

THE CHURCHMAN

No. 6.

JUNE, 1905.

PRICE 1d.

The Diocesan Synod.

The chief event of the month past has been the session of Synod in Launceston. Founded by Bishop Nixon just upon forty years ago, it has ever since been convened once a year for the arrangement of the Church's work, the enactment of her laws, and the voting of supplies. Once only, and that was on the second or third year after its inception, was Synod held in Launceston. Whether this one session proved a failure or not, or whether it was found imperative to adhere to the cathedral city only in this matter, has not transpired; but the fresh departure from the old and well-established rule has proved an unqualified success. From all sides have come unsolicited testimonies to the effect that the past session of Synod has easily reached the level of any of its previous compeers. There was plenty of "go" about it which prevented that heaviness which was occasionally noticeable in past years.

The presence of the visiting Bishops of Melbourne and of Wangaratta gave it a tone which was both pleasing and helpful.

Sunday, May 7, was selected as the opening day. The sermons in all the Parish Churches were preached by the three Bishops and the Arch-deacon. It was pleasing to note the welcome given to all these dignitaