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SEPT. 20, 1902

THE CHURCH MESSENGER

A
MONTHLY MAGAZINE
FOR
THE PEOPLE . . .

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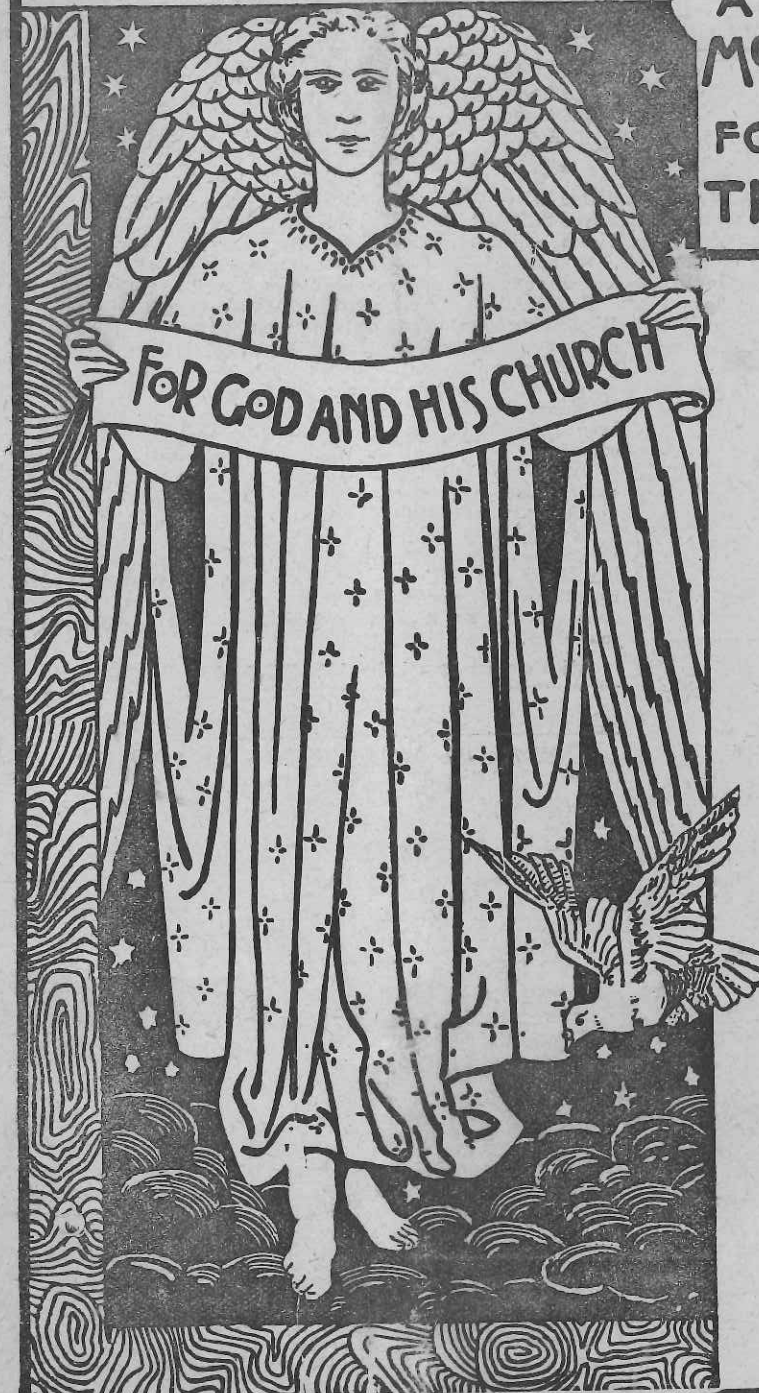
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VOL. IX.—NO. 2. LAUNCESTON, TASMANIA, SEPTEMBER 20, 1902. PRICE, 1d.

Our Note Book.

The business manager of the "Church Messenger" desires us to remind subscribers who have not yet paid their subscriptions that they would greatly oblige by doing so at once, as their delay makes the task of management rather an anxious one.

* * *

We were glad to hear of the splendid reception accorded to our new Bishop in Hobart. We feel sure that when he comes north Launceston will do its part in according him a cordial and right loyal welcome to the northern portion of his diocese. The one hope and prayer of Tasmanian churchmen for him is that he may be long spared to rule over the Church committed to him in love and charity to all men.

* * *

The law of associations which has recently come into force in France has met with far more determined and vigorous opposition than its firmest friends expected.

It is very generally believed by English people that religion is, broadly speaking, dead in France. This is a great mistake, for underlying all the frothy scepticism and indifference which to the casual observer seem to be the note of French life there is a very genuine and deep piety which wins the respect of all who realise its intensity.

We do not agree with Roman methods or teaching, yet we must sympathise with the thousands who, because they, according to their lights, have given themselves to Christ, are being exiled from their country. For this law of associations spells exile to the bulk of French religions, who are emigrating to England, Belgium, and the United States, and exile to the home-loving French is a far more bitter thing than it is to the more adventurous Englishman.

One thing is certain—such extreme measures of persecution as this law are bound in the not very distant future to produce a sharp re-action in favour of the Roman Church in France. Anticlerical statesmen seem to have forgotten, if they ever realised, that persecution is the best incentive to progress the wit of man can devise.

We are glad to note that at the forthcoming session of Synod in Sydney legislation will be brought forward to promote the exchange of parishes by clergy licensed thereto. Some such legislation is very much and very badly needed in nearly every diocese of the Australian Church. There can be little doubt that more frequent changes would be to the great advantage of clergy and people alike. However, it is emphatically a matter in which caution is necessary, for very few churchmen wish to see our system approximated to that of some of the dissenting bodies.

* * *

The Church in South Africa, splendidly supported by the S.P.G., is quietly setting to work to repair the breaches made by the late war. Vast and far-reaching opportunities for good are before her if she really will play her part in the welding together of those who have been estranged and alienated by strife. We hope never again to enter upon a struggle with those who are now our fellow colonists. The Church has successfully faced many such problems in the past as the task of welding into one the discordant elements of Dutch and British. We, accordingly, look forward with hope to the future. The Dutch Reformed Church has clung with rigid observance to the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, to the quarterly Communion of Nachtmal, to the weekly Day of Rest. The earnestness and sincerity of the religious Boer have deeply impressed many of our soldiers. Surely it is the duty of all who love our

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Talks with a Naturalist.

(BY WOODPECKER.)

No. XXXII.—(Continued.)

"And what did you think of Table Cape itself?"

"I was immensely pleased with all I saw. First of all, the view from the Cape was magnificent. To the south and south-east we could see Valentine's Peak, Mount Housatop, and the huge shoulder of Barn Bluff, and 100 lesser heights; in the dim distance, more to the east, was Mount Roland; on the west the Sisters' Hills, with their barren slopes of quartzite, backed by unbroken forests towards the south. Beyond these stood up the old Circular Head Bluff, at a distance of 25 miles; and at least 50 miles beyond that appeared the well-known form of the Black Pyramid, standing like a sentinel in the stormy sea. Table Cape itself is 500ft. above sea level, and the light-house, built just on its precipitous edge, is just another 100ft. It is said the light from this elevation can be seen at a distance of 45 miles out to sea."

"Surely it ought to be seen further than that, Woodpecker?"

"No, Tommy; not when you bear in mind the convexity of the earth's surface. Consult your 'Spherical Trigonometry,' if you have one."

"And what do you call Table Cape—I mean, what kind of rock is it?"

"It is basalt, and there is a world of meaning in that term. Let me now say a word of explanation as to the origin of these three isolated peaks—Table Cape, Circular Head, and the Black Pyramid. First of all, they are in a row, so to speak, and that probably indicates a line of weakness in the earth's crust, and the time assuredly was—probably in the early part of the Miocene age—when they were, each and all, active volcanoes, belching forth clouds of smoke and flame, and inundating the country for miles in all directions with streams of molten lava at a temperature of over 2000deg."

"But how do you know all this?"

"Right, Tommy; ask as many questions as you like, for it shows interest. Know, then, that the soil in the neighbourhood of Table Cape and Circular Head is basaltic, the result of the weathering down of ancient lava flows which once issued from craters in what were at that time active volcanoes. It is probable that during their periods of activity the craters in these two volcanic cones were at least a mile in diameter!"

"But how did this stuff turn into soil?"

"By processes of weathering, most important of which is rain, which absorbs carbon-dioxide in passing through the atmosphere. First frost, dew, winds, and the sun's heat also aid in decomposing even the hardest rocks; but none of them weather so rapidly as basalt, and none of them decompose into soil, which all plants so dearly love, for it contains lime, iron, magnesia, potash, and soda."

