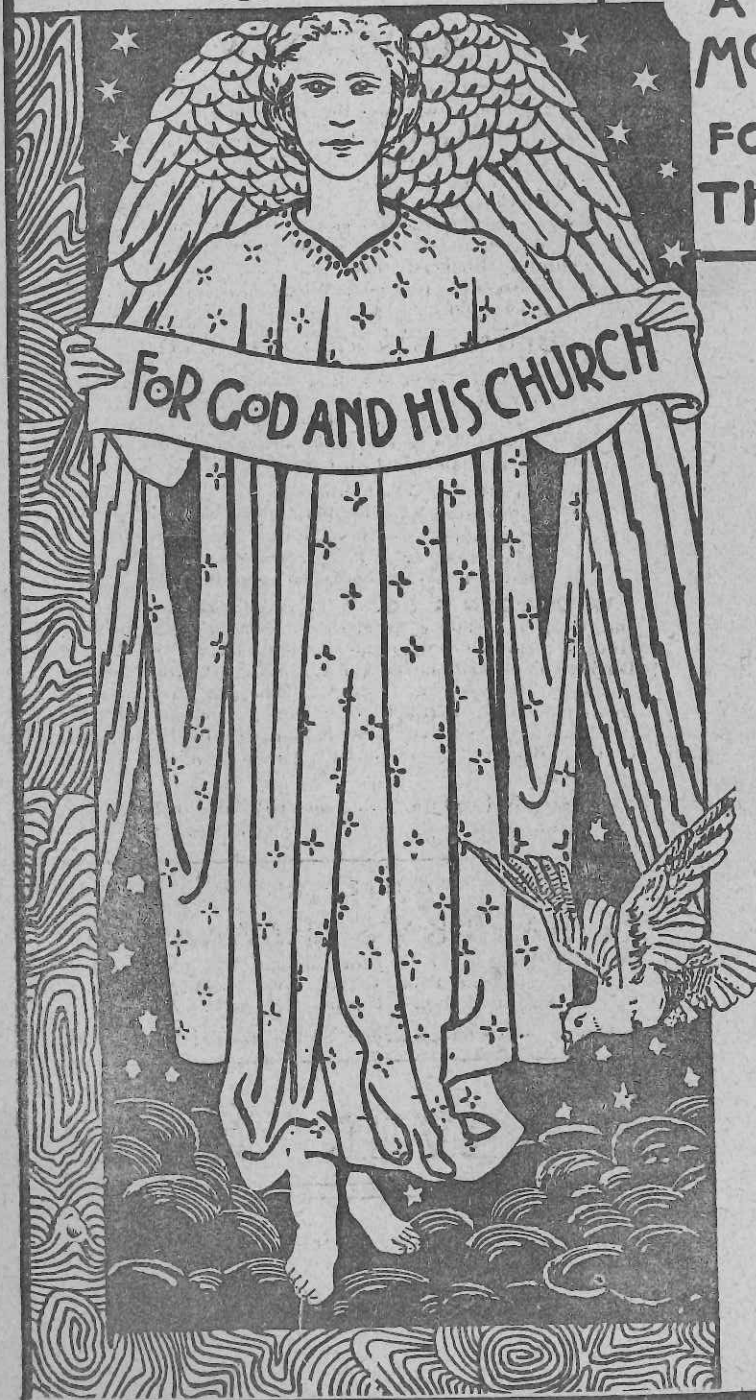
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VOL. VII. NO. 7. LAUNCESTON, TASMANIA, FEBRUARY 15, 1901. PRICE, 1d.

QUEEN VICTORIA.

BRITANNIA'S bulwarks of the ocean have thundered forth their final minute gun; the last roll of the muffled drum and the farewell wail of the clarion have mournfully sounded their requiem, while all that is mortal of our late beloved sovereign have been borne in solemn, sombre, stately pageant to their abiding resting-place. Never before in the world's history have there been such universal manifestations of the deepest sorrow, by a people bewailing the loss of their monarch. Not only in the home land and her vast, populous, and vigorous offshoots have there been lamentations, but throughout all the civilisation of Europe, and in far-away, distant heathen lands, touching and deeply sympathetic voices have been raised in deploring Britain's irretrievable loss, one and all alike sincerely rendering an affectionate tribute to her inestimable worth, her true nobility of character, her fervent

patriotism, and her blameless life. A world-wide Empire, the greatest earth has ever known, mourned, and is still mourning, this passing away of one who was all that was good, all that was true, all that was noble. She lived for her people, heart and soul, thoroughly and faithfully, an embodiment of a perfectly consistent Christian life, and of all that became the ruler of a mighty nation. As maiden, wife, and widow, for over sixty years, she stood before her people in the full glare which beats upon royalty, passing faithfully and triumphantly through the trying ordeal. She deeply loved her trusting, faithful subjects, and deeply they loved her. No wonder, then, that when she was called away they mourned for her, as for one of their own most near and dear. Although our good Queen's later years brought their full share of labour and sorrow—sorrow for the loss of her own, and of tried and lifelong, faithful friends; sorrow for a host of her stricken warriors, fighting for Queen and country in distant lands—still, we

would that she had been spared for yet a little longer. But now that she has been taken away, heartfelt gratitude is ours that she was allowed to reign over us for so many years beyond life's usual span, and that her closing days were free from pain and peaceful. To attempt to briefly summarise the direct and indirect beneficent results emanating from the example of her long and useful life and reign were a task too great to undertake. That these results have been manifold and far-reaching all will conscientiously allow, also that they have been a prominent factor in making good old England what she is—the foster parent of liberty and advancement all the world over, with the will and the power to stoutly sustain her proud position. Long, long will the memory of our late most gracious sovereign last. Long, long will our children and their children's children sing her well-won praises, and further afield her name will be handed down to the succeeding generations as England's good and noble Queen Victoria.

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LENT.

IF we are faithful to the leading of our Church we shall feel that we come on Ash Wednesday to a sort of pause in the current of our social and domestic life. We all know how smoothly that often runs, and how the intervals of work and daily care and trouble are filled up with recreation and comfort, so that if we would allow it years might pass by without our at all realising how we are living and what is before us. Even when God visits us with affliction, with sickness or bereavement, we often think it a duty to keep as cheerful and active as we can, lest we give way to unprofitable regret. This, however, is not altogether wise. There is a time to weep as well as a time to laugh, and sorrow has precious lessons, which too many, alas! altogether miss. Still, remembering how sorely disturbed the mind often is by sickness and grief, so that meditation and prayer become very difficult, and sometimes even impossible for us, it does not seem doubtful that if we can bring before ourselves in quietness, without the distraction of great pain of body or mind, the deeper aspects of our life, those which concern us as sinful creatures passing through a period of trial before we are summoned to the presence of the Holy One, the help to our spiritual life must be real.

This is one great meaning of a season of fasting. It is essentially an interruption of lives more or less led in self-indulgence, forgetfulness, and worldly cares. We are called upon to stop, reflect, realise our actual condition and position, and to begin with a new vigour to prepare for the end. Four things are suggested to us by the services of Ash Wednesday. They may be said to concern Godly fear, repentance, discipline, and fellowship.

We are to remember the infinite holiness of God. He is light and love, and in every sin we choose darkness and selfishness. Whatever punishment it pleases Him to inflict upon us, we can only say "We indeed receive the due reward of our deeds." But, on the other hand, there is no sin which is inevitable. There is sorrow in the Fatherly heart while He terrifies and

afflicts us. If we will only turn to Him, He will turn to us. This is of the essence of repentance. God must be directly before us. We must confess to Him. We are grieved with ourselves for sinning. He is more grieved. We must say "Against Thee only have I sinned," and then "Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean, Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow." But then we must discipline ourselves. Almost all our sins come from want of self-control—that is, the sins of those who fear God. What they need is power to please God and not themselves, and it is this that fasting is intended to give us.

We are bound to keep Lent, we know. We must keep it in some way, or we shall on Ash Wednesday and through Lent be mocking God if we declare before Him that we turn to Him in fasting, pray Him to give us grace to use abstinence, sing hymns professing the same intention. We are bound to embody our prayers and hymns in some acts, in some temporary change of life. The moment we give ourselves over to professions in church before God which have no application in our life we cut ourselves off, not only from God's grace, but even from true belief of any kind. How can so many Christian people draw near to God, as at this time they seem to do, with their lips only? Have we ceased to connect profession with practice? We call ourselves Churchmen, we are ready to bite and devour one another over a ceremony, a detail, and yet we simply set aside the distinct teaching of the Church when it inconveniences us. Some of us wish the Bishop would tell us exactly how to keep Lent. That may come in due time, not just in the immediate future, we think. But he will never cease to remind us that it is at our peril that we fail to observe this season at all, and lose all the lessons it has to teach. We must make our own rules, it seems, at present. Well, let us make them—simple rules, such as shall express to us in some the meaning of this holy time, these weeks of preparation for the contemplation close at hand of the Saviour dying on the cross for us—rules that remind us that for our sakes He fasted forty days and forty nights. Let these

be made and honestly kept, and they cannot fail to make us better men and women. And he who shows in his life the effect of this self-discipline, not hiding the fact that he is obeying the Church, not afraid to confess that he observes her rule, will never fail to help others to do the same. No one ever saved his soul alone.

THE LATE BISHOP OF LONDON.

EARLY in January arrived the news of the death of the Right Rev. Mandell Creighton, Bishop of London. He was born in 1843, and was therefore under 60 years of age at the time of his death. He held the doctor's degree in the great Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, of Durham, and Dublin, of Glasgow, and of Harvard (U.S.A.). Amongst other important positions, he had occupied the chair of Ecclesiastical History at Cambridge, a canon's stall in Worcester Cathedral, and the See of Peterborough. From this latter he was translated to the See of London in 1896. He stood among the foremost Church historians of Europe; he was in the best sense of the word statesman as well as Bishop, and in his last three years as Bishop of London he has performed a very difficult and delicate task in an eminently wise and able spirit. But, apart from his brilliant University career, and his Episcopal work at Peterborough and in London, there was a part of his life not known to all. His special care for the younger clergy in his diocese, his kindly consideration and judicious counsel, his love for children and keen interest in young people, all these go to make up what he was to all who knew him. He will be missed by many, from the highest to the lowest, who, while they justly admired the scholar and historian, will never forget a true "Father in God."

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PATAGONIA.

WHERE is it?" is the question at once asked by most people. Some of us at any rate have had our ignorance dispelled on this subject recently. On January 25 in S. John's schoolroom, Launceston, Mr. Jonathan C. Davies, who has resided for 16 years in this unknown part of South America, gave a most interesting and instructive "Talk on Patagonia." With the assistance of a map he pointed out that the country is in the same latitude as Tasmania. In describing the country, Mr. Davies said that from the Andes to the Atlantic Ocean it is a level plain and well watered by several rivers. It contains a colony of Welsh people, numbering several thousand. A British man-of-war visits them from time to time, and when the colony numbers 20,000 they will be able to apply for a Governor to be appointed. The lecturer described the natural resources of the country, the settlement by the Welsh, and also dealt with the native races, describing particularly the Indians. He succeeded in sustaining the interest of the audience for two hours, and the only regret was that we had been unable, through short notice, to get a much larger crowd to welcome Mr. Davies. The lecturer intends to return to Patagonia shortly after a visit to the old country.

OUR NOTE BOOK.

WE are sorry that no account of the proceedings of Synod, which is convened for the 10th inst. can possibly appear in this month's issue. It would delay our publication too long to wait for it. We understand that much of great importance will be brought forward. There is also to be some controversy. Let us hope it may not be bitter! A free ventilation of matters, provided the debates are seasoned with charity, always does good; but when men, ill-versed in history, and even less well read in liturgical matters, and not at all strikingly prominent for their devotion of heart or sanctity of life, will pose as "censors of wrath," then the position is either a very painful or an egregiously ludicrous one. It is mostly

the former, as there is often in such men a spice of earnestness and a hundredweight of spleen, and the effect is painful beyond the expression of words. Sometimes, however, the outcome is a source of much amusement, though not to the chief actor. Old Cervantes' hero, Don Quixote, tilting, to his cost, at windmills, has his counterpart in those individuals who both overrate their knowledge and their strength, and in tilting instead of running, which nature meant them to do, are brought to mother earth. For such there is no pity.

Many subscribers have failed to help us by withholding monies due to the "Messenger" for the year that is past, although their subscriptions are now due for the current year as well. Let them bear in mind the well-worn application about brick making and a laxity of straw.

The "one Archdeacon scheme," as it is somewhat unpoetically called, is meeting with some, though not weighty, opposition from certain quarters. It has been suggested that, in order to make up the necessary income, an increase of three half-crowns be charged by the Diocesan Registrar—making 15s in all—for each marriage license. Some clergy are alarmed at this, as they believe many, who are now married in the Church of England, may be led, for cheapness' sake, to use other agents. But is there any need at all to increase the fee? If the clergy paid in all they got from this source it would not be a serious loss, and the gain to the Diocese from the active work of a real Archdeacon, would compensate those in question tenfold. Many a great scheme has been crippled and rendered abortive through lack of generosity. In things agricultural the ground asks for nutriment and seed before it promises a harvest. It is much the same in every department of life. Be near, and mean,

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and parsimonious, either over the education of a child, or in the preparation for the thousand vocations of life, and the death and sterility following come as a natural consequence. In all truth our diocese needs the help and trained guidance now offered for a miserable £350 a year, and if the Church hasn't sufficient enterprise to rise to the occasion, she deserves to look thin and anaemic. We are restless, even to the verge of rudeness, with invertebrate churchmen who are eternally bemoaning our want of energy, and who, meanwhile, decry every effort, or scheme, or organisation, and, worse, never move a hand's turn to improve matters. Such men are so bent upon saving their well-filled pockets that nothing which may be even a light tax upon them will ever meet with their approval. If it were possible to induce the whole body of such to migrate to the Diocese of Patagonia, if there be such a place, or anywhere else equally distant, the Church amongst her poor and striving people would be richer and better for it. The latest phase of this intolerable meanness is to cry when the collecting lists are in view "Ritualism! Ritualism!" "We intend to found (as if any human being could found) a 'Reformed Church of England,' and we shall give our 'mite' to that!" It is significant that the word "mite" is used where "gold"—that idol so fondly worshipped—should have come. But, seriously speaking, is such a religion worth even a "mite?"

Compared with the Roman Catholic body, or with the Wesleyans, the Church of England in her corporate capacity in this Diocese is infinitely richer and better able to give. Yet what are the simple facts of the case? There are some splendid exceptions, honoured, solid names; but, speaking generally, all other Christian bodies in Tasmania give more freely than do our people. Take an instance! Speaking to a man, a nominal churchman, recently, he began to reflect generally upon the Bishop and Clergy. The Church wasn't keeping pace with the times, and things were, on the whole, seriously askew, and so on. It was some comfort to point out the real cause of all this to the person in ques-

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tion. He, though his income was four figures, gave a whole £1 per annum for the support of his clergyman, whom he described as an "earnest, intelligent fellow," whilst the servant maid in his house, who got 10s a week, gave £3 a year to her Church; but she was only a Roman Catholic! The shame and ignominy that lie at the door of such men should, for decency's sake, for they are men of education, close their mouths. In the face of all this one does not wonder that "death," with her awful revelations and consequences, is truly abhorrent to such minds.

UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS.

The Rev. A. C. Kellaway, M.A., has been inducted to the cure of Holy Trinity, Northcote, Melbourne.

The Bishop of North Queensland has received the £100 promised to him for a bell at the Cathedral, which is an anonymous "in memoriam" gift.

The Bishop of Tasmania has summoned the Diocesan Synod to meet on February 11. The special speaker at the opening will be the Bishop of Ballarat.

The Rev. R. C. N. Kelly, M.A., of All Saints', Bendigo, and formerly rector of S. John's, Launceston, has been appointed incumbent of All Saints', Geelong, vice Rev. J. C. Love.

The new church schools at Rockhampton have been opened. The building is said to be one of the handsomest structures in the city.

The Rev. Canon Boag has been forced to resign his position as sub-dean and canon of the North Queensland Cathedral through illness.

The Riverina Bishopric endowment fund is in a deplorable condition. During the past year the Bishop's stipend was considerably less than £250. Far too long has the diocese been kept in ignorance of the actual position of the fund.

The Right Rev. H. E. Cooper, who till lately has been coadjutor to the Bishop of Ballarat, has been unanimously appointed to the vacant see of Grafton and Armidale by the delegates appointed by the Synod of the diocese.

The Rev. Walter Tollis has been appointed by the Bishop to canvass the diocese of Newcastle for contributions towards the building fund of the new Cathedral. Between £8000 and £10,000 is yet needed to complete the structure.

The building of Brisbane Cathedral is becoming a more serious question every day. The Government require the land which it has purchased, and the authorities have notice to quit. No bishop could try more enthusiastically to get the money required before the stone can be laid.

THE CHURCH IN OTHER LANDS.

The Bishop of Llandaff has announced his intention of opening a million-shilling fund in aid of church extension and additional clergy in his diocese.

A strong resolution was passed recently in the diocese of Fredericton, whereby all the clergy pledged themselves to preach and use all their influence to oppose political bribery and corruption at elections, and to do all in their power to promote a higher standard of public sentiment in this matter.

The Primus of Scotland has secured the services of the Right Rev. W. M. Richardson, late Bishop of Zanzibar, as assistant Bishop of Brechin. Bishop Richardson will reside at Broughty Ferry, and be available at all times for affording such episcopal assistance in the diocese of Brechin as the state of health of the Primus may render necessary.

It is not generally known that Queen Victoria was canon of a cathedral in England—St. David's. The Royal family are very punctilious in remembering these points of privilege, so that when Princess Beatrice, visiting St. David's some years ago, was being shown by the verger into a special stall, she interrupted him with "I will take my mother's stall, thank you."

S. Paul's, Halifax, N.S., has held the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the church for divine worship. Though constructed entirely of wood, the church is in a perfect state of preservation. In its vaults repose the remains of the two Bishops Inglis, father and son, and on the east wall is a monument to their memory. The second Bishop is still remembered in Nova Scotia, and was at one time rector of the church. Bishop Inglis, formerly of New York, was the first colonial Bishop.

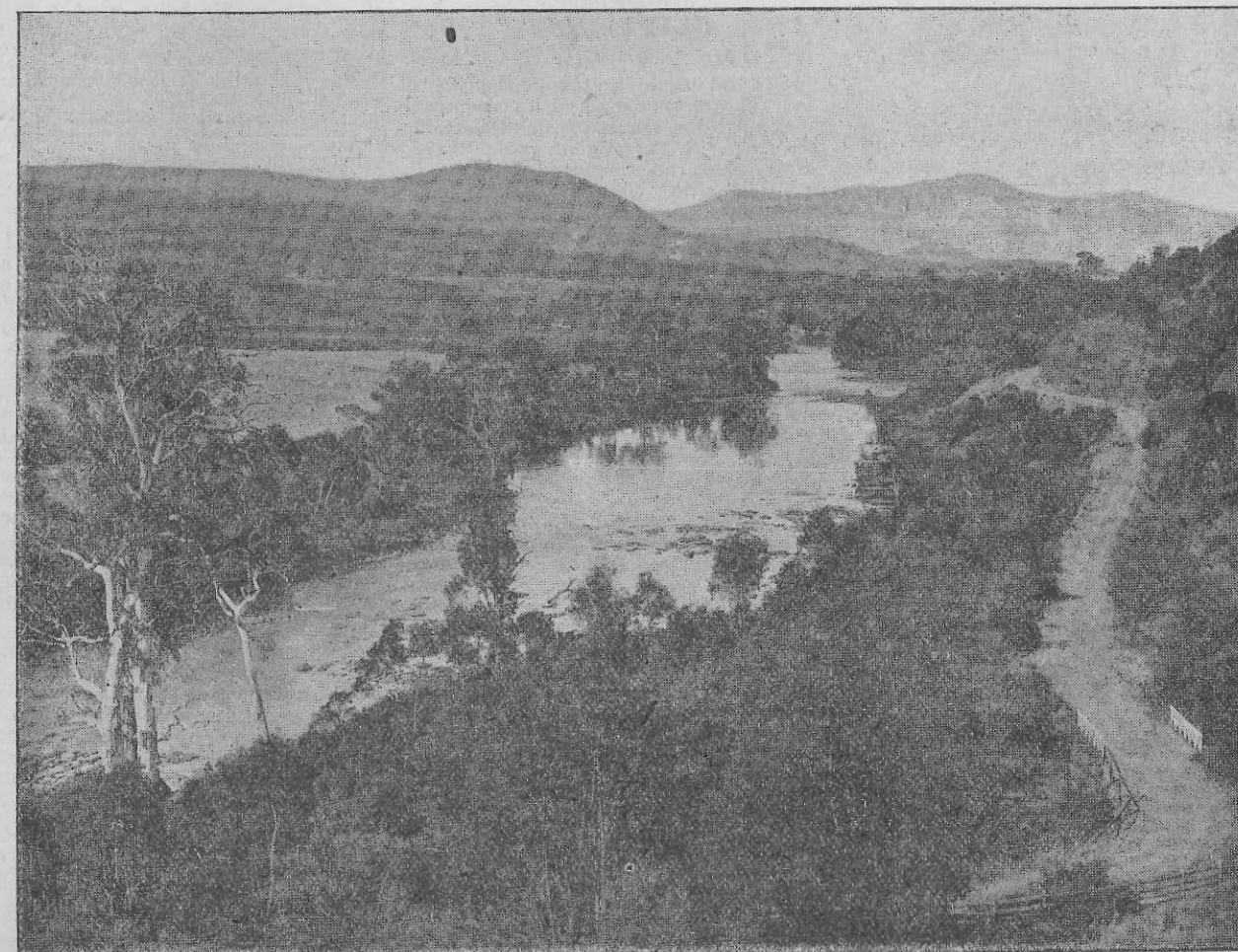
Dr. Maclear, warden of S. Augustine's College, Canterbury, has been presented with a large portrait of himself to mark the completion of twenty years of office. In the course of making the presentation, the Archbishop of Canterbury referred to the debt that the whole English Church owed to Dr. Maclear. It was further stated that his books had reached a circulation of 850,000 volumes. When Cronje capitulated at Paardeberg a Dutch copy of Maclear's "Old Testament History" was found in the camp.

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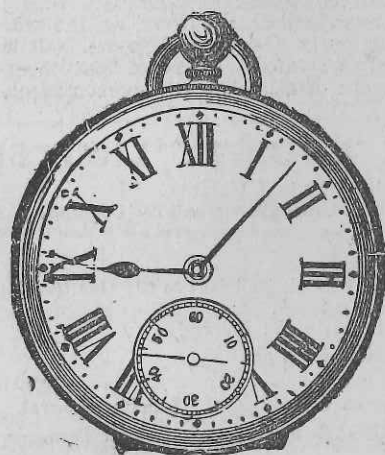
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The church of Lantwit Major, in the Vale of Glamorgan, which has just been reopened by the Bishop of Llandaff, claims to be the most ancient ecclesiastical centre in the British Isles. It is said that a daughter of Caractacus, mentioned by S. Paul under the name of Claudia, founded a Christian church there about A.D. 63. Around this religious sentiment there grew up the famous University of Britain, in which both S. David and S. Patrick received their education. The portion of the church now restored had not been utilised since John Wesley preached there more than 120 years ago. The present vicar, the Rev. E. W. Vaughan, is over 90 years of age, and was present as choir boy at the coronation of George IV., and as one of the clergy at that of Queen Victoria.

MISSIONARY.

The Bishop of New Guinea has returned to his diocese, taking with him a contingent of six missionaries, two returning from furlough and four recruits.

In Banks Islands, Melanesia, all seems well, but the Rev. T. C. Cullwick has not been able to make his annual visit, so that news is scarce. The Rev. H. V. Adams has made his first stay in these islands, where he will in future assist Mr. Cullwick.

The Rev. W. Edgell writes that he must have the island of Opa taken off his hands, as Maewo and Raga are as much as he can manage. These islands are full of new schools under very young teachers, and need constant supervision from the priest in charge.

The Rev. Simon Galges, native deacon in charge of the Torres Islands, writes full of zeal and hope. He has been able to get a few scholars from an island hitherto wholly heathen, and hopes at once to open a school there. He says he gets on well with his flock, who are now used to him.

At the Reefs Islands things seem going well, but at Santa Cruz proper there seems no advance. One of the few teachers is dead, and the moral tone among the Christians seems far from satisfactory. This is the most difficult post in all Melanesia. Race, language, and climate are all against us, and it is feared that Mr. O'Farrell's health will prevent him continuing his work in this group.

WILLIAM OLDHAM,

The South African Missionary Society has over seven hundred children attending its school in Buenos Ayres. The Government has expressed its desire that the children attending the national schools should be taught the Scriptures, and has shown its good opinion of the missionaries by handing over to them the care and direction of the Indians in Paraguay. The safety of the white settlers among the Indians there is attributed to the influence of the missionaries.

CLIPPINGS.

It is sad to think that in the twentieth century we should again be forced to combat the ignorance of "Christian Scientists." These good folk have lately opened up propaganda in Sydney and Melbourne. They argue—our Lord Jesus Christ gave His disciples authority to "heal the sick,"—therefore healing is one of the fundamental portions of the Christian religion. They forget that miracles are only "signs," i.e., visible demonstrations made for a purpose.

The gift of healing was granted "to confirm the Word," but when confirmation abounded on every side in the altered lives of those who had embraced Christianity, then this sign ceased. "The flower is gone because we have the fruit," says S. Chrysostom.—"The Church Commonwealth."

One of the tasks which the Church will have to face in real earnest early in the new century is that of remodeling the entire system of Sunday-school teaching. As an agency for good few will dispute the high position held for many years past by Sunday-schools, and we see no reason why they should not be made still more useful in the future. But to insure this result the Church must be prepared to change her methods in regard to Sunday-school work, with the view of adapting them to the altered conditions of the times. Better teaching, with an improved system of conducting Sunday-school work, will

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have to be provided if we want to keep our children in touch with Sunday-school life after they are old enough to discriminate between molly-coddling and useful instruction imparted in a systematic way.—"Scottish Standard Bearer."

We shall heartily welcome the time when Churchmen and Churchwomen refuse to provide for the maintenance of the worship of God by methods which Freemasons would indignantly repudiate if applied to the "up-keep" of a lodge. We know what is to be said about "sales of work," but we grow hopeless of "sales of work" ever being held without objectionable features displaying themselves sooner or later. The spirit of gambling is hard to kill even in Churchmen and Churchwomen who recognise in some things their responsibility towards others.—"Brisbane Church Chronicle."

Narrow puritanism is dead, and a wider, more tolerant spirit has taken its place. Party spirit has faded, but is now disappearing. The cold, formal services, with the duet between the parson and the clerk, are now things of the past—gone for ever, like the long discourses upon the moral virtues which lulled our grandfathers to sleep for thirty or forty minutes. Ritualistic extravagance seems to be dying out, and the new Church of the Empire is coming into sight. The historic reasons for non-conformity have one by one disappeared, and in larger and ever increasing numbers the children are returning to the Church of their fathers.—"Melbourne Church Messenger."

There is much bad taste shown in churches in the selection of hymns, and as much sometimes in choosing tunes for them. We notice that during the celebrations of last week someone presumably acquainted with Church music fitted Dr. Dykes's tune "Melita," composed for the beautiful hymn, "Eternal Father, Strong to Save," to Kipling's "Recessional." This noble tune, in which, when fittingly rendered, can almost be heard the rise and fall of "the rude, imperious surge," is about as unsuitable to "Recessional"—which is not a hymn—as anything could well be. And because it is not a hymn, there is not a hymn tune in its metre which does not seem unsuitable to it. But we doubt if any so shockingly incongruous as "Melita" could have been chosen. Kipling has not given us anything so fine as this poem, because for once he is restrained and austere; but he did not write a hymn, and he certainly did not intend to write a song. Why in the name of all good taste should it be sung at all?—"The Church Commonwealth."

TEMPERANCE JOTTINGS

A return of six months' crime in London shows that over three-fourths of the criminals were under the influence of liquor at the time of the offence with which they were charged.

Manitoba's Prohibition Bill, which confines the sale of intoxicants for use in the arts, medicines and sacraments, to druggists who take out special licences, is, after a bitter fight, now the law of that large province of Canada.

Since January of last year the following has been a part of the German Code:—"He who is not able to look after his own affairs on account of drunkenness, exposing his family to want, and endangering the safety of others, may be proclaimed a minor."

The Bishop of Stepney, speaking at Whitechapel, said recently:—"The Church must try to create healthy public opinion, and set itself to watch carefully the drink traffic, because, as Lord Rosebery had truly said, unless the State controlled the liquor traffic, the liquor traffic would control the State."

A memorial was presented to the Colonial Secretary, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, on behalf of the "Native Races and Liquor Traffic Committee," for the restriction of the supply of liquor to native races in South Africa. Mr. Rhodes, Sir S. Shippard, Mr. Lionel Philips and other administrators were quoted in support. Mr. Chamberlain replied that he was entirely in sympathy with the memorialists, and would use whatever influence he had in promoting their aims.

The following remarkable words are those of Mr. Chamberlain, the Colonial Secretary:—"No statistics are needed to assure you that temperance reform lies at the bottom of all further political, social, and religious progress. Drink is the curse of the country. It ruins the fortunes, it injures the health, it destroys the lives of one in twenty of our population; and anything which can be done to diminish this terrible sacrifice of human life and human happiness, is worthy of all the attention and study that we can give it. The agitation will go on without us if not with us. If we are silent, the very stones would cry out! If there is in the whole of this drink business any single encouraging feature, it is to be found in the growing impatience of the people at the burden which they are forced to bear, and their growing in-

dignation and sense of shame and disgrace which it imposes upon them. . . . If I could destroy to-morrow the desire for strong drink in the people of England, what changes should we see! We should see our taxes reduced by millions sterling. We should see our gaols and workhouses empty. We should see more lives saved in twelve months than are consumed in a century of bitter and savage war."

GEMS OF THOUGHT.

"They are never alone who are occupied with noble thoughts."—Sir Philip Sydney.

"A man always makes himself greater by increasing his knowledge."—Dr. Johnson.

"We know accurately only when we know little; with knowledge doubt increases."—Goethe.

"Experience is unquestionably the surest standard by which to test everything."—Washington.

"Truth does not require your painting; it is in itself beauty—Unfold it and men will be captivated."—Dr. Thomas.

"Father Time, though he carries for none, often lays his hand lightly on those who have used him well."—Dickens.

"Since the generality of men act from impulse, men are neither so good nor so bad as we are apt to think them."—Hare.

"I should say sincerity—a deep, great, genuine sincerity—is the first characteristic of all men in any way heroic."—Carlyle.

"Every man has a bag hanging before him in which he puts his neighbours' faults, and another behind him in which he stows his own."—Shakespeare.

"The peace of society dependeth upon justice; the happiness of individuals on the safe enjoyment of all their possessions."—Dodsley.

DULL DAYS AND DARK NIGHTS
are very unpleasant, but a pound of O.K. Candles will brighten the gloom

"The true philosophy of life is to endeavour to realise our aspirations—to live our best thoughts, which visit us in our better movements."—J. Johnson.

"Don't be a cynic; don't bewail and moan; don't waste yourself in dejection, nor bark against the bad; but chant the beauty of the good, set down nothing that will not help somebody."—Emerson.

GATHERINGS.

A grudge is like a coal of fire; the longer you hold it the deeper it burns, and it burns nobody but you.

He is tenderest, not who has sinned, as is sometimes vainly thought, but who has known best the power of sin by overcoming it.

When our self-will is brought down, our power of resistance broken, and we are utterly out of joint, so that we can wrestle no more, then we fall right over upon God, and we cling because we cannot claim. Then we prevail as Jacob did, not by the strength of his wrestling, but by the weakness of his clinging.

Believe your way through your own unbelief, yea, even though the raging storm should tear off every rag of covering you have on; and though faith can hold on no longer, why then, let faith go, and cling only to his faithfulness. He is faithful that promised, even though you are faithless that trusted. Yea, shout it out in the teeth of the tempest—"He cannot deny himself," "He cannot deny himself."

Do you think that because you are a Christian, you can now do without the Word, without, I mean, constant fresh meals of the Word. A man might as well think because he is too hot in the summer that he can do without a fire in the winter. . . . Spend some of the summer sun in storing in the Word for winter fires. Green wood burns badly, but well seasoned wood, such as texts well turned over in prayerful meditation, burns brightest, especially if you drop upon them a little fresh oil of the Spirit. But beware of a too strong controversial bellows, which is apt, in making a good blaze, to drive all the heat up the chimney. The best fire is when the dead ashes of old experiences and worn out phrases are well cleared out first, and some fresh resinous logs of the word are laid liberally on, but not packed too closely together, for this will exclude the air, and then the whole is well ignited with the fire of the Holy Ghost.

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ODDS AND ENDS.

"In all cases where a male is mentioned, it shall embrace a female." This is one of the standing orders of the Canterbury (N.Z.) Synod.

* * *

The following police regulation, "in view of the earlier approach of darkness," is being widely posted in the North of Ireland:—"Until further notice every vehicle must carry a light when darkness begins. Darkness always begins as soon as the lamps are lit."

* * *

At the meeting of the Baptist Union at Leicester, last October, one of the speakers told a story of a clergyman, who, it is said, found himself at church one morning without his sermon. "My dear brethren," he exclaimed, "I can only give you now what God will send me. But to-night I will come better prepared."

* * *

A letter of a young clergyman, in a contemporary, complaining that he has been subject to insult when travelling third-class on the railway, has evoked the following story from another correspondent:—A clergyman was dining in an hotel with some commercial travellers, who made jokes about him. He moved not a muscle of his face, and after dinner one of them approached him, saying—"How can you sit quietly and hear all that has been said without uttering a rebuke?" "My dear sir," said the cleric, "I am chaplain to a lunatic asylum."

* * *

Quite a pathetic request has been issued, says a contemporary, by the Bishop of Liverpool to girls who are candidates for confirmation not to wear pins in their hair, on the ground that his hands have been sadly lacerated. A witty prelate, when asked how he solved a similar problem, is said to have replied, "I confirm all the boys personally, and transfer those porcupines to my Suffragan, who is an old Varsity oarsman, with the cast-iron hands of a blacksmith." Unhappily, the services of a hard-handed athlete specially retained for confirming prickly-headed young ladies are not always available.

Archbishop Benson used to relate how, at the close of a discussion as to the pleasantest way of spending a holiday, Kingsley claimed with great warmth, and with a vigorous stutter which permeated his conversation and gave it so racy a flavour, "why, to lie all day, of course, with your b-b-b-belly on a hot, flat stone, like a lizard in the sun, and think about nothing." Benson would also recount that once, walking with Kingsley at a remote part of Eversley, on a common, the rector suddenly saying, "I must smoke a pipe," went to a furze bush, and felt about in it for a time, presently producing a clay churchwarden pipe, which he lighted and solemnly smoked as he walked, putting it when he had done, in a hole among some tree roots, and explaining that he had a "cache" of pipes in several places in the parish, to meet the exigencies of a sudden desire for tobacco.