"But are these 'craters,' as you call them, now to be seen at Table Cape and Circular Head?"

"Oh, no, Tommy; they have long since disappeared. Craters only exist while a volcano is active, and for a comparatively short time afterwards. The 'cone,' as it is called, usually consists mainly of ashes and scoriae, and these are easily denuded. But the part of every volcano that lasts longest is the hard 'core,' which, by a final effort of the subterranean forces, fills up the 'throat,' or internal cavity."

"But why should this last longest?"

"Right! A good question. The reason is that this 'core' cools slowly and under great pressure, so that instead of being scoriaceous and cindery, like the surface of a lava flow, it is exceedingly hard, dense, and tough."

"Then I suppose what we see at these places are only the 'cores'?"

"Precisely; the cores, very much denuded."

"I see, but I never understood that before."

"That's right. You will now perhaps realise what I told you—that 'Wynyard' and 'Stanley' are absurd and misleading terms. Each of these places should have kept alive the name of its benefactor. There is no richer soil in Tasmania than in the neighbourhood of Circular Head. And what, I ask, would the district of Table Cape have been worth if Table Cape itself had never existed?"

"Do you imagine the barren metamorphic rocks that underlie the basalt would ever have repaid farming operations? Would the Sisters' Hills be a suitable area for a butter factory? Could any man raise a bag of potatoes from them? My own opinion, Tommy, is that a single nannyoat would find it a hard matter to find a living there!"

"And when do you think these old volcanoes were actively in eruption?"

"Probably, in the Miocene period, for they overflowed the fossil banks, and these are 'Eocene.'"

"And how long is that ago?"

"The best authorities consider it to be at least five million years since its commencement. The volcanic disturbances will therefore be later. I may add that they were possibly submarine, for the entire north coast is an area of elevation, and has been for a long time."

"Were people living here then, Woodpecker?"

"No, I think not. Probably human beings lived during Miocene times in some parts of the world, but they would hardly have wandered to Tasmania."

"By the way, Woodpecker, I don't know whether you know, but there are a lot of people hereabouts who are frightened about Mount Pelee."

"What! Twelve thousand miles off! Absurd!"

"But some of them say it may be a sign that the world is coming to an end."

"That is equally absurd. There is not the remotest possibility of it. The world could not come to an end now. I wonder why some of you folks don't study the natural sciences, and so have something rational to think about."

"I don't know."

"But, I can tell you, it would be much better than some of your pursuits—balls, theatres, ping-pong tournaments, and such rubbish. World coming to an end, eh! Why, the very fact of volcanic disturbances taking place at all proves that the earth still possesses life and energy."

"Is that so?"

"Certainly it is. No doubt the world will come to an end some time, but it will do so by purely natural causes, and not by any cause that is not natural. I presume that, in spite of your ignorance, you are aware that the earth has two motions?"

"Yes; it turns on its axis and it revolves round the sun."

"Very good; and these are rapid motions. The earth's axial motion is 1000 miles an hour, and any place on the earth's equator moves through 1000 miles of space every hour, day and night; and, in its orbital motion, it travels nearly 19 miles every second. Do you imagine it can come to an end while these conditions remain? I tell you it is impossible! But that the earth will in time lose both motion and energy, and will then be drawn into the sun, thereby giving him a fresh lease of life and energy, there can, I think, be no doubt. But it is not a question for the imagination to decide, but for mathematics and physics."

"And have you any idea as to what will cause the earth to lose speed in her motion?"

"The cause is supposed to be due to tidal action. You are aware that the earth turns on its axis once in every 24 hours?"

"Yes."

"Then it has been contended by the best scientists that the tides must exert a kind of friction on the revolving earth; that they are acting, and always have acted, as kind of brake upon her; and that, in time, her rotation will be so slow that she will be no

longer able to resist the sun's attraction. There can, I think, be little doubt that tidal action is an efficient cause in this case, and that the day will get longer and longer as time passes. But, even so, millions of years must elapse before there can be any such catastrophe. So, please Tommy, don't talk any more nonsense about the world coming to an end. Volcanic disturbances are, and have been, the rule in every part of the earth's crust, at one time or other. They are natural occurrences, not supernatural ones; and, upon the whole, they have been decidedly beneficial to man; and, mind, they are signs of life, not death."

"All right, Woodpecker. If anybody says anything to me about it, I'll tell 'em it's all Tommy-rot, and that you said so."

"No, boy, advise your friends, one and all, to take up the study of some branch of natural knowledge. It is the best moral and mental tonic I know of. There are plenty of excellent textbooks to be had now, and at very reasonable prices, and there is always the wonderful and beautiful world at our feet, some knowledge of which is our proper heritage, as sentient and responsible human beings. Do you remember what Prince Henry said to his boon companion, Poins, when he thought they had both played the fool long enough?"

"No, I never heard."

"He said:—

"By heaven, Poins, I feel me much to blame,

So idly to profane the precious time."

"Let that great thought sink into your mind, my boy, and bear its due fruit."

Diocesan Synod.

(Extract from a Paper by the Ven. Archdeacon Neild, Parkes, N.S.W.)

In several expressions of opinion regarding the late Synod which have recently appeared, regret has been expressed that too much time was occupied with matters of business, to the exclusion of the more vital and spiritual aspects of Church work. The spirit which prompts these kindly criticisms and manifests a certain impatience at what it esteems a loss of time and opportunity is worthy of respect and consideration.

But does it not reveal a lack of discernment as to the true nature and proper functions of Synod? The Diocesan Synod is the parliament of the Church, which, within clearly defined

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limits, provides and regulates the machinery through which the diocese is governed. In the political sphere of every flourishing state or nation the teachings of experience and the progressive character of the age necessitate the frequent repealing and amending of old laws, and the passing of new ones. This is required, not only for the advancement of the nation's welfare solely, but for her very existence as a nation. So with our branch of the Holy Catholic Church. She is not only alive, but growing—"lengthening her cords and strengthening her stakes." Yet this very life requires changes in new methods of government, as the garments of infancy are superseded by those of youth. May we not affirm that the Church of England in this state has emerged from the days of her childhood, and, by the good hand of God upon her, has entered upon a vigorous youth full of bright promise and splendid possibilities? Laws and regulations admirably suited to the requirements of her earlier days have ceased to be of value and need amending, or repealing, as they, under the circumstances surrounding her expanded life and work, have become non-effective, and in some instances cumbersome. Others, whose value and usefulness have been tried and stood the test right well, are retained, while new ones must be framed and passed to cope with new conditions of Church life and activity. A Church which cannot adapt herself to the requirements of the age as they present themselves must assuredly fail to perform the high and all-important work expected and demanded by her Divine Master. Do not misunderstand me. While fully recognising the only source of true life and service, i.e., the presence and power of the Lord Jesus Christ through the agency of the Holy Ghost, Whom we solemnly invoke each day we meet in Synod, still it is essential to do our part by providing a well-ordered system suitable to the times, through which the Holy One may work his gracious purposes among the sons of earth. The great fundamental doctrines of that "faith once for all delivered unto the saints" we hold tenaciously without adding thereto or detracting therefrom, as well as those principles of Church Government which are characteristic of our ancient and beloved Church.

But the modes by which those principles are brought to bear upon the problems of Church life and work at times require modification, addition, and revocation. Take the canons of the Synod of the Diocese of Bathurst, issued in 1891, and note the changes which have been made therein since that date, and they will afford ample proof of my contention. Thus when we assemble in Synod we have a very important work to perform, demanding close attention and earnest consideration. The Bishop and clergy meet

with the representative laymen of the diocese to legislate for the governance of the Church we love and highly value. And we remember with thankfulness her noble traditions and antiquity, and the vast good that the Great Head thereof has accomplished through her instrumentality in the ages past. Also that her power for usefulness is just as great as ever; nay—may we not affirm?—is growing and expanding in measure with her ever increasing opportunities, especially in these Austral lands. Thus possessing powers of self-government yet in vital unity with the Mother Church of England, we should realise the great responsibility which rests upon us to so legislate as to uphold her dignity, maintain her breadth of tolerance, and extend her influence for God and for righteousness.

In the Parliaments of our states we hear complaints at times of loosely-framed and ill-digested measures, of hasty legislation, and "the slaughter of the innocents" at the close of the session. Are such matters utterly unknown in Church Synods?

We are under constant and great obligation to the "drafting committee" of our diocese, i.e., the Diocesan Council, for their self-denying and invaluable labours which so materially contribute to the saving of time and debate by the generally excellent canons framed by them for the consideration of the Synod.