* * *

A well-known Sydney clergyman tells a good story against himself. While preaching recently an extemporaneous sermon, he had occasion to refer to the question of miracles. Some people, he said, had a difficulty in believing some of the miraculous stories of the Bible, as, for example, the speaking of Balaam's ass to his master. Looking solemnly at the congregation, he suddenly clinched his contention with the remark:—"Why should not God make an ass to speak—he made me to speak?" The congregation did not laugh; it was Scotch.

CHILDREN'S COLUMN.

PRIZE SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS.

To be answered by any boys or girls under 16 years of age, who do not get older persons to tell them; but who take their Bibles and hunt them out themselves.

Question 30—How long did Solomon's palace take to build?

Question 31—How many years was Israel governed by Judges?

Question 32—What member of the early Church tried the patience of the loving disciple St. John.

N.B.—Add usual note.

N.B.—For all boys or girls sending us the correct answers to the above questions we will send a copy of the "Messenger" free for six issues to any person

they may suggest who does not already take the "Messenger." All who answer these questions should forward to "Lithos," S. John's Rectory, Launceston, the answers (quote chapter and verse), together with their own name and address, and also the name and address of the person to whom the "Messenger" is to be sent. Answers must be sent in before the next number of the "Messenger" is issued. This is not intended to credit on the subscription of present subscribers, therefore the "Messenger" cannot be sent to the person answering the questions.

We cannot receive a batch of answers in one envelope; each person who answers the questions must send in a separate envelope.

Letters of enquiry must enclose stamp for reply.

To prevent disappointment the above directions should be carefully followed.

LITHOS.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

Question 27—Ananias, Acts ix. 17-18.

Question 28—Nebuzar-adan, Jer. iii. 12-13.

Question 29—Jannes and Jambres, II, Tim. iii., 8.

Correct answers were received from Ruth Tevelein, Launceston.

WE THREE AND TRACKER.

WE three are Joe (Cuthbert Percival Joliffe is his right name, but I expect he will be angry with me for telling it), Daisy, and I. Frances Katherine Sinclair is my name, and I don't like it any better than Joe likes his. We both think Daisy very lucky, because she was christened in a hurry, when they thought she was going to die, and there was no time to think of a lot of ugly old ancestral names for her. Tracker is our dog; but I will tell you about ourselves first, and leave him till the last, like dessert, because he is so nice.

We are orphans, and have lived with Granny and Grandpa Sinclair ever since our parents died, four years ago. Generally we have very good times, but just now I am having a very bad one. For a whole week I have had to stay in bed. This is my first day on the sofa, and they say I won't be able to walk for ever so long.

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RINGAROOMA.

AS we could not have any service on Christmas Day we had Christmas Communion the Sunday before. The Rector preached from the text, "Emmanuel, God with us." Miss E. Archie presented to the church a pair of silver candlesticks for the organ, which the Rector dedicated for the use of the church.

The annual election of churchwardens took place on Saturday, 19th. Mr. F. Krushka was re-elected minister's warden, and Messrs. S. and W. Phillips re-elected people's wardens.

The balance-sheet for the year was submitted and passed. Offerory, £13 12s 8d; subscription to stipend, £22 12s; paid for church expenses and work done £35 14s.

The wardens have to thank Mr. Isaac for his generous gift to stipend fund.

Three sidesmen were to be elected, but the election was postponed. The Rector thanked the wardens and committee for their help during the past year, and stated that the finances of the church had improved, with all the disadvantages they had to work against.

A wardens' meeting was held the same evening, when Miss Andrews was again appointed secretary and treasurer, and other business done.

The Rector had service on the 20th, when Mr. and Mrs. W. Wilson presented an office book to the church, which was dedicated. It contains the following inscription:—"Presented to Christ Church by Mr. and Mrs. W. Wilson, in remembrance of their son Gordon, who entered into rest October 17th, 1900."

Rev. Mr. Brooksbank, a visiting clergyman from Adelaide, had service on the 13th, and celebrated the Holy Communion. He preached from the text, "We are all members of one body."

The wardens have requested their representative at Synod to bring before the Bishop the urgent need of a curate for this district.

Subscribers to stipend for 1900:—Messrs. S. and W. Phillips, J. Andrews, sen., J. Andrews, jun., Mr. Isaac, Mr. Doig, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Archie, Mr. R. Styles, Mr. Sharp, Mr. Steves, Messrs. W. Wilson, J. Wilson, Mr. Noah, Mr. Haas, Mr. Johnstone, Mrs. Symons, Miss Archie, Miss Bennett, Miss F. Bennett, Mr. W. H. Fry.

BEACONSFIELD.

AFTER the usual evening service on December 23rd, the Vicar, on behalf of the teachers of Holy Trinity Sunday-school, handed Miss Morgan, on the eve of her marriage, a handsome present. Miss Morgan has for many years taught in our Sunday-school, and we wish her every happiness.

The annual vestry meeting was held on January 14th, at 8 p.m.; owing to the rough weather, only a few were present. The Vicar occupied the chair.

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Mr. Perrin was unanimously re-elected lay representative. Mr. Wyett, sen., who has been a warden for many years, was re-elected. Mr. Aldridge and Mr. Diprose (minister's warden) having retired on account of failing health, Mr. Woodman was elected warden, and Mr. Corvan minister's warden. The accounts were read and adopted. Votes of thanks were tendered to the retiring wardens; to Mr. Bennett, the superintendent of the Sunday-school, whose energy has made it so prosperous; to Mrs. Bennett, who has for many years collected the stipend; and to Miss Fargher, our organist, who has been most diligent in her attention and attendance.

Sunday, January 27th, was fixed for our anniversary, but owing to the death of the Queen it was postponed to February 24th, and memorial services were held. The members of the local defence force and of the Beaconsfield Band attended morning service. After the Vicar had preached a touching sermon, the band played the "Dead March." The church was again crowded in the evening. The Vicar again occupied the pulpit, and Master T. Bennetts sang very creditably an anthem.

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THE annual meeting of parishioners and members of the congregation took place on the evening of the 25th. There was a good attendance. Messrs. Newman and Albert Reid were re-elected synodsmen, and the same gentlemen with Mr. Alexander Reid were re-elected churchwardens. Messrs. V. F. Chambers, J. V. Johnstone, H. Brammall, A. Chatterton, S. R. Daniel, W. Grahame, A. Lawson, A. A. Tibbs, C. B. Pitman, F. A. Pitman, Y. Lewis, John K. Lumsden, were elected a parish council, of which the churchwardens are ex officio members. Votes of thanks were passed to the lady collectors, to the out-going wardens, parish councillors, and others, while mutual congratulations passed round on the satisfactory nature of the annual report. The following is the text of it:—

Report for 1900.

In presenting their accounts for the year 1900, the churchwardens have much pleasure in stating that the finances of the church are improving, and that the record of the year's receipts are very satisfactory, nearly every item showing an increase, the total amount received having been £578 10s 1½d, being £123 8s 10½d more than in 1899.

The accompanying statement shows that the general offerings through the offertory amounted to £234 15s, and the special to £63 5s 8½d; the total, £298 0s 8½d, being an increase of £25 8s 9½d on the preceding year. The Parish Council subscriptions also show an increase, the total being £101 0s 9d (including £3 5s for lay-reader's stipend) as against £95 9s in 1899.

The proceeds from entertainments have also been larger, £61 4s 7d having been obtained from this source, against £33 18s 4d last year. Another special item has been the receipt of £27 8s 10d from the sale of flowers at the Diocesan Depot, this result having been achieved through the exertions of Mrs. Moir and other ladies who have worked so zealously through the year. Thanks are again due to the lady teachers of the Sunday-school for raising funds to defray the expenses of school treat, prizes, and repairs. The churchwardens have also to acknowledge the co-operation of the Guild of Perseverance in arranging a sale which added £26 15s. to their funds.

It is most gratifying to be able to state that the stipends of the Rector, lay-reader, organist, etc., have been paid more promptly than in former years, and that the hope expressed by the churchwardens in the concluding paragraph of the report for 1899 has been realised. The liabilities which at the beginning of this year stood at £108 11s 7d having been reduced to £65 19s 11d.

The churchwardens feel it to be their duty to point out that it will be necessary for the parishioners and

all who feel an interest in the welfare of S. John's Church, to inaugurate a fund early in the current year, having for its object the raising of a sufficient sum of money to repair the east wall of the chancel, and if necessary to rebuild the same; they therefore hope that their successors will receive generous and substantial subscriptions in answer to their appeal when it is made. The Rev. C. P. Greene, a former Rector of S. John's, now in England, has contributed £10, which perhaps may be considered a nucleus for this work.

In conclusion, the churchwardens desire to thank the members of the Parish Council, the collectors, the teachers of the Sunday-school, the Guild of Perseverance, and also Mrs. Moir and the ladies associated with her, for their valuable assistance.

The comment that rises naturally to one's lips on reading the report is contained in the Master's words, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Never before have we raised so much for outside purposes—missionary and diocesan—and seldom have we ever been in such a good position parochially. The Rector gave an account of the spiritual work of the parish during the past year. He said that the parish of S. John's was an object lesson as to how a parish could thrive without pew rents or endowments. The balance showed that the only assured income of the parish was £16 16s. Yet no less a sum than £578 10s had been raised. Outstanding liabilities amounted to only £65, and there was no debt. All the property—parsonage, church, and schools were altogether unencumbered. Many large subscribers of past years had either moved or died. Now there was a larger number of small subscribers. The Rector expressed his obligations to all his helpers, specially mentioning Mr. Brammall, his lay-reader, his churchwardens, and Parish Council, Sunday-school superintendents, Col. Reid, and Mrs. Pitman, Sunday-school teachers, and hon. sec. (Miss Rule) district visitors, S. Andrew's Brotherhood, Guild council, and hon. secretary (Mrs. Norris), choir-master and organist (Mr. Major). During the past year there had been 220 Sunday services, 742 daily services, 153 celebrations of Holy Communion; 260 communicants had made 1659 communions; 53 persons had been baptised; 52 mothers churched; 28 persons confirmed; 15 married, and the same number buried. In the Sunday-schools there were 280 scholars on the roll and 27 teachers. The Rector had given 59 lessons in the State school, the lay-reader 39. There had been 136 confirmation classes, 40 of which were at the House of Mercy; 79 visits were made to the House of Mercy, and 32 to the Government Hospital, adjacent; 94 services were held at the House of Mercy, 46 of which were by the lay-reader. There were 17 celebra-

tions of the Holy Communion at the House of Mercy, and 43 communions made. The Rector during the year made 969 visits, including interviews with parishioners, etc.; the lay-reader 1,049. The Rector preached 218 sermons, held 20 meetings of S. Andrew's Brotherhood, including Bible classes, 44 Teachers' preparation classes, 12 business meetings of Sunday-school teachers, 4 meetings of Guild Council, 10 of Parish Council, besides churchwardens' meetings and those of district visitors. Thus ended a most happy and satisfactory gathering.

Communicants and Offertories.

Feast of Circumcision, 4 communicants; 3rd, 4 communicants, 1s 3d; 6th, 12 communicants, £3 2s 7d; 10th, 5 communicants, 2s 6d; 13th, 9 communicants, £4 7s 6d; 20th, 11 communicants, £4 18s 4½d; 23rd, 3 communicants, 2s 6d; Convent of St. Paul, 3 communicants; 27th, 30 communicants, £5 14s 11d.

Baptisms.—Jan. 1, Vernon Eric John Jackman; 4, Charles John Lange; 7, Maggie Violet Mary Miller; 20, Elsie Eileen Fisher; 30, Ernest William Taylor, Raymond Douglas Lumsden, Thelma Cecelia Carle, Alfred Percy Collins.

Marriage.—Jan. 1, Richard Edward Garth to Annie Louisa Jennings Tims.

Burials.—Jan. 19, William Bolton, aged 86; 25, William Gatehouse M'Michael, aged 65 years.