Still, it would be folly to pass measures, fraught with far-reaching and most serious consequences, without duly weighing their clauses, and subjecting them to keen criticism. It is thus that in most instances our Church laws are dealt with, there the opinions of the laity, varied, kindly, and invaluable, are of such practical utility. The deep interest displayed by the lay representatives is not only of inestimable advantage in Synod, but in many instances they return to their several parishes with their churchmanship confirmed and quickened, and encourage their co-workers to fresh efforts and increased energy in good works. The short time which can be devoted to Synod, especially by the laity, and then frequently at much inconvenience and expense, while demonstrating their loyalty and devotion to their Church, should prohibit unnecessary debate. Yet to neglect attending Synod, or when present evince little or no interest in its proceedings, and afterwards complain of its results, is surely unfair. The introduction of matters of no real diocesan interest at times occupies much valuable time which might be more profitably employed. If members would make themselves more fully acquainted with the various measures forwarded to them prior to the assembling of Synod it would greatly facilitate the despatch of business. In some instances it might be advisable

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to bring important measures before our parochial councils and Synod representatives and obtain their opinion thereon, and thus stimulate their interest, as well as benefit by their advice, before Synod assemblies. But as loyal churchmen it is our duty to yield an unfeigned consent, and render due obedience to the canons and resolutions passed by Synod. Especially is this the case with the clergy, who have solemnly declared their submission to them. The Bishop of the diocese is himself subject thereto, and we have the right to expect that senior and junior clergymen alike will not fail to comply therewith. It is always practicable for a discontented clergyman, who defies the just and lawful demands of Synod, to find some who sympathise with and support him in his ill-advised and mischief-producing course of action. Yet such action is subversive of Church order and discipline, and greatly weakens the influence of, and lessens respect for, the disobedient clergyman, as well as injuring the Church we profess to love and serve. There are legitimate means for the redress of grievances which should be availed of to rectify them. But it is essential for the well-being of our Church that her members, clerical and lay, should pay a cheerful obedience to lawful authority. Especially should the clergy be examples to their people, endeavouring "to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."—"Church Commonwealth."

What to Read.

In these days, when so few comparatively will "endure sound doctrine," and many are "heaping to themselves teachers having itching ears," we have need to remember our Lord's command, "Take heed what ye hear." Many are perplexed who are anxiously seeking the truth about our Church and her teaching, and are asking, "What are we to believe?" Any of the following books will be found most helpful to such. They are stocked by the Diocesan Book Depot, Murray-street, Hobart, and Messrs. Hopwood and Co., Brisbane-street, Launceston. The clergy will do well to get a copy of each for lending to parishioners:—
Mason's "Faith of the Gospel" . . . 4/-
Macoll's "Reformation Settlement" . 4/-
"What does the Church of England Say?" . . . 3/-
"The Church and Her Teaching" . . 2/6

Liddon's "Elements of Religion" . . 2/6
"The Christian Church" . . . 2/-
"A First Book on Church Principles" . . . 1/6
"A First Book on the Church" . . . 1/-
*For plain truths in a simple form these (by Canon Garnier, S.P.C.K.) are specially recommended.

New Guinea Mission.

We have just received from Sydney the report of the New Guinea Mission for the year ending March 30, and have read it with no small interest, for it is a fascinating, although simple, account of as noble work as has ever been done by Christian men and women for Christ and His Church.

In it the many difficulties and privations with which our missionaries in New Guinea are brought face to face are all but ignored. We wish they were better appreciated amongst ourselves here, for then the mission would receive more of the support it so sorely needs to do the work God has given it.

The report begins by noting an increase to the staff in the form of a third priest, the Rev. E. W. Taylor, from West Australia. He, however, has been obliged quite recently to return on sick leave to Australia. A nurse, Miss Everband, from Rockhampton, has also joined the staff.

The report also notes the appointment of the Rev. W. R. Mounsey, formerly of St. James's Church, Sydney, an appointment rendered necessary by the financial difficulties of the mission.

The Bishop of New Guinea's visit to England is also noticed, and it is made clear that while he is endeavouring to raise funds to endow the Bishopric and to wipe off debts incurred during his tenure of the See, the mission still depends upon Australia for its annual income, a point we hope our readers will bear in mind.

On the whole, the report is distinctly cheering. Progress seems to be the order of the day in every single portion of the mission, for which we may thank God.

The great developments at Hoge are of special interest, for it seems to us to be destined to become a Christian settlement of importance. Mr. Dakers has moved there from his old station, Taupota, and has made it into the central station for the south-eastern portion of the mission district, and it is bidding fair to become a flourishing industrial settlement.

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Boys' English Calf School Boots, 7 to 13, from 5s to 6s. These boots are second to none. We can highly recommend them. A trial will satisfy you.

Thigh Gum Boots, 38s and 40s.
Youths' Leggings, 5s 6d; Men's, 6s 6d.
Youths' Strong Boots, 1 to 4, 6s 6d.
Girls' Satin Calf Boots, 3s 9d to 6s.

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We note, too, that the mission now owns some 7000 coca palm trees, which in time should produce revenue.

Another station where much has been done is Boianal, to the north-east of Dogura, where Mr. F. de G. Buchanan is working.

In spite of the fact that he cannot speak the language, and has only a kanaka teacher to help him, Mr. Buchanan has acquired great influence in a very difficult place. The Catechumen's class is a large one; many have been baptised, and the prospects are very good for the future.

Lack of men and money here, as elsewhere, alone stops a great forward movement.

What need to go on? At Dogura, at Wamira, Mukaua, Wanigela, the River Mamba, and Samarai, everywhere 'n the mission, hard work for Christ is being done—work that is being manifestly blessed by God.

The mission's needs are many and various, as is natural—too many, indeed, to be more than outlined here. They are:—

- (1) Permanent endowment of the Bishopric.
- (2) Removal of current liabilities.
- (3) Living agents' endowment fund (for furloughs and pensions).
- (4) A sufficient income.

We trust a perusal of the report which is well illustrated by a good many photographs, will induce many readers to do their best to meet these needs, and so to help on Christ's kingdom in New Guinea.

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Odds and Ends.

A SENSATIONAL BALLOON VOYAGE.

A note in a recent number of the "British Journal of Photography" gives a brief account of a balloon voyage of a very uncomfortable nature that was made by Dr. Miethe in company with Lieutenant Hildebrandt. The account, which is taken from the "Photographisches Wochenblatt," states that the ascent was made at Tegel in the afternoon, at 3 o'clock, and the balloon came to earth at half-past 6 between Nieder-Finow and Liepe. At the ascent the balloon passed first through a mist, and then suddenly into a thunder-cloud. After attaining a height of 200 metres the balloon was suddenly carried to an altitude of 2000 metres, and then as suddenly fell half that distance. Meanwhile the storm was proceeding, but although the travellers did not see the lightning, they were deafened with the thunder, and pelted with rain, hail, and sleet. In their rapid leaps and plunges the car was frequently on a level with the balloon, and the tow-ropes above their heads. The violent rocking of the car also added to the danger. Watches were not thought of, but according to the barograph this frightful experience must have lasted half an hour, when, through loss of gas pressure, the balloon fell from a height of 2200 metres upon a dense wood of beeches, but for which the travellers would probably have lost their lives. One of them descended by the rope, and obtained help from the villagers at Liepe.

THEY LENGTHEN LIFE.

In what particular callings do men live longest? A physician who has devoted much time to a study of the question finds that the farmers stand first in the list of long-lived men.

This he attributes to the fact that they enjoy a healthy, open-air life in close contact with nature, and generally live well on wholesome fare.

Next comes the clergyman, the lawyer, and the doctor in the order named. The clergy live quiet, methodical lives, spending much time in the open air, and are not subjected to such mental and nervous tension as men in other professions.

The lawyer's life, though not unhealthy, is more strenuous. There is less open-air life and more anxiety and excitement.

The doctor stands low on the list, because his work is never done, and he is liable to be called to attend the sick at any moment day or night. He is out in all weathers, and cannot call an hour his own. Then he is constantly exposed to infection, and has to spend much time in the unhealthy atmosphere of sick rooms.

Nevertheless, professional men and brainworkers generally live much longer than manual workers. Mental activity is more favourable to long life than muscular exertion; but both, wisely combined, form the ideal recipe for old age—"Cassell's Saturday Journal."

PARISH ECHOES.

DEVONPORT.

The coronation service ordered by the Administrator was held in the town at both churches. At S. John's, West Devonport the celebrant and preacher was the Rev. J. E. M. Roche, and at S. Paul's, East Devonport, the rector was celebrant and preacher; both buildings were crowded, and the services were hearty and congregational. The members of the defence force attended at S. Paul's, and about 50 partook of the Holy Eucharist. The decorations in both places were most tasteful and appropriate to the occasion.

S. Paul's, East Devonport.—The congregation of this church have to thank Mr. F. Squire for his gift of having the chancel re-coloured, which was done by Mr. Thos. F. Beale in his usual artistic style. Mrs. Major Spilsbury has also given some beautiful Maltese lace for the re-table. Mr. Towser has kindly given some new book-markers, and with other minor improvements the church has now a much more devotional appearance.

S. John's, West Devonport.—All will be glad to hear that Mrs. Beale, the wife of Mr. Thos. F. Beale, for so many years superintendent of this Sunday-school, is slowly recovering from her severe illness. We trust soon to hear of her complete recovery. We have to thank Mr. Towsey for new book-markers to this church.

S. Olave's, Don.—We are sorry to find that Mrs. Nichols has had a relapse, but we trust with warmer weather we shall see her about again. We sorely miss her in church. Here again we have to thank Mr. Towsey for new book-markers.

S. James's, Northdown.—The rector has commenced a confirmation class in this church every Sunday after the afternoon service, and we hope that once more, after the lapse of many years, the Bishop will administer the holy rite of laying on of hands in this church. We were glad to hear that Mr. Wilson, sen., the oldest lay reader in the diocese, who commenced reading under Bishop Nixon, kindly took the service in the absence of Mr. Squire, who was prevented coming by illness, on the fifth Sunday in last month.

Melrose.—The rector hopes to start an additional week-night service in this part of the parish, at the residence of Mr. Gerrard, on Wednesday, the 10th September, and to continue it monthly, if the people wish it. This will not interfere in any way with the services at Mr. Wilson's, which will be still

carried on there. The next weeknight service there will be Wednesday, September 17, at 8 p.m., with confirmation class after the service.

We are all looking forward to the time when we can give our new Bishop a hearty welcome to the parish. The rector and Mrs. Wilmer went to Hobart to represent the parish on his arrival and enthronement at the Cathedral; and return to the parish giving glowing accounts of the new Bishop, the soul-inspiring services in the Cathedral, and the meetings in the Town Hall. They were the guests of the lay representative of the parish and his good lady, who treated them right loyally during their stay in Hobart. The rector thanks Mr. Towsey for taking his weeknight service during the week he was away.

Baptisms.—June 26th, Daisy May Freer, Pearl Jane Freer; 20th, William Patrick Smith; August 10, Janet Mary Brown; 20th, Ivy Eliza Jane Meers; 27th, Russell Englebert Lewis.

Marriage.—August 18th, Joseph Thornton Root to Elizabeth Jane Ashe.

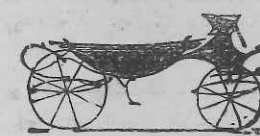
DELORAINÉ.

On August 10 authorised coronation service was said, and the King proclaimed, at the various churches in the parish. There were exceptionally large congregations everywhere. The music was most carefully rendered at S. Columba's Church, Mole Creek, and S. Mark's, Delorainé.

On the 11th the rector and a small party of venturesome folk made an excursion to frost and snow at Pine Lake. The rector hopes later on to visit some of his parishioners at this part of the parish.

Confirmation classes are started at Chudleigh, Delorainé, Elizabeth Town, and Mole Creek. We are still ready to receive fresh candidates and to start more classes.

On the 15th a large meeting of church people was held at Parkham. It was unanimously agreed that the church should not be used till it was formally opened by the Bishop. It was also resolved that the opening should be the occasion of holding a tea meeting; that the rector should endeavour to secure the presence of his Lordship the Bishop and the late rector, and that the date should be somewhere between the 10th and 24th of September. It is most fortunate that the rector has been suc-



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cessful in obtaining the promise of the presence of both his Lordship and Mr. Lingley for Monday, September 22. The tea will take place in the afternoon, and the opening service at about half-past 6. Several of the clergymen of the adjoining parishes have promised to attend. The late rector has suggested that the dedication should be that of England's first martyr, S. Alban. Considering the generosity of the late rector to Delorainé, the association of thought (in our minds) with Lord Grimthorpe, the munificent restorer of S. Alban's Cathedral, is most apt.

The 20th was a festal day in Delorainé, when Miss Horne was married to Mr. Hubert Reynolds. People were rejoiced to welcome the Rev. J. E. Lingley. He stayed from Monday till Thursday, and visited several outlying places in the parish. The church was crowded with friends of the bridal party and parishioners. The late rector gave the church's blessings to the happy couple, and many wished to be as fortunate as those before the altar that day. Mr. Bisdee, V.C., was groomsmen, and very valiant he seemed. Both soldiers came out of the South African campaign scatheless; may they both be equally successful in the matrimonial contests. This was the burden of the groomsmen's speech when returning thanks.

On the 21st a meeting of clergy was held at the rectory after special celebration of the Holy Communion at S. Mark's.

Communicants' Offertories.—August 3, £1 2s 6d; 9th (three communicants), nil; 10th (42 communicants), £2 15s 6d; 17th, £1 4s 1d; 21st (six communicants), nil; 24th (13 communicants), £1 13s 1d; 28th (four communicants), nil; 31st, £1 6s 1d.

Baptisms.—August 8, Francis Cole; 20th, Dorothy Emily Alcock; 22nd, Ethel Magdalene Oliver; 27th, Olive May Snookes.

Burials.—August 8, John Collins, 67 years.

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Notices.

All literary contributions to be addressed to "The Editor," S. John's Rectory, Launceston.

Matter for insertion in the current issue must reach the Editor on or before the 7th of the month.

Owing to the extreme pressure upon our columns, it has now become absolutely necessary to limit the amount of space at the disposal of each parish for notices and records of events. As a rule parishes which sell 100 copies will be allowed one column (400 words), and others less in proportion, according to the number sold. If more matter than this is sent in it will be subject to a rigid curtailment. Writers, therefore, should bear in mind that "Brevity is exceeding merit."

All business communications to be forwarded to "The Manager," 2 George-street, Launceston. Exchange to be added to country cheques.

THE Church Messenger.

LAUNCESTON, SEPT. 20, 1902.

Modern Fiction.

We very much doubt if the clergy as a whole are paying nearly sufficient attention to the undoubtedly extraordinary development which the publishing trade has undergone in the last few years, more especially in the direction of a vastly increased output of fiction in very cheap and proportionately popular forms.

We are very well aware—none more so—that it is very difficult for the average clergyman, engaged as he is in active parish, to keep in touch on even the fringe of the vast mass of light literature with which the English-speaking world is being deluged. Yet we cannot but think that parish work ought to teach him that the supply has created, if it has not found, a demand, and that therefore it is a matter almost of necessity for the Church, concerned as she ever must be

for the moral welfare of her children, to form and mould their literary taste.

This may seem at first sight not a little outside the beaten track of clerical duty, but a very little reflection would, we think, show that it is a plain and obvious duty to at least make the endeavour.

We have no wish to be in any way misconstrued, for we have no sympathy whatever with that harsh and narrow Puritanism which would hold all fiction, whether good or bad, anathema. Indeed, we think it all but extinct, but it is certain that much, if not the greater part, of our current fiction is not only distinctly poor in itself, but most pernicious in its influence on men, manners, and morals.

A glance at the counters of any bookseller who caters at all for the general public should be more than enough to very thoroughly convince any fair-minded man that this is so.

On them the works of such great masters as Dickens, Thackeray, Sir Walter Scott, Lord Lytton, George Eliot, Sir Walter Besant, Charles Kingsley, and a whole lot of others equally great, are to be found side by side with those of such writers as Zola, George Moore, Richard Marsh, Guy Boothby, and the like, whose stock-in-trade is either indecency, veiled under the euphemism of realism, or the crudest sensationalism, and these last are found to sell best.

At first sight it seems not a little hard to find an adequate reason for this unhealthy and somewhat depraved taste, for it is not that the greater masters of English fiction are out of date, and that no new men have risen up to take their places, for the better modern authors to some extent share the fate of the older.

Yet the antidote to it is not mere indiscriminate rabid condemnation of this or that book or author, for that is usually equivalent to a very effective and gratuitous advertisement.

An instance of this occurs to us. When Zola's famous trilogy, "Lour-

des," "Rome," "Paris," was placed on the Papal index, the immediate result was that three new and large editions of it were sold out within a few days in Paris.

The only real antidote is education—that education which it is the function of the Church to give.

It can be given in many ways—from the pulpit, for example. It is, we know, fashionable nowadays to decry the pulpit, and to say that it has very largely lost its influence over the Christian conscience.

If it has—we are by no means prepared to admit such a proposition—then one of the main reasons is that it has not condescended to come down to questions of daily life and conduct. But we believe that, properly used, it can exercise as great an influence as it has ever done in the past.