BRIGHTON-CUM-KEMPTON.

THE paragraph in connection with a churchwardens' meeting at Brighton, reported in the last number of the "Messenger," should have stated that the churchwardens consented to the statement that had been drawn up by the Rector being inserted in the minute book, and also requested him to supply copies of the letters omitted in the correspondence left by the late churchwardens.

The death of the Queen was felt in Brighton as keenly as elsewhere. Owing to the illness of the Rector, the Archdeacon kindly consented to the Rev. J. S. Babington taking the in memoriam service on February 2, and also the services on February 3. We are much indebted to the Archdeacon for sparing Mr. Babington, and to Mr. Babington for so kindly coming to take the services.

The ladies of Broadmarsh, with Mrs. C. Bayley at their head, have determined to hold a fair in aid of church funds on Easter Monday. We trust their efforts will prove most successful. For the last six months the ladies of the congregation at Broadwood have attended to the cleaning of the church themselves, and have allowed the money generally paid for that purpose to be devoted to something else. The result is that the cushions of the chancel have all been nicely re-covered.

LILYDALE.

THE Bishop dedicated the Church of the Ascension on Thursday, January 10. It was a bright and sunshiny day, the only disappointment being that the Rev. J. E. M. Roche, the Vicar, and Mr. R. W. Harrison, hon. treasurer to the Building Fund, were both unable to be present. A large gathering assembled at 3 o'clock; extra seats were provided from the adjacent Drill Hall. The special services for the dedication of churches was used. The lesson was read by Mr. Clement Dowling (reader), and Mr. Harrison, of Underwood, presided at the organ. The Bishop's address was listened to with rapt attention. His lordship exhorted his hearers to use the building with reverence, and to whisper only, if it were necessary to speak, when the service was not going on. The edifice is an ornament to the town. It is placed on a good site, and is a picturesque object as seen from the railway. Several generous gifts have been made or promised. The Vicar presents the reading-desk and lectern. Other friends have contributed curtain enclosure for the vestry; the green cathedral glass, which gives a delightful tone to the church; the Bible and book-markers; and there is a promise of a font. The pressing wants now are a holy table, lining for the walls, fencing, and external painting. Thanks are due to the architect, Mr. Alex. North, for giving his professional services. His design has been creditably carried out by Mr. R. Ewans, builder, of Lilydale. Any further contributions will be most thankfully received by the hon. treasurer.

SCOTTSDALE.

WE have had many special services in S. Barnabas, but none ever equalled in impressiveness the funeral service for our late beloved Queen and Empress Victoria. Although it was held on Saturday, the busiest day of the week, and in the middle of harvest, yet the congregation filled the church. Farmers left their harvest to pay respect to the memory of our late sovereign, and members of every denomination but one took part in the service. The altar, reading-desk, lectern, organ seats, were draped in sombre black, and a cross covered with purple stood in front of the altar. Miss Salier sang "O Rest in the Lord," and the choir sang the hymns with much feeling and reverence. They were "When our heads are bowed with Woe," "When the Labourer's Task is O'er," "Peace, Perfect Peace," and "Rock of Ages," the latter being a great

favourite of the Queen's. The sermon was preached by the Rector (Rev. W. Hevingham Root), who gave seven pictures from the Queen's life: (1) Baptism, (2) accession, (3) marriage, (4) desolation, (5) Jubilee, (6) greater coronation, (7) death.

The audience was greatly moved, and many quite unable to control their emotion. The preacher, too, was sometimes almost unable to proceed. Men and women alike were touched with the pathos and solemnity of the service, the recollection of which will never fade from the memory of some of the worshippers.

PERTH.

THE services, held chiefly in the evening, for the past month have been well attended, congregations ranging from 40 to 100. Much gratitude is expressed to the Rev. R. Stephen, of Trinity College, Melbourne, for his help in the services.

Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Hepworth, many important improvements have been made in S. Andrew's. The retable has been reduced, and looks very neat. A cross and candlesticks have been placed upon it, and markers have been made.

An impressive memorial service for our late beloved Queen was held on Sunday, 27th. The pulpit was draped with a handsome Union Jack and black China crape; the reading-desk with black and sprays of white roses. Flowers were upon the retable.

A service in connection with the Queen's funeral was held on February 3.

EVANDALE.

THE festive seasons having all passed, we have once more settled down to our usual routine of church services.

The principal topic of conversation is the death of our beloved Queen, and we, in keeping with the churches in Tasmania, have held "in memoriam" services, the first taking place on the evening of Sunday, the 27th ultimo, when a large congregation attended. The special hymns were Nos. 540, 399, and 428, the "Dead March" being played as an offertory, all the congregation standing. The address was taken from the words "The righteous shall be had in everlasting remembrance," wherein the rector made feeling reference to the good life of our Queen. At the conclusion of the service the National Anthem was sung, the congregation heartily joining in the singing. The

communion table, lectern, reading desk, and choir stalls were suitably draped, while the Union Jack, bordered with black, covered the pulpit.

On Saturday, February 2, the services were continued. The bell tolled about midday, and in the evening the special funeral service, ordered by the Bishop, was conducted by the rector, a large congregation attending, the special hymns for the occasion being 401 and 428, concluding again with the National Anthem. Our organist being absent, Mrs. Donaldson very kindly officiated at the organ with her usual ability.

Would our Lymington subscribers to the "Messenger" kindly take note that Mr. W. Daw has been appointed for that part of the parish.

Baptisms.—Nancy Flood, Epping; Ellis Granville Cunningham, Mary Pretoria Franklin, Nora Von Stieglitz.

LONGFORD.

THE result of the annual religious examination was fairly good. The examiners report as follows:—Old Testament—Five very good papers out of seven. These scholars were prepared by Miss Hutchinson. Catechism—One excellent paper, Tasman McIntyre (93 marks); result on the whole good. Ada McIntyre gets the Bishop's prize (100 in O.T. and 64 catechism). Pateena S.S.—N.T.—A very fair set of papers; the juniors do remarkably well, one, Charles Faulkner (the Bishop's prize), getting full marks (120), others not far off (114).

As usual, a carol service was held at Christmastide, adding to the brightness and heartiness of the services. It is to be hoped that more carols will be sung later on.

The children's festival was held on the first Sunday after Epiphany. This revived festival has been a great encouragement to the children, who sang their hymns very sweetly. We hope this will be an annual service.

The thanks of the parish are due and are hereby offered to the Rev. R. Stephen, who for several Sundays kindly helped in the services in various parts of the parish.

We are thankful to report that the annual meeting was well attended. The rector spoke feelingly of the generous support he had received from old and young. Messrs. Hudson, Chandler, and Paulden were re-elected churchwardens, and the sidesmen were re-elected. Mr. A. G. Cox was unanimously elected to represent the parish in synod. The finances were shown to be in a flourishing condition, not-



The late Queen Victoria and Prince Edward of York.

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ARE THE BEST. SOLD BY ALL GROCERS.

ALL SAINTS', HOBART.

OUR annual meeting was held on Jan. 15. There was a fair attendance, and the Rector presided. The churchwardens presented their report for the past year, which showed an adverse balance of £20, which, added to the deficiency last year, increased our liabilities to about £125. The property left to the church by the late Hon. A. Kennerley, had not yet resulted in any benefit to the parish, the amount received from rents not being equal to the amount which was kindly contributed annually by Mr. Kennerley during his lifetime. This was due to the fact that considerable sums have been necessarily expended in repairs to the houses. The balance-sheet was adopted on the motion of the chairman, who made his usual statement of church work during the year, pointing out, with reference to the adverse balance, that the falling off was not in total offerings in the church, but in offerings for parochial expenses, subscriptions, and pew rents. He hoped that All Saints would never fall back in contribution made to outside objects, but go on increasing in that direction; but at the same time he hoped, also, that the congregation would bear in mind the needs of the parish itself, and make liberal offerings, especially at the offertory in church. The Rector intimated that he had nominated Mr. C. S. Maxwell as his churchwarden for the year, and Messrs. R. W. Buller and W. L. Lawson were re-elected parish wardens.

The following were then elected to the parish council:—Messrs. R. P. Adams, R. R. Innes, E. R. Fisher, E. E. C. Wright, L. H. Macleod, E. R. Fisher, Geo. Spencer, K. Simmonds, and A. L. F. Ledger; and the sidesmen were elected as follows:—Messrs. R. P. Adams, R. R. Innes, E. R. Fisher, E.

C. Wright, Max. Stephens, L. H. Macleod, Geo. Spencer, and C. Reeves. The retiring auditors, Messrs. R. R. Innes and K. Simmonds, were re-elected.

The Rector, having warmly thanked all the church workers, from the churchwardens to the organ blower, for their loyal work during the year, alluded to the appointment of the Rev. A. Pollard as his assistant, which was a great source of thankfulness, and would enable him to overtake more efficiently the work of the parish, which, especially in the direction of house to house visitation, had necessarily been somewhat neglected. He trusted that Mr. Pollard's work would be pleasant and congenial to him, as well as a blessing to the parish.

Cordial votes of thanks were then proposed, and carried unanimously, to the outgoing churchwardens, sidesmen, organist (Mr. J. W. Gould), and members of the choir, vergers, and other officers.

After the proceedings of this meeting a further meeting was held to elect lay representatives in Synod, and Messrs. R. P. Adams (chancellor) and Walter L. Lawson, were unanimously re-elected. The bi-monthly meeting of the All Saints' Missionary Association was held on the evening of February 4. The Rector opened the meeting, and the Rev. A. Pollard gave an interesting address on missionary work at home, which was much appreciated.

Since our last report we have all been sorrowing on account of the sad loss to the Empire in the death of our beloved Queen. The churches have been appropriately draped in purple and black. Touching and solemn services have been held, and sermons preached to mark the sad occasion, and we are now trying to adapt ourselves and our prayer to the new condition of things, and to say

"God save the King," but many of us feel it will take a long time for our new sovereign to take the place in our hearts which Queen Victoria held. Perhaps we do not all yet realise what her death will mean. Still, we have every reason to hope and to thank God that one so worthy to follow in her steps as King Edward VII. is, was ready to occupy the high position. May God help him to fill it after the great example of the Queen mother.

The strawberry feast in aid of S. Raphael's, was held at the Fern Tree Bower on Saturday January 19. There was a smaller attendance than usual, owing to other attractions, but the promoters of the feast are, nevertheless, well satisfied with the results. The feast was opened by the Hon. Henry Dobson, who, in a happy speech, spoke of the little church as the "prettiest in the Commonwealth of Australia," and hoped it would be warmly and liberally supported, as it was a great boon both to the residents of the district and the numerous visitors who flocked to that lovely spot in the summer months. The following ladies assisted at the stalls:—Mrs. and Miss Grubb, Miss S. Hall, and the Misses Swift, Mrs. Higgins, Mrs. Bucknell, Mrs. Hoyle, and the Misses Morrison, Maxwell, Mace, and Dumont. Confirmation classes are now being held by the Rector and the Rev. A. Pollard, both at All Saints and S. Raphael's.

Offerings in church (All Saints):—Jan. 1st, 3s 6d; 6th, £6 16s 5d; 13th, £9 1s 10d; 20th, £5 0s 8d; 25th, 1s 3d; 27th, £5 8s 11d. Total, £26 12s 7d.

Baptisms.—Jan. 11, Isabel Blankes; 18th, Perceval George Hayton; James Morrison; 27th, Charles, Anna, Frederick, and Louisa Clark.

Burial at Queenborough Cemetery.—Jan. 27th, Edward Leith Fisher, aged 12 weeks.

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SEE THAT YOU GET IT.

It is horrid to have to stay in bed in
the daytime, and horrid still when it
is a scalded foot that keeps you there,
and horrid of all when people say,
"Well, I hope this will be a lesson to
you, Frances, and that you won't be so
foolish and meddlesome again."