In this matter of modern fiction we trust that the clergy will awake to its real urgency, and do their best to bring about a more healthy tone, whether by pulpit teaching or otherwise.

Prebendary Bevan.

It appears that no preacher was chosen for the occasion of the consecration of the Bishops of Tasmania, Nassau, and the Falkland Islands. The ordinary preacher for the day took his usual place. The effect of this was disastrous. Prebendary Bevan is an excellent man on all questions of economics, London charities, and is connected with some of the most distinguished people in the greatest commercial city of the world. But London men are proverbially men of few ideas. They are experts in their own lines. Now what ordinary London man knows anything or cares anything about such out-of-world places as Nassau, Falkland Islands, and Tasmania? Of the latter place Prebendary Bevan did not even know the name. It is Van Diemen's Land to him. The genesis of his sermon is not hard to construct. Under the letter "T" he looks up what information is given in a badly-edited, unrevised church publication. The

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paragraph had an unworthy parentage, and was the outcome of an aggrieved imagination, and written some 20 or 40 years ago.

The sermon may have been eloquent, as the "Guardian" says, but its glaring anachronisms and misstatements were the results of want of information on the part of the preacher rather than any desire on his part to traduce the fair fame of our island home. Of this we are certain, though no connection can be traced between the preacher and either the past or present Bishop of Tasmania. The latter we believe had never seen him in his life before the day of his consecration, and the former probably knew nothing more than that he was the preacher for the day. Tasmanians have little conception of the state of mind of the average Englishman with regard to the English colonies. They wish to be fair and generous towards us, but they are absolutely dependent upon misleading geography books and missionary publications. A few minutes spent by one of our readers on the sources of information on the colonies open to the average Englishman would make him wonder that the preacher, unless different from the average Londoner, did not make his own set of "facts" apply equally to the

savages of Terra del Fuego, the creoles of Nassau, and the natives of Van Diemen's Land. Reading between the lines, with a little knowledge of these out-of-the-way places, we may probably discover that what is not true of Tasmania may be true of Nassau, and what does not apply to Nassau is actual fact in the far south of South America. All this points out the folly of expecting that our concerns can be adequately and completely understood and managed 12,000 miles away. We should be thankful that more mistakes are not made.

Our course is now to be thankful that such an excellent choice has been made by our delegates, and by our loyalty to our chief and unswerving fidelity to our dear old Church show, as our brethren have shown on Africa's battlefield, the stuff we are made of, and thus give the lie to our unconscious traducers.

Parish Echoes.

ALL SAINTS', HOBART.

The newly organised Young Men's Club has attracted a good number of lads, who meet three times a week and heartily appreciate the arrangements made for their amusement and comfort. Several friends have most kindly contributed various games and papers; the committee have purchased an excellent bagatelle table, and a set of ping-pong balls and racquets have been presented. Mr. T. Stephens has sent a collection of useful books, which will form the nucleus of a future library.

On Tuesday, the 9th inst., the Rev. F. G. Copeland entertained the members and others with an excellent lecture upon Morocco, which was much enjoyed.

The committee of the coronation celebrations have kindly presented coronation Bibles to a scholar in the All Saints and Cascade school. In each case a special examination was held, and the prizes were awarded to Ernest Cracknell and William Brundle. The Bishop has kindly arranged at the Rector's suggestion to hold the confirmation service for this parish at All Saints Church on Sunday, November 2, at 3 p.m. This will be the first time a confirmation has taken place in the midst of our dedication services. The quiet day on November 1 (All Saints' Day) will be conducted on this occasion by the Rector of S. John Baptist (the Rev. A. G. Lingley). Our people have taken a lively interest in the services and meetings in connection with the enthronement of our new Bishop and his reception, all who possibly could do so being present on each occasion.

Church Offerings for August.—3rd, £4 18s 2d; 10th, £4 14s; 17th, £7 18s 4d; 24th, £3 4s 11d; 31st, £2 16s 9d. Total, £23 12s 2d.

Baptisms.—6th, John Joseph Contencin; 7th (private), Milfred Williams Webber.

Burial.—August 15, Myrtle M. Hollick, aged 16 years, at Queenborough Cemetery.

CLARENCE.

South Arm.—A very successful social was held in the Calverton Hall, South Arm, on Wednesday evening, August 18, the occasion being a farewell to Miss Calvert, formerly of Clifton, on the occasion of her approaching marriage to Mr. L. L. Young, of North Brun. Ping-pong, dancing, vocal and instrumental music occupied the time until nearly 10 o'clock, when a presen-



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Consumption versus Vitadatio.

ANOTHER VICTORY FOR THE GREAT HERBAL REMEDY.

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192 Elizabeth-street, North Richmond, Melbourne, April 22, 1901.

MR. S. A. PALMER.

Dear Sir,—It affords me very great pleasure to let you know what Webber's VITADATIO has done for me. Two years ago last January I was brought home to my wife very ill. A very peculiar feeling came over me, which caused me to become quite helpless. My wife sent for a doctor. He ordered me to be painted with iodine. This was done for seven weeks, and he (the doctor) then ordered me to the Alfred Hospital. After being there for two months, the doctor sent me home, stating that I was too weak to go under an operation, and said that I must go for a trip in the country. I did so, and returned home slightly better; but after a few days I became much worse with pneumonia, and after suffering six months between life and death, it was decided that I should go to the Sanatorium for Consumptives at Echuca. My wife interviewed the lady secretary of the Sanatorium, stationed at Kew, and after examination by the doctors they pronounced me a fit patient for that institution, as I was full of consumption, but that I could not get in for a fortnight, as there would not be a vacant bed till then. At this time, Mr. Campbell, grocer and wood and coal merchant, of Vere and Nicholson streets, Abbotsford, and now of Fairfield, urged me very strongly to try VITADATIO, which I did. The first bottle upset me very much; but by the time I had finished the second bottle I was able to get out of bed, and on taking the third bottle I felt so improved that I decided not to go to the Echuca Sanatorium. My wife took that message to the secretary to that effect. I continued with VITADATIO, and after taking nine bottles I was able to go to work, so I called on Mr. Wallbridge, carrier, Lincoln-street, North Richmond (my last employer), and started at once, and have been there ever since. I do very heavy work delivering coal. I feel strong and healthy, and can truthfully say that VITADATIO has saved my life, and the least I can do is to hand you this testimonial. It is one year and eight months since I took the last bottle of VITADATIO. I have lived in this locality for many years, and am well known. I will give further information to anyone calling at my above address as regards my illness and cure by VITADATIO.

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS O. RUDDOCK.

tation to Miss Calvert took place, in the The presentation, which was made by the Rev. F. B. Sharland on behalf of the principal residents of South Arm, was accompanied by an address, which was worded in most complimentary terms, and showed how much Miss Calvert's kindness and helpfulness in the community of South Arm, and S. Barnabas' Church had been appreciated. The recipient replied in suitable words, and was afterwards presented by her numerous relatives with a number of articles to be used for culinary purposes. The wedding took place at S. David's Cathedral (by the kind permission of the Dean) on Monday, Sept. 8, the Rector of Clarence officiating. A large number of friends were present, and took part in the service.

Beltana.—A very good coronation treat was given to the Sunday school-children at the Lindisfern Hall on the evening of Wednesday, August 27. At 6 o'clock a first-rate tea was provided, the hall being quite filled with children, their teachers, and other helpers. After tea the Rector, who presided, gave a short stirring address on some of the features of the coronation, and some patriotic songs were sung. The superintendent, Mr. Hedley Westbrook, then exhibited some lantern views, which were much appreciated by the young people. Supper was served at 9 o'clock, and shortly after the National Anthem was sung. The proceedings, which were of an enthusiastic character, were brought to a close by cheers for the King and Queen, the superintendent and other friends who had contributed in making the treat a success.

Bellerive.—A meeting of the building committee was held in the institute on Monday evening, September 3. Nearly all the members were present, and the Rector occupied the chair. The tenders for the new church (two only) were opened. Both were high, and considerably beyond the architect's estimate. The higher of the two tenders being, it was considered, quite out of the question, it was resolved that the architect be asked to confer with the contractor who supplied the lower tender, in order to see in what particulars the cost of the building may be reduced. The committee will meet again on Monday, 15th inst., in order to consider the result of the conference.

HUONVILLE.

There is very little to report from this corner of the diocese but sickness, and an unusual number of deaths, which has kept doctor and clergy very busy, the latest victim being Mrs. Charles

LET THE RECORD of 1902
be clean by using QUEEN
SOAP.

Mr. J. H. FRAY,

Organist of St. John's Church, Launceston,
is prepared to
SELECT AND ADVISE ON THE
PURCHASE OF INSTRUMENTS
For Church or private use.

Betty, second daughter of Mr. R. Newbon, who died at her residence, South Franklin, after a short illness, on August 28, in her 26th year. For years she has been a patient sufferer with heart trouble, but with all her suffering she was always bright and happy. Much sympathy is felt for the bereaved husband and parents. The funeral took place at St. James's, Huonville, a great number attending.

The special service for the coronation, with thanksgivings for the King's recovery, was held on Sunday, August 10. The congregation was fairly good.

HAMILTON.

Although no notes have appeared from this parish for some time past, it must not be inferred that things are at a standstill. Church work goes steadily on on the lines laid down by former rectors, and the good work done by them is still bearing fruit.

A meeting of subscribers to the memorial of the late Mr. Malcolm Bethune was held at the Ouse church. After the rector had stated how matters stood it was resolved on the motion of Mr. G. C. Nicholas, seconded by Mr. A. S. Cook, that the memorial take the form of a stained glass window, and that all future arrangements in connection with the memorial be left in the hands of the rector, the churchwardens, Mr. W. R. Bethune, and the hon. secretary of the memorial fund.

In connection with the coronation of the King a special service was held in S. Peter's, Hamilton, on Saturday, August 9, which was well attended. Special services were also held on the Sunday at Ellendale at 11 a.m.; Ouse, 3.15 p.m.; and Hamilton, 7 p.m. Large congregations assembled at all the centres, and the services were most hearty. Our warmest thanks are due to the various organists and choirs for the trouble they had taken to render the music in a worthy manner. We are glad to be able to state that in connection with the coronation ornamental trees were planted in the churchyard at Hamilton and the Ouse. We trust that in spite of our dry climate the trees may flourish, and prove ornaments to the two churchyards. In connection with the coronation, too, sports were organised for the children in Hamilton. A plentiful tea was provided, and after tea a bonfire and a good supply of fireworks, provided by friends, finished a very happy day, which will doubtless be remembered by our children for many a year to come.

S. JOHN THE BAPTIST'S, HOBART

The New Chancel.—The fund for this work is increasing slowly, and this opportunity is taken to remind those who are giving their subscriptions in instalments that the first of these are now due, and it would lighten the burden of those immediately concerned were they promptly paid. We hope in our next issue to be able to say who the successful tenderer is, and to state that a beginning has been made in removing the dangerous portion of the building. A section of the organ has been taken away and stored, so as to give the workmen plenty of room in the north-east corner. During the month of August the Sunday School-room was in frequent demand for entertainments and meetings. On the 6th the children gave a concert, which included songs and recitations and a cantata, "Beauty and the Beast." The efforts of the children were rewarded with great success.

On the 13th a tea was given to the scholars of the Sunday School in commemoration of the coronation of the King. On this occasion our somewhat bare and cold school was transformed, by means of flags and flowers and drapery, into quite a pretty and warm room; and when the tables were laid and the gas lighted the effect was distinctly pleasing. Tea over, the children were amused with a lantern and a gramophone until time came to go home. We must thank Colonel Reid, Mr. V. Chambers, and Mr. G. W. Lloyd for the splendid lot of flags they lent us for decorative purposes.

The quarterly meeting of the Diocesan Sunday School Association was held in the parish schoolroom, and that too must be regarded as having been quite as successful as its management could wish. The Rev. A. G. Taylor read an address on "The way to strengthen our Sunday Schools from without." This was an excellent paper, and met with the reception it deserved, the writer being freely congratulated on his effort. Several ladies and gentlemen spoke and read short papers dealing with points incidentally mentioned by Mr. Taylor. Those who read papers were Mrs. Lingley, Miss H. Hudspeth, Miss Piesse, Miss Gillett, Rev. H. B. Atkinson, and Mr. Max Stephens. The speakers were Mr. Eckford, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Westbrook, and Lieut.-Colonel Reid. The business of the meeting being over, the

visitors were entertained with coffee, etc., by the local teachers.

On the same evening a ping-pong tournament was held in the Masonic Hall in connection with the parish funds, and still another success was the result. We owe our thanks to the firm of Nettlefolds, who did a lion's share of the work in their usual generous and efficient way. Messrs. Pitman, Chambers, and Johnston were the working committee of the tournament.

We are glad to be able to note that the late epidemic of scarlatina is dying out, and so allowing the children to return to day and Sunday school.

BRIGHTON-CUM-KEMPTON

On August 19 a successful social was held in the Pontville Hall in aid of St. Mark's, whereby £7 15s was cleared. We are indebted largely to Messdames Porter and Sidney. The porch of St. Mark's has been replastered.

On August 27 there was a large meeting of ladies, at which it was decided to hold a fair in November. I would like to remind parishioners, who say that another social would raise the required funds, that if bars are not required through the church there remains a chandelier to be replaced, while the church fence badly wants paint. The outhouses and fences of the Rectory are a disgrace to the parish. The Rector is holding Confirmation classes. I cannot close without mentioning the work of our organist (Miss Blacklow), who now takes both services, driving each Sunday 20 miles—quite a record.

NORTH BRIDGEWATER.

In Church matters things are looking up. A very nice school-room, 30ft. x 18ft., has recently been erected, and was used by the Sunday School in connection with S. Mary's Church for the first time on Sunday, July 27.

A social a few days previously, at which the Rector of the Parish opened the room, was well attended, a sum of £5 being added to the building fund, which left a debit balance on the building of only £2 10s.

The church roof has also been covered with iron, and the walls attended to, making the little church look quite smart and creditable to the township, with the improvements inside and out. Those attending S. Mary's have cause to congratulate themselves that they

A MARTYR

TO

INDIGESTION

AND

BILIOUSNESS

CURED BY

VITADATIO

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Agent-General for VITADATIO.

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JESSIE COLEMAN.

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THE AFTER - EFFECTS OF RHEUMATIC FEVER

To MR. W. WEBBER, Proprietor of
VITADATIO and INDIAN OIL
OF CREAM.

Dear Sir,—It is with profound gratitude that I feel it my duty to inform you of the great good derived by the use of your VITADATIO and OIL OF CREAM.

To begin with, let me say my trouble was what doctors called paralysis of the legs, and especially the knees, which left me quite powerless to walk. This I must also say was the after-effects of rheumatic fever. For upwards of six months I was in a deplorable condition. Two months of this time I was in the Launceston Hospital, and about four months with Mr. J. Irvine, Glenfield House, Brisbane-street, Launceston. The doctors, finding they were unable to cure me, said I would never again have the normal use of my affected limbs. I had often heard of your VITADATIO and INDIAN OIL OF CREAM, but had no faith in it as a remedy for my disease. However, I was urged to give it a fair trial, and consented to do so. Seven bottles of INDIAN OIL OF CREAM were rubbed faithfully into my limbs and spine, and five bottles (large size) of your VITADATIO taken internally, with result I now have once again the full use of my limbs, and thank God I ever heard of you and your great remedies.—Yours truly,

FRANK TIBBETTS.

August, 1896.

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have now a good building both for school purposes and public worship. Recently the Rector (the Rev. H. Heineken-Marten) has been the recipient of a surprise and nicely worked stole, the gifts of Mrs. A. R. Dickenson, of Hillside.

S. JOHN'S, LAUNCESTON.

We were very glad to welcome Canon Beresford back on September 6, after his three months' absence in Queensland; we were also glad to find how much his health had benefited by the rest and change.

After our coronation services, the details of which were recorded in the last issue of the "Messenger," very little occurred during the month of August to break the even tenor of our way.

The Archdeacon left us on the 22nd. S. John's owes him a debt of gratitude for filling the breach caused by the rector's absence.

The Rev. A. Pollard also left us on August 30.

Sickness has been very prevalent in Launceston during the last few weeks, there having been an influenza epidemic. We trust that with the advent of spring this will vanish.

S. Aidan's.—On August 7 the choir and Sunday school-children of the little church on the hill gave a service of song, at which a cantata entitled *Esther* was produced. There was a good congregation. The performers deserve great credit for the success of their endeavours, as it is the first occasion on which they attempted anything so ambitious.

FESTIVAL SEASON.

The annual festival services in connection with the parish schools are fixed for next month; that at S. John's on October 5, S. Aidan's on October 12, and the Mission House on October 19. The children are practising the special hymns selected, and the services promise to be up to the standard of past years. In appealing for financial help at these services, we would ask all interested to read our annual report, which gives an idea of the work done in the schools.