But Aunt Kitty doesn't say things
like that; she always sympathises when
you get into trouble, even if it is your
own fault. It is Aunt Kitty's plan that
I should write a sort of story about
ourselves and our doings to occupy me
while I am laid up. If it is interesting
enough she is going to get it printed,
but I don't believe it will be, because
you see we are just ordinary children,
and not a bit wonderful or beautiful,
like story-book ones. I wanted to say
that Daisy and I had lovely blue eyes,
and curly golden hair, and pink and
white skins, like the fairy tale prin-
cesses, and Joe wanted me to give him
piercing black eyes and muscles of steel,
like the heroes of his Indian stories.
But Aunt Kitty prefers me to write only
what is true, so I must tell that Daisy
and I have grey eyes, and lots of freckles,
and straight hair. Mine is red, and
Daisy's is whitish, and when we first
came here it hung down our backs in
what Granny called elflocks, because it
hadn't been properly brushed for ever
so long, and Uncle Dick nicknamed us
Carrots and Parsnips. Now we have
pigtales, which are much nicer, because
they don't get into your eyes, or make
tangles, except when you lose the rib-
bon. As for Joe, he is freckled, too,
and his arms are nearly as soft as mine,
though he is always getting us to feel
if the muscle isn't growing.

Now for Tracker. Aunt Kitty says,
"Not too much Tracker," but I am sure
you will like to hear about him, for
he is the darlinest little dog there ever
was. We bought him from an old
tramp who came for something to eat
one day when Granny was away. He
had three dogs and a puppy, and they
all looked very thin and unhappy, so
we gave them some bones and a saucer
of milk for the puppy. You should
have seen how the poor little thing
just gobbled that milk, and then looked
up so pitifully, as if begging for more.
It was lame, too, and Daisy and I nearly
cried, we felt so sorry for it. We went
aside and whispered together, and
agreed that Joe was to offer the tramp
all the money we had for the puppy. It
was only ninepence halfpenny alto-
gether, and we felt quite ashamed to
have offered so little, when the tramp
told us that there pup was a pure Hors-
trilian terrier, and he could get fi' pund
for him any day. We begged him to
wait till Uncle Dick came home, and
perhaps he would buy the puppy, but
the tramp said he was in a great hurry,
and rather than disappoint us he'd let
us have the pup for ninepence half-

GREAT THOUGHTS.

The essence of true nobility is neglect
of self. Let the thought of self pass
in, and the beauty of great action is
gone like the bloom from a soiled
flower.

A family without prayer is like a
house without a roof; it has no pro-
tection.

The truly good actions are only
those that cost an effort.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE REV. H. C. WISDOM AND THE
REV. R. K. COLLISON.

(To the Editor "Church Messenger.")

SIR,—I am sorry Mr. Wisdom's reply
to my letter did not appear in the
"Church Messenger." Nothing would
please me better than that those
who read one should read the other. It
is difficult to imagine a more complete
justification of what I wrote.

Some space is occupied with criticism
of the title placed over my letter. If I
had written it I should not consider Mr.
Wisdom's criticism ill deserved. But I
feel bound to point out that after he
discovered that I was not responsible for
the title he still allowed his remarks,
involving serious reflections on my
character as a clergyman, to stand un-
altered. I have not been editor of a
church magazine for ten years without
learning that even at the last moment
it is possible to excise remarks based on
a misapprehension of facts. I make no
further comment on this, but leave it
to our people to form their own judg-
ment.

I am not so ignorant of Church affairs
in England as Mr. Wisdom imagines.
About the time when he was ordained I
had completed eight years' service as a
curate in London, and since I have been
here I have been kept fairly well in-
formed as to the state of things. I
know that there is a section of clergy
and laity whose purpose appears to be
to Romanise the Church. With that
section I and my brother clergy in Tas-
mania have no sympathy whatever. I
am perfectly well aware that there have
been secessions to Rome. I took excep-
tion to Mr. Wisdom's illustration be-
cause he chose a particularly ancient
and particularly disreputable story, and

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ger" must be sent in to the Editor not
later than the 7th of the month, other-
wise we cannot guarantee publication.

TRY A. J. NETTLEFOLD'S SUPPLY STORES,

58, 60, and 62 LIVERPOOL STREET, HOBART.

held it up as a fair sample of the condition of things in the Church at home now. But, quite apart from this section, there is a large body of clergy and an increasing number of laity who have come to the belief that in the confusion of the Reformation and the troubled times following some precious doctrines were obscured, some profitable ceremonies laid aside, some beautiful symbols lost sight of which were never repudiated by the Church, and were never intended to be repudiated, and which it is desirable should be restored to their ancient place. Such a belief is perfectly legitimate. I do not agree with them as to the legality or the desirability of many of the things they advocate, but I recognise that it is grossly unfair to accuse them of disloyalty or to prejudge their case by calling them Ritualists and Romanisers. I observe that they appeal to the testimony of Scripture, the practice of the early Church, the principles of the Reformation as set forth in the Prayer Book, and as interpreted in the works of men who were intimately concerned in drawing up our formularies and rubrics. I observe, too, that the decision of such courts as have been appealed to have been so contradictory as to be indecisive in some points, and in others, mainly doctrinal, have sustained their view. And I know partly from my own experience that some of these men, who, in the full belief that they are but restoring part of the vanished glory of the Church, have taught the doctrines and practised the ceremonies so scornfully described as Ritualistic and Romanising, have gone down into the most shuddering depths of human vice and misery, and have rescued men and women whose reformation was despaired of, and have filled them with love for Christ and devotion to His Church. I cannot help repeating the counsel of the wise Gamaliel, and saying, "Refrain from these men and let them alone, for if their counsel or their work be of men it will come to naught, but if it be of God ye cannot resist it; lest haply ye be found fighting against God." But to come once more to Tasmania. I ask our laymen to note that Mr. Wisdom

now deliberately asserts that it is his intention to undermine the authority and influence of the Bishop, the Archdeacon, and the Dean. He says he has only asserted certain facts in the public life of these officials. It is not facts that will undermine their influence. It is the sinister and distorted interpretation of those facts affixed to them by Mr. Wisdom. He calmly says that he has been forced to the belief that the influence of the present Bishop, Archdeacon, and Dean is "inimical in many fundamental points to the interests of Christ's Kingdom, the salvation of souls, and also to the welfare of the Church." With every desire to treat with courtesy a brother clergyman whom I believe to be quite sincere, though mistaken, I say that these words ought never to have been written. These officers of the Church do not need any defence at my hands, even if I were presumptuous enough to attempt it; but I do say that their personal piety, their long service, and their unremitting labours ought to have saved them from so shameful an expression of opinion by a man of Mr. Wisdom's meagre standing.

I hope our laymen will clearly see whither Mr. Wisdom is trying to lead them. In the January number of the "Christian Record" he advises those who are not contented with their parish clergyman to go to "that Nonconformist Church near them, where there are manifestations of the spirit of truth and of power." I ask our laymen to read Article XXVI. in our Prayer Book, and decide for themselves whether the teachings of the Church justify such advice. But, beyond this, I ask them to remember that our Church has placed all essential features of our worship beyond the power of the clergy to alter. The reading of the pure Word of God, the psalms, the canticles, the prayers, the language of the order for the administration of Holy Communion—all these, which are of much greater importance than any accessories of ritual, are fixed and unalterable. In these the Church herself speaks to her children, and teaches them with an authority infinitely higher than that of the

individual clergyman. For myself, I have found relief from the distraction of an unaccustomed ritual in resolutely fixing my eyes on my Prayer Book and listening to the old and familiar language, the beauty and power of which no external ceremonies can impair.

It is very easy to raise a panic by a cry of fire, and amongst certain people the cry of Romanism is equally effectual; but, notwithstanding all Mr. Wisdom's efforts to prove the contrary, I have good reason to believe that the thoughtful laymen of Tasmania have no more fear of the 'bogey Romanism' than they have of a "French invasion."

REGINALD K. COLLISON,
Rector of Carrick.

PARISH ECHOES.

SORELL.

A FEW days after sending the last monthly report of news, there passed away from our community of Sorell a lady universally respected, the wife of our equally-respected teacher of the Sorell State-school. Mrs. Taylor died in Launceston, after a protracted illness. Hopes had been for a little while entertained of her ultimate recovery, but a few days before her death symptoms of a rapid sinking became evident. Her husband, who at much self-sacrifice has refrained from visiting her from the need of her having absolute quiet and an absence of all emotion, was hastily summoned, and reached her side in time. Mrs. Taylor died on January 10, and her funeral took place in Sorell on the subsequent Saturday. Though steady rain had set in, the unusually large number present testified to the general esteem in which she was held. On Sunday, the following day, the incumbent made special reference to the departed. To the spirit of a boundless self-sacrifice on behalf of those near and dear to her, Mrs. Taylor added a steady and unswerving piety. Her regular attendance at

church is an example to all other mothers of families in the parish, and was the natural and proper expression of a humble and sincere faith. She will best be remembered, however, by a simple straightforwardness of speech which was all her own, but which was so pervaded by the spirit of loving kindness that her words, though they might sometimes pierce and cut, "never carried a heart's blood away on their blade." May God comfort her sorrowing husband and his family in their bereavement.

The absorbing topic of interest has, of course, been the Queen's death and funeral. The incumbent was away in Launceston on the Sunday following the death, and had the privilege of preaching at the memorial services of S. John's in the morning and S. Paul's in the evening. On the day of the funeral a special service was held in S. George's Church, Sorell, at which we were very pleased to see quite a goodly number. Our own memorial services were held on the following day at Sorell, Nugent, and Wattle Hill. Information respecting the service did not, for some reason, reach the last-named place, otherwise we are sure the attendance would have been larger than it was.

Baptisms (omitted in November).—Clarence Lynn Quarrell, Charlotte Elaine Hildyard.

QUAMBY AND HAGLEY.

ON January 27, at S. Mary's Church, the prayers authorised by the Bishop were used, with appropriate hymns and sermons morning and evening; and at Rose Vale, in the afternoon of the day of the funeral, the appointed office was used, and on Septuagesima Sunday the prayers authorised for January 27 were again used, and again there were appropriate hymns and sermons at S. Mary's and Selborne. "God Save the King" was sung at the close of each evening service, and also on Saturday.

Messrs. G. Scott, A. Goss, and W. Newton are churchwardens for the current year, and Mr. C. I. Maxwell represents the parish in Synod.

Baptisms.—Victor Lewis Armstrong, John Reginald Hunter, Annie Eileen Hunter.

ST. JOHN'S, LAUNCESTON

ON Sunday, January 13, we were favoured by a visit from Mr. Truelove's choir, which numbered about 40 voices. Full choral evensong was taken at 3 p.m., and a short address was given by the Rev. W. S. Stone. The church was packed to repletion, and all were full of praise for the devotional and beautiful rendering of our noble service. Of course we expected the adults to do their parts well; but when tiny mites of lads, hardly tall enough to look on a table, could sing difficult solos, the wonder grew. The exactitude with which they chanted the psalms, too, was wonderful. An offertory of nearly £8 was made towards S. John's Extension Fund.

On the following Tuesday, the 15th, Mr. Truelove and party gave selections from "The Messiah" in S. John's. The choir was fully vested, and most of the city clergy, and one or two from the country, were also present. All marched from the school-room to the church, and the service began at 7.30 p.m. For upwards of two hours were those present—about 700—delighted by the able rendering of this lovely oratorio. The concluding piece, "The Hallelujah Chorus," was very fine. An offertory in aid of the Mission House Building Fund at this service amounted to nearly £12.