On Friday, August 29, the pupils of Holy Trinity School visited S. John's schoolroom to give an entertainment called "Cinderella" in aid of the Mission House. Unfortunately the weather was merciless, the rain coming down in torrents just at the hour for attending. However, this did not affect the kind intentions of the performers, for every one put in an appearance, some of them coming from Invermay. We were

sorry a larger audience did not have the pleasure of passing a most amusing evening. Those who were there keenly enjoyed it, and there is no doubt the house would have been crowded if the weather had been at all "obliging." After expenses were paid we had a balance of £1.

Baptisms.—August 6th, Phyllis Margery Collins; 8th, Clara Elizabeth Stopford, Adrian Johnson Stopford; 13th, Phyllis Gertrude Heenan, Bertha May Edwards; 20th, Albert Edward Watkins, Vernon Arthur Watkins, Stanley Frank Turner, Charles Henry Alexander, Lilian Constance Clayton; 27th, Henry Edward Oswald Warden, David Walter Armytage, Rosie May Walters, Ella May Edith Terry, Elsie May Gartside, Phyllis Edith Jory, Valeria Belle Barwick, Arthur Donald Whittle; September 3rd, Engel Irene Holyman, Jean Craig Paine.

Marriages.—August 11th, Alfred Winsburrow Suter to Maude Ellen Ling; 16th, John Lorimer McElwee to Elsie Miriam Hall.

Burials.—August 5th, Maria Farthing; 19th, Robert Cecil Elms; 24th, James Sing, Mary Jones; 27th, William Villiers Lawrence.

The following donations to the Mission House are thankfully acknowledged:—Anonymous (Burnie), clothes; Anonymous (country), clothes; Mrs. Liturgies.

HOLY TRINITY, LAUNCESTON.

On Friday evening, August 8, at the invitation of the Rector, the Sunday school teachers met in the parish schoolroom. The Rector opened the proceedings with prayer, and then briefly addressed those present, earnestly urging them to unite in love in their work, make friends with the children in their respective classes, and strive to be examples as well as teachers of the Christian life.

A pleasant interval between the Rector's address and supper was filled in by those present thoroughly enjoying every variety of indoor games. A most tempting supper-table had been bountifully supplied and tastefully laid out by Mrs. E. G. Barry, whose proverbial hospitality proved most welcome, especially to those who had long distances to walk home.

It is hoped that this informal gathering will prove but the forerunner of a series of monthly meetings for social intercourse and religious instruction, binding the teachers together in Christian fellowship. It has been well said that "the Sunday school is the nursery

of the Church." Indeed, it is impossible to over-estimate the importance of the work, for it is during the tender years of childhood that boys and girls are as wax. They receive impressions that form their characters for life. We would therefore urge this branch of parish work upon the notice of all earnest parishioners who care for children and desire to undertake some labour of love in the Church for Christ's sake. It would relieve the clergy considerably to know the names of such good folk, so that when gaps occur from time to time in our teachers' ranks, through removal or sickness, they could at once be filled, and also absentees provided for without delay. This ideal provision would save the regular, hard-working teacher from having to take two classes in one, as is too often the case, especially in the holiday season.

We regret that, owing to an unforeseen delay on the part of the contractors, it will be impossible to open the section of the new church for worship on October 28, as arranged. We have every reason to believe, however, that it will be consecrated for worship by the Bishop early in December. No doubt in our next issue we shall be able to announce the date.

S. GEORGE'S, INVERMAY.

The "Church Messenger" has more than once been suggested to the writer as an ideal way for making the needs of the parish known to all. We believe the suggestion is well worthy of a trial. Now that the debt on the improvements to our schoolroom is paid off, a new need arises, in the shape of an additional classroom. This would serve many useful purposes. It would accommodate an increasing Bible class of young men on Sunday afternoons at present held in a room kindly lent by a friendly neighbour, besides answering as a cloak-room for performers at concerts, and pantry, etc., for lady workers at socials. Another reason why the classroom should be built is a serious crack in the west wall. Mr. North, our architect, says the best way to save further mischief is to pierce the wall and build on the proposed classroom.

After paying Messrs. J. and T. Gunn over £80 for improvements, we have a balance in hand of nearly £15. The estimated cost of the new classroom is, roughly speaking, between £45 and £60. We therefore appeal to parishioners living at Invermay and all interested in the work at St. George's for subscriptions. These should be

sent to Mr. T. W. Massey, "Lanceville," Mayne-street, Invermay, hon. treasurer of the St. George's Building Fund. It is our intention that this new undertaking, when completed, should be the fruit of freewill offerings.

On Wednesday, August 20, the Ven. Archdeacon Whittington gave his delightful lecture, "An Hour With Charles Dickens," to a fairly large and appreciative audience. No doubt Invermay would have turned out in greater force but for the fact that the lecture was postponed, owing to the Archdeacon suffering from a cold.

Our monthly entertainment during September will take the form of a concert, to be followed by a social in October that will close our winter season.

As spring brings warmer days, we hope more will avail themselves of the weekly service of Intercession. It is held every Friday afternoon, at 4 o'clock. No surer proof of interest in the work of the Church of Christ in this land can be given than our willingness to sacrifice time to pray for her welfare.

BEACONSFIELD.

Coronation Sunday was loyally observed at Holy Trinity. There was a parade of the local volunteers and a large congregation. The Rev. W. H. Edwards gave a suitable address, taking as his text II. Sam., xvi., 16, "God save the King." The special prayers and hymns issued by authority were used.

Great disappointment was felt when it was known that the Rev. C. Fawns was unable, through indisposition, to give his lecture in aid of the repairs and additions to the rectory and stable. The first list sent in in response to Mr. Edwards's appeal comes from Kelson. This part of the parish contains the smallest number of church folk, and gets the least frequent services—viz., quarterly—so that the amount sent in (£2 1s) is very good, and if other parts give in proportion the repairs to the stable can be done very soon.

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations:—Messrs. W. H. Ferrall, £2 2s; T. Haslam, £1 10s; Macpherson, £1 1s; E. Baker, 10s; Stephenson, 5s; J. Squires, 5s. Further contributions will be duly acknowledged next month.

At a meeting of Sunday school teachers it was decided to arrange an entertainment, consisting chiefly of tableaux, in order to raise funds for prizes and books for the school. It was also decided to use Watson's Book on the Catechism, and to have the same lesson

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throughout the school, and also the
same lessons to learn. The prizes
this year will be of different values,
according to number of marks obtained
by scholars for attendance, conduct, and
lessons. With regard to the picnic,
it was decided to limit it to Church of
England people, and to sell tickets, as
last year so many availed themselves
of the generous hospitality that some
of the teachers got short commons. In
order to stop the tactics of some chil-
dren to attend only for the purpose
of getting a prize and going to the pic-
nic, only those who are bona fide
scholars for three months before the
picnic will be recognised as scholars.
Of course this will not apply to new
arrivals in the town. The addition to
the choir of Misses Jillett, Stippeck,
and Minnerdew, as sopranos, and Mr.
Reyncraft, tenor, is a great encourage-
ment to the choirmaster.

CARRICK.

Death still continues to visit us with
exceptional frequency, as will be seen
in our record below. The loss of their
little girl by Mr. and Mrs. Boxhall was
very sad. The child was in the mill-
house with her grandmother, and some-
how escaped unnoticed. When sought
for she was found in the millrace dead,
all efforts to restore animation being
ineffectual.

The Adelaide congress meeting on
Michaelmas Day, the acting rector will
take the opportunity of having the rest
and change which every parish priest
should take annually at that time. The
Rev. C. G. Wilkinson has kindly under-
taken the care of the rectory and church
services between September 23 and
October 17.

Influenza seems to have been attack-
ing nearly everyone in the district dur-
ing the past few weeks, but we hope
that by the time this is printed the
epidemic will have ceased.

As soon as he returns from South
Australia the acting rector will form
confirmation classes. Will parents
and guardians help him by seeing that
the names of those who should be can-
didates are forwarded to him? It
would take him a long time to discover
them by house to house visitation.

Baptism.—Aug. 16th (private), Geor-
gina Mary Wise.

Burials.—Aug. 13th, Greville Orme
Paton, aged 72; 19th, Georgina Mary
Wise, 3 weeks; 22nd, Harry Berford
Turner, 11 months; Sept. 1st, Myrtle Ivy
Boxhall, 21 months.

Communicants and Offertories.—Aug.
3rd, Carrick (10), 9s 4d; Bishopsbourne,
3s 7d; Illawarra, 4s 6d; 10th, Carrick,
5s 3d; Bishopsbourne, 4s 6d; Illawarra,
6s; 17th, Carrick, 4s 7d; Bishopsbourne,
3s 3d; Illawarra (8), 7s 3d; 24th Car-
rick, 2s 3d; Bishopsbourne, 8s 6d; Illa-
warra, 7s; 31st, Carrick (5), 5s 1d;
Bishopsbourne (5), 7s 11d; Illawarra,

5s 2d. Total for August—Carrick, £1
6s 8d; Bishopsbourne, £1 2s 11d; Il-
lawarra, £1 10s.