Later on in the evening the Rector, aided by several ladies from the congregation, entertained the visitors in the school-room at a coffee supper, where our visitors met the S. John's choir. The Rector, on behalf of the congregation, thanked Mr. Truelove and his band of helpers very sincerely for their willing and skilled services. In reply, that gentleman conveyed his

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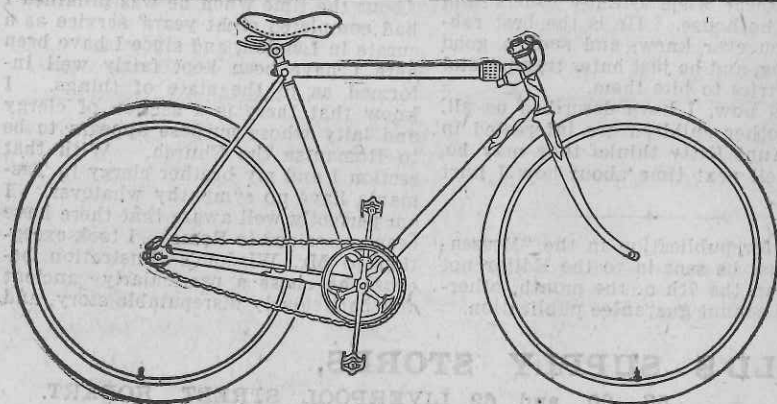
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ary 29. We were pleased to see such a large gathering. The report, together with all the many balance-sheets representing the various branch works in the parish, was published and circulated broadcast some days earlier. It was a lengthy and most hopeful publication. We will not attempt even a short analysis of it now, as its contents are so well known, and our space is very limited. In moving the adoption of the report, the Rector, in a fairly long speech, reviewed the work done during his tenure of office, and remarked that the parish had not only met all claims upon it, but had raised £2000 for various objects over and above those claims. He paid a high tribute of praise to the work of the wardens. At this meeting fresh plans for the extension of S. John's were submitted, and a large and comprehensive building committee formed to carry them out. Later on in the week a small executive committee was appointed, and everything done to ensure an early start with the foundations. The gentlemen appointed as wardens are Mr. E. Whitfield (clergyman's warden), and Messrs. W. Perrin and M. Brownrigg (people's wardens). A large number of sidesmen were also elected. We are sorry our space will not permit the publication of all the names. The Rector, in closing the proceedings, made a touching reference to the loss the parish had sustained in the death of Mr. W. J. Genders, and expressed a most earnest hope that such a noble life should not be forgotten. He trusted something stately and fitting should be erected in the new church, in memory of him. The meeting closed at a late hour, all feeling, somehow, we were on the eve of important developments.

The first meeting of the district visitors was held at the Rectory on the 5th instant. The numbers were good. Mrs. Flexman submitted a very cheery report of the work done during the past year. This report came too late to be printed with that of the wardens. Next year it is hoped every such report will find its place beside the official one referred to.

The last year has, by God's goodness, been, on the whole, a successful one from every standpoint. We are unable to give a digest of the work, though that is to hand. It will, let us hope, appear next month.

Burials.—January 7, Frederick Boyd Slater; January 11, William John Genders; January 12, Norma Eastoe Wilkins.

Baptisms.—December 8, Nita Ada Rillis Newton, December 18, Ivy Eliza Jane Neale; January 1, Leslie George Maumill; January 2, Benjamin Beaconsfield Issell, Rupert Arthur Barnard; January 9th, Muriel Wallis Ludbrook, Geoffrey Watson Beck, Thelma Jane Rankin; January 15, Arthur Athol Titley; January 22, Melvire Mona Martin, William Burns McHenry, Victor George Prior; January 24, William David Clark Price; January 30, Athol Edgar Jacobson.

Marriages.—January 15, William Holyman to Mary Ann Hart; January 17, John Henry Illingworth to Marion Isabel Littlejohn.

Sunday-school. — Prize-giving day is generally looked upon as a day of rejoicing, but that of S. John's School this year wore a saddening aspect. It was the "in memoriam" day for the Queen, while we were mourning the loss of our loved superintendent, Mr. Genders. A special service was held in the school, and the occasion was marked by the rector with an address to the children so appropriate to the time. We would have gladly had another day for the distribution, but, taking everything into consideration, it was deemed inadvisable to make the postponement. The desire of the children to show their love for their late superintendent in a practical form eventuated in their offerings being presented during the service, so that a memorial tablet might be erected. This tablet will in all probability be placed in the school within a few weeks.

Mission House Fair.—We would remind those interested that the time

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is drawing near for the Mission House fair of 1901, the date being some time during May. The exhibition stall of S. John's School promises to be a success. All contributions to this stall will be sold for the benefit of the fair, but substantial money prizes will be given for competition with the various articles. The list includes dolls, pin-cushions, cosey, carpentry, cookery, and flowers, with prizes ranging up to a guinea, which will be for the best-dressed doll for those under 20 years. In the "open to all" will be found "most useful article made from odds and ends" and "most novel pin-cushion." A schedule can be obtained from the secretary (Mr. Tevelein).

CHILDREN'S HOME MISSION FUND.

OCTOBER COLLECTION.

The following amounts have been duly sent to Mrs. Montgomery, general secretary of this fund:—H. Anderson, 6d; M. Brown, 1s; V. Collins, 1s; R. Gunning, 1s; R. Evans, 6d; N. Evans, 1s; F. Evans, 4d; Fairthorne (5), 3s; D. Genders, 1s; C. Martin, 6d; S. Martin, 3d; G. Martin, 3d; E. Martin, 4s; B. Merrylees, 2s; K. Merrylees, 2s; A. S. Meredith, 2s; V. Pardy, 1s; C. Perrin, 1s; S. Perrin, 6d; I. Perrin, 3d; N. Perrin, 3d; E. Sadler, 1s; J. Stackhouse, 6d; E. Stackhouse, 6d; V. Sadler, 1s; E. Teniswood, 6d; A. Unsworth, 3d; U. Unsworth, 3d; J. Wilkinson, 6d; C. Wilkinson, 6d; M. Wilkinson, 6d; Joyce Wilkinson, 1s; R. E. Whitfield, 2s; M. Whitfield, 2s; G. Weedon, 6d; D. Weedon, 6d; L. White, 6d; from sundry well wishers, church collection plate, £1 9s; Miss P. M. Cooper (Somerset), 1s 6d. Total, £3 5s 10d.

This makes the amount sent from S. John's children since the fund was inaugurated two years ago £33 11s.

Any boys or girls who wish to join the union may become members by subscribing 1d per week (or more). Names may be handed to any of the teachers in the Sunday-school, or to the secretary.

In order to bring the half-yearly collections more in line with the Sunday-school collections, it has been decided to have them in January and July. The usual envelopes will shortly, therefore, be issued for this purpose. Members kindly note.

withstanding many demands during the year. The general account showed over £8 in hand; the stipend account, as soon as rent of glebe is paid, will be £22 to the good; £123 was raised in offertories for 1899 for the whole parish, while £142 was raised similarly for 1900. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to all churchwardens.

A midnight service was held on New Year's Eve, when there was a large congregation present on the solemn occasion, it being the end of the century and the inauguration of the Commonwealth.

The Sunday-school feast was held on January 30 at the old rectory grounds, and was very enjoyable. We wish to thank Dr. Anderson for the use of the grounds (dear to so many from old associations), the Messrs. Evans for kindly conveying children and elders free of charge, Mr. C. Bean for taking tables, forms, etc., backwards and forwards, Mrs. Dodery for gift of a fine damask tablecloth for the use of the school, and Mrs. Wingrove and Mrs. Wilson for toys for children's races. Other kind friends, too numerous to mention, gave money and provisions; these we also thank.

The rector was much gratified to receive from Mr. Joseph Archer, Pan-shanger, a cheque for £10 to help him with the purchase of a new horse. He wishes to thank the gentlemen whose names follow:—Messrs. Dodery, Dumaresq, D. Archer, T. C. Archer, H. Gatenby, T. R. Arthur, J. Archer, Gee, A. Mackinnon, W. H. D. Archer.

CRESSY.

FOUR children were baptised recently at the little chapel—Vera and Vernon Gibson, Daphne Blake, and Gladstone George Strickland.

We are glad to see Mr. E. Lucas so much stronger.

The new year started very sadly for many people in this district. Within one fortnight there were no less than four funerals. The sympathy of all went out to Mr. W. Gatenby and his family through the sad death of his son, Charles. In September last he contracted typhoid fever, and after a long and severe attack, borne most patiently, he never thoroughly recovered, but sank and died rather suddenly at the last.

Scarcely two weeks afterwards (on January 17) the funeral of the late Louis S. Foster took place. Deceased, who was 23 years of age, was the third son of Mr. George Foster, and, though his death was sudden, it was not altogether unexpected, as he was suffering

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from an affection of the heart following on previous illness. He was a quiet unassuming young man, and his obliging manner made him many friends, who all regret his early death.

Wednesday, 23rd, brought us news of the death of our beloved Queen, which could scarcely be realised at first. On the following Sunday memorial services were held at Saundridge and Cressy, when the Rev. W. H. Murray preached special sermons. Again, on Saturday, the day of the royal funeral, a special service was held in Trinity Church at 11 a.m., when the Rev. J. M. Norman also took part.

On January 27 the annual meeting of parishioners took place. The retiring churchwardens were re-elected, and Mr. Wm. Newton was chosen as Synod representative. The accounts were in a satisfactory state, a balance of £2 2s 1d being carried forward to the new year.

The prize distribution took place on Sunday afternoon, February 3. First took place, Dr. E. Crowther being again prizes for attendance were carried off by one girl (Clara Summers) and six boys (Albert, James, and Arthur Stebbings, and Gordon Bernard and Edgar Sturges), who did not miss a Sunday during the year.

DELORAINE.

IN Memoriam.—A solemn memorial service was held on Sunday evening, January 27, when the burial service was read, special prayers offered, and appropriate hymns and solos sung. The

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service opened with the "Dead March." Three more memorial services were held the following Saturday: at 11 a.m. with Holy Communion, at 2.30 for the children, and at 11 p.m., this latter hour being the time of the funeral procession would be passing in London. The church and congregation wore an aspect of deep mourning, and none could fail to be impressed with the influence which made itself felt, in the realisation that a world-wide sorrow was affecting each heart in our mighty Empire.

Children's Home Mission Union.—On the afternoon of Thursday, January 17, the children belonging to this union assembled in the school-room, when they heard a bright and pointed address from Mrs. Montgomery. A new feature in this year's work is to be the addition of red cards for collecting by young men, thus giving the elder brothers an opportunity of helping in the worthy cause of supporting the churches throughout the country, the children's collecting cards being white, and the ladies being blue. The three colours are now complete.

The Bishop's Visit.—His Lordship hopes to visit the parish via the Great Lake and Jackey's Marsh. The main object of the visit is to administer the Holy Confirmation to those candidates who for some weeks have been under instruction. Confirmation services will be held probably as follows:—Friday, 22nd, Jackey's Marsh (en route from the Lake); Friday, 22nd, Meander, 7 o'clock p.m.; Sunday, 24th, Elizabeth Town, 2.30 p.m.; Sunday, 24th, S. Mark's, 7 p.m. The prayers of all are asked on behalf of the candidates that they may receive a rich blessing through means of this divine ordinance.

We shall be losing the voluntary and kind services of the Rev. Thos. Hale for some weeks, and certainly all will miss his helpful ministrations throughout the district. He was ever ready to fulfil, in all weathers and at any distance, his Sunday duty. We hope that his trip to New Zealand will be fraught with much delight and strength.

Wedding.—A number of friends assembled at S. Mark's Church on January 30 to witness the marriage of Miss

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Minnie L. Slater to Mr. E. G. Addison. The bride, who was attired in white dress and veil, was attended by her sister, Miss Mabel Slater, who acted as bridesmaid. The scholars belonging to the Sunday-school class which Miss Slater has taught for some time, were present for the occasion, standing in the chancel while the ceremony was being performed. They joined in presenting a special gift to their former teacher and friend. On leaving the church the friends of the happy couple were entertained at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Slater.