RINGAROOMA.

On Sunday, September 7, a memorial
service was held at Ringarooma in
memory of the late Edward Godden.
The deceased, who was the manager
of the local butter factory, was much
respected in the town, and, as a con-
sequence, the service was well attended.
A pleasing feature of the service was a
solo sung by Mr. Holmes.

Everywhere in this district there
seems to be evidence of a revival of
church life. The proof lies in the in-
creasing attendance at church and the
universal attempts that are being made
to make our little churches more what
they ought to be. At Derby the church
is being re-seated, and I hear that
something is shortly to be done to
furnish the chancel and provide a new
holy table. Ringarooma is having the
chancel re-carpeted and the altar cloth
renovated. At Branxholm the hall
is being repapered and made more
churchlike, and Weldborough is hav-
ing a new lectern and proper desk.

We are pleased to see the large num-
ber of children of all ages who are
being brought to church in holy bap-
tism. Adults whose baptism for any
cause has been neglected in infancy
are reminded that there is a special
office in the Prayer Book to meet their
cases. Adult baptism is by no means
uncommon in the Church of England.
The writer of these notes baptised no
less than seven adults in 10 months
in Tasmania.

LONGFORD.

We are glad to be able to announce
that his Excellency the Governor, Sir
Arthur Havelock, has kindly consented
to open the great fair to be held in the
Foresters' Hall on October 8 and 9.
This fair has been got up by Mrs.
Alfred Youl and her friends in aid of
the rectory debt, and great things are
hoped for. We hope that many friends
will patronise us on Longford show
days. Seventy-five pounds is required
to reduce the debt to £100.

Misses Elvie Ward and Hilda Burk
got up a very successful entertainment
in August in aid of the Sunday school
funds. Great credit is due to the girls
and their friends for their zeal and
ardour in preparing some pretty tab-
leaux and "Mrs. Jarley's waxworks."
Some older friends helped by getting up
a quartette and chorus from "May
Day." There was also during the even-
ing a pretty little piece called "Only a
Jap Dolly," in which four little girls
took part, three dressed in Japanese
costume and the fourth as a little Eng-
lish maid. These created some amuse-
ment.

Since writing last month, another
old resident of Longford has passed

away—Mrs. Pitt, sen. She bore a pain-
ful illness with much patience, and,
after a day or two of unconsciousness,
entered into rest. She leaves a large
family, most of whom reside in Long-
ford and district.

We hope soon to have the new
Bishop among us, after attending the
Adelaide church congress.

FORTH AND LEVEN.

PENGUIN.

Confirmation classes are being well
attended at Penguin.

A Sunday school library is about to
be opened in connection with S. Ste-
phen's Church.

We are proud to boast of having a
regular organist and five assistant or-
ganists. Four of the latter are juveniles,
who in turns play the organ at the
Friday evening services.

Recently the churchwardens pur-
chased two acres of land for a vicarage
site, at a cost of £105. £82 of this
sum has been paid off by £50 be-
queathed by the late Thos. Verger, and
£32 realised by last year's bazaar; and
the ladies of the congregation have
decided that a self-denial movement
shall be practised in order to raise the
required £23, and the amount thus ob-
tained be handed in as a Christmas
offering.

SCOTTSDALE.

No private event has for a long time
so stirred this place as the sudden
and unexpected death of Mrs. Oswald
Hevingham Root, who, without pain,
or sound, or farewell, fell on sleep
near midnight on August 30. The
daughter of T. Hardman, Esq., of
"Morningside," she was a member of
a large and well-known family which
for many years has lived in the dis-
trict. Her sweet disposition made
friends of all and enemies of none,
and no private person was so universal
a favourite. She was married on All
Saints' Day, 1898, to Mr. Oswald Hev-
ingham Root, son of the Rural Dean
and Rector of the parish, Rev. W.
Hevingham Root, who performed the
ceremony. The happy couple lived
here till about a year ago, doing good
work for Christ and His Holy Church,
when Mr. Root was promoted and
moved to Latrobe, much to our re-
gret. But God had work for him
to do there, and so removed him,
that he might do it. For some time
past Mrs. Root had been in delicate
health, which gave her friends much
anxiety; but an operation did so much
good that hope reigned supreme in all
our hearts, especially as she wrote
several cheery and bright letters to
her friends only a few days before she
left us. Her mother indeed received

one written on the very day. The news
of her sudden departure therefore fell
on us like a thunderclap. We laid
her to rest in the churchyard at
Springfield till He shall come who
shall change her vile body that it
may be fashioned like unto His glori-
ous Body. The quietness of the day,
the solemn stillness of the everlasting
hills around, produced a pensiveness
of thought in keeping with the event.
We lingered mournfully till the last
sad rites were done, and the last
words said; and then we left her—
left her in God's Acre, in the shadow
of God's House. We know it is well
with her. She has only departed for
a while, and we shall again see her
smile, when

On the Resurrection morning
Soul and body meet again;
No more sorrow, no more weeping.
No more pain.

On that happy Easter morning
All the graves their dead restore;
Father, sister, child, and mother
Meet once more.

Death.—On the 10th August, at the
General Hospital, Launceston, Flora
Christina, the beloved wife of Oswald
Hevingham Root, aged 26 years. "At
rest."

The Brotherhood of S. Andrew in Tasmania.

The reports received by the Council
of this Brotherhood for the quarter
ending 30th June, 1902, are as fol-
lows:—

All Saints' Chapter.—Two meetings
held during the quarter. Scripture
readings taken from the Acts of the
Apostles. The number of members on
the roll remains unchanged. The mem-
bers of this Chapter regret the de-
parture of the Rev. A. Pollard from
the parish, and are willing, as far as
lies in their power, to assist the Rector
in his work.

S. John the Baptist.—Meetings held
every fortnight. Work on the whole
has been progressing favourably. Our
Rector, Rev. A. G. Lingley, and his
Curate take a lively interest in the
brotherhood; the former is giving a
series of papers on special subjects. The
Chapter presented the Revs. Canon Flin-
nis and Mr. H. Brammall upon the
eve of their departure from this parish
with nicely bound copies of the Bro-
therhood Handbook. As Canon Flinnis
was looked upon as the father of this
Chapter, his familiar face will be
missed at our meetings. The com-
mittee of the Young Men's Club have
a good programme for the winter.

Holy Trinity, Hobart.—This Chapter
reports having held the usual monthly

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readings for the quarter, taken from
the Acts of the Apostles.**ALEX. B. HADEN,**
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1. Ask in prayer for the help of the Holy Spirit.
 2. Read the passage slowly and reverently, as containing a message from God.
 3. Think about the meaning of the passage.
 4. Apply the teaching of the passage to yourself. Take one practical lesson each day.
 5. Humbly thank God for His message.
- N.B.—On all Sundays and Holy Days read the Gospel for the Day from your Prayer Book. The numbers of the verses are inclusive. Very short passages are purposely given to encourage daily reading.

DAILY READINGS FOR OCTOBER.

- 1—Wednesday, Ephesians, 2, 19-22.
- 2—Th., Ephesians, 3, 14-21.
- 3—F., Ephesians, 4, 1-7.
- 4—S., Ephesians, 4, 25-32.
- 5—Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
- 6—M., Ephesians, 6, 1-8.
- 7—Tu., Philippians, 1, 21-26.
- 8—W., Philippians, 2, 5-11.
- 9—Th., Philippians, 3, 7-12.
- 10—F., Philippians, 4, 4-9.
- 11—S., Colossians, 1, 9-14.
- 12—Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.
- 13—M., Colossians, 2, 9-12.
- 14—Tu., Colossians, 3, 1-7.
- 15—W., Colossians, 4, 1-6.
- 16—Th., I. Thessalonians, 1, 1-4.
- 17—F., I. Thessalonians, 2, 9-13.

- 18—S., S. Luke.
19—Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity.
20—M., I. Thessalonians, 5, 14-23.
21—Tu., II. Thessalonians, 1, 1-5.
22—W., II. Thessalonians, 2, 13-17.
23—Th., II. Thessalonians, 3, 1-5.
24—F., I. Timothy, 1, 15-20.
25—S., I. Timothy, 2, 1-6.
26—Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.
27—M., I. Timothy, 3, 14-16.
28—Tu., SS. Simon and Jude.
29—W., I. Timothy, 6, 6-10.
30—Th., II. Timothy, 1, 3-7.
31—F., II. Timothy, 2, 1-5.

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