Vestry Meetings.—The annual vestry meeting to elect wardens and discuss parochial matters was held in S. Mark's school-room on Thursday, January 31. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read, and the statement of accounts made, the former wardens, Mr. W. D. Harris, Mr. R. G. Horne, and Mr. W. Harvey, were re-elected. A resolution was also passed to re-elect the previous sidesmen, with the addition of Mr. Beresford. A special resolution was moved and seconded to thank all workers in the parish, especially those doing the onerous work of collecting, and suchlike unnoticed labour, among whom Mrs. R. G. Horne stands foremost. Mr. Douglas kindly consented to fill the post of treasurer again. The subjects of painting and ventilating the church were discussed, and resolutions passed to carry out the same.

Vestry meetings were also held at S. Luke's and Holy Cross. Each re-elected their wardens. The Rector expressed his gratitude for the interest and devotion they had exhibited towards their office. S. Luke's Church is to be repainted. The tea ground opposite Holy Cross is to be made our own, and for the interior carpet is to be purchased for the east end. Readers may remember that the day fixed for Holy Cross annual tea was a "real drencher." It is proposed to supplement this by a concert early in May. S. Mark's annual tea is postponed.

Baptisms.—Jan. 8—Frances Marion Harvey, Deloraine. Jan. 15—Marshall Frank Walker, Parkham. Jan. 18—George Baden Bakes, Quamby. Jan. 20—Hilda Madeline Sallers, Dairy Plains; Ivan Maxwell Heffron, Mole Creek. Jan. 24—Royal Charles Johnson, Meander. Jan. 31—Greta Beatrice Archer, Great Lake.

Marriages.—Jan. 16—At Holy Cross—Harry Radford Parkham to Martha Jane Atkins, Dunorlan. Jan. 30—At S. Mark's—Edwin George Addison, Boat Harbour, to Minnie Louisa Slater, Deloraine.

Burials.—Jan. 8—Ellen Boxall (58), Meander. Jan. 27—Mary Worner (64), Jackey's Marsh.

MACQUARIE PLAINS.

ON January 20 the election of a representative of the parish in Synod took place, Dr. E. Crowther being again elected.

On Sunday, January 27, and February 3 special services were held with reference to the death of our beloved Queen. The altar, pulpit, and prayer-desk were draped in black. On the latter occasion the anthem "O Rest in the Lord" was beautifully sung by Miss Walker; and after the "Dead March in Saul," the whole congregation sang the national anthem.

QUEENSTOWN.

THE strawberry fete and sale of gifts, organised by Mrs. Driffeld and her committee of ladies, passed off most successfully. The sum of £68 odd has been handed to the wardens, and this with a small balance in the bank reduces the building fund debt to about £25. As this is the only debt on the parish, the past year may be considered as having been financially a successful one. By Miss Perkins's removal from the town, a change of organists has taken place, and we are fortunate in obtaining the voluntary services of such a musician as Mr. Rogers, who hails from Broken Hill. The members of the choir gave Miss Perkins a very handsome dressing-case, and the Rev. W. Harry Edwardes, in making the presentation, expressed the appreciation which all felt for Miss Perkins's past services and her unfailing regularity in all weathers.

At Gormanston Mrs. Emmett found it necessary to resign the organ, owing to change of residence. Miss Tilley has kindly undertaken the position.

The annual meeting of S. Martin's was held, and the retiring wardens were unanimously re-elected. Special thanks were given to Mr. Wilson for the gravel he gave to put round the church, also to Mr. Alex. Young for the handsome notice board he made for S. Martin's.

Besides the special efforts for the building fund the Improvement Association, of which Mr. Hogg was the promoter, has been getting funds for fencing the church property, and tenders will soon be called for the erection of the fence.

At the Diocesan examination our Sunday-school scholars did well for the first attempt. Muriel Calder carried off the Bishop's prize, and Ruth Mawson, Frances Cockerill, and Willie Douglas got a second-class, while Annie Cockerill obtained a pass.

The Sunday-school picnic was held at Lynchford, and, in spite of showers, the children all seemed to enjoy them-

selves. The adults supplied very liberally the viands, and a quantity of cakes, etc., left over were distributed at the State school on the following day.

ZEEHAN.

THE services on Christmas Day were as follow:—Celebrations of the Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. and at noon, matins 11 a.m., and evensong at 7.30 p.m. They were well attended, the number of communicants at both celebrations exceeding that of last year. The church was prettily decorated by members of the congregation.

On New Year's Eve a special service was held to celebrate the inauguration of the Commonwealth. The form used was that issued for use throughout the diocese for the occasion. There was a large attendance of both choir and congregation, and special hymns and Jackson's "Te Deum" were sung. At 12 midnight the church bell was rung, followed by a short address from the rector. The service was brought to a close by singing the National Anthem.

After the special service the Holy Eucharist for the Feast of the Circumcision was celebrated, 27 of the congregation remaining and communicating.

Mrs. Copeland has been given a most hearty welcome by the members of the congregation and West Coast people generally. At the rector's request no public social or demonstration of any kind was given, though he and Mrs. Copeland fully appreciated the kindness of those who would have shown their goodwill in this way. The rector has determined to remain in his present home till a fitting official residence is provided by the parish. We believe steps are shortly to be taken to provide a rectory, which all will agree is very badly needed in Zeehan, more perhaps for future rectors than even for our present, as the former may not be in a position to purchase a private residence to act as a rectory.

[The above arrived too late for our last issue.]

The two Sunday-schools in connection with S. Luke's united in a picnic at the Montana mine on January 23. The day was warm and sunny at 11 a.m., and the children, about 200 in number, through the kindness of the manager, were conveyed from the town to their destination by the tram belonging to the mine. On their arrival they were provided with lunch, and then set in earnest to the business of racing, jumping, and games, under the supervision of Messrs. Sullivan and Thomas, the superintendents of the two schools, assisted by a number of

teachers and friends. Later in the afternoon everyone enjoyed an excellent tea, at which good many of the parents were present, and shortly after the children dispersed, having thoroughly enjoyed their day's outing.

Memorial services were held in S. Luke's Church in connection with the funeral of her late Majesty Queen Victoria. On Sunday, 27th, special prayers were used both at matins and evensong, an especial hymn was sung. A children's service was held in the afternoon, and at all three services the vicar preached on the subject that was filling everyone's mind. In the evening the church was crowded. On Saturday, February 2, the day of the funeral, the Holy Eucharist was celebrated at 7.30, and a special service was held at 11 a.m., at which a good number were present, the form used being that issued for use throughout the diocese. On the following day the local troops attended a parade service at the church, which was so crowded that many people could not find a seat. The chaplain gave a short address on her Majesty as the soldier's Queen, and at the conclusion of the service a verse of the National Anthem was sung, followed by the "Dead March in Saul," played by the band. Throughout the week the sanctuary was draped in black.

FORTH AND LEVEN.

THE Abbotsham Sunday-school treat, which was held at Button's Creek on January 4th, passed off very successfully. Miss Annie Shaw is to be congratulated on the result of her efforts, which are unceasing on behalf of this school.

On Sunday, January 13th, the annual festival services were held at the parish church, the special preacher being the Rev. C. I. Brammall, the Rector of Hagley. The day was fine and not too hot, and all the services were excellently attended. The general opinion was that the children sang with more vigour and power this year, having been very carefully trained by Mrs. de Coetlogon and Miss Lungley. At the prize-giving in the afternoon some 200 children received prizes, and the Rector gave an address, in which he expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the superintendent (Mr. Lakin), to the teachers—some 20 in number—and to all who had in any way aided during the past year in the invaluable work of training the children. It is a matter for great thankfulness that the Sunday-school has so prospered. Mr. Brammall gave earnest and practical addresses, which were attentively listened to. We have to thank a kindly visitor from Hobart

for a few words of encouragement and advice given by him to the children at the flower service, and we were pleased to learn that he himself felt benefited by our services. The attendance at Sunday-school has been excellent so far this year, and we hope that parents will do their utmost to send their children every Sunday. On January 16 Holy Trinity Church Sunday-school held the annual treat at Button's Creek. Mrs. Wilkins and Miss Cox had worked hard and successfully to get together the needful supplies, which were most liberally given, and the treat proved most enjoyable and successful. Children and parents mustered to the number of some 400, and had a real good time. The superintendent proved a host in himself, sparing no pains or trouble to help in every way possible, while the ladies, as usual, had dinner and tea ready like magic. It was evident that some of the "children of a larger growth" did not disdain a game of cricket, while swings, races, and games were thoroughly enjoyed. We heartily thank all our good friends who worked so hard and well to enable the children to enjoy themselves, making special mention of Mr. Bernard, who kindly allowed us to take as much water as we wanted (which was a good deal); Mr. Lakin and Mr. Alma Pearl, who fixed up the swings and made a capital bridge over the creek; Captain Noake and Mr. Arthur Ellis, who played cricket manfully; and last, but by no means least, the ladies—Messdames Wilkins, Lakin, Pearl, Ellis, Rand, the Misses Cottam, Ellis, Webb, Wilson, Lungley, and others.

Sunday, January 6, was duly observed as Commonwealth Sunday in the parish, special sermons being preached at several centres. The Sunday-school prizes were distributed at Leith Church in the afternoon of January 6, the little church being crowded, and much interest being taken. We take this opportunity of heartily thanking Miss Fulton for her good work as organist and teacher at Leith Church.

The Kindred Sunday-school children received their prizes on Sunday, January 27. Here Miss Thompson and Mr. Walker carry on the Sunday-school work with untiring zeal and energy, which cannot be over-valued. On the same day the Rev. W. Earle distributed the prizes to the Sprent Sunday-school children, who mustered in great force. Miss Moore is our organist and superintendent at Sprent, and works hard to keep up the choir and Sunday-school.

Several centres have had their annual meetings, financial matters being satisfactory. In many cases the for-

mer churchwardens were re-elected, and we also welcome some new ones. Messrs. Barkworth and Gurney have been elected as our lay representatives in synod. Mr. Barkworth has for years undertaken the really hard work of treasurer and stipend collector for the parish. It has been a labour of love with him, and the parish owes him a very great debt of gratitude for his invaluable services. The parish accounts are admirably kept, and are duly audited each year by experienced men. Mr. Gurney, who has gone to Hobart to act as co-principal of the Hutchins School, was presented with a purse of sovereigns before leaving the parish. Both these gentlemen are thoroughly in touch with the needs of the parish, and will undoubtedly represent us well in synod.

Very solemn and impressive services have been held in the parish in connection with our late beloved sovereign Queen Victoria. Our sorrow is deep and real, and our Queen's death seems to have come home to us as a personal loss. Our memorial service in the parish church, which was fittingly draped, will not soon be forgotten.

We are glad to note that Kindred held very successful sports, etc., in aid of church funds recently. The proceeds were satisfactory. Credit is due to Mr. Berry, who worked hard for the success of the undertaking. We heartily thank the ladies and gentlemen who so ably helped.

Upper Castra Church building has recently been improved by a new chimney, much to the satisfaction of the worthy school master, Mr. Traill. The congregations here have much improved of late, close upon 50 attending the rector's last service. At Sprent the Sunday-school flourishes, thanks to the energy of the teachers. The Messrs. Gould, who have always been faithful to the Church, are again elected churchwardens, with Mr. Chamberlen, whom we welcome as a warden.

Abbotsham is considering the possibility of holding sports, etc., to line the church, now that the debt is paid off it. At North Motton Mr. Barrett has resigned as warden, his place being taken by Mr. Chilcott.

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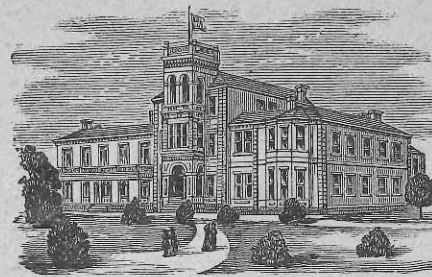
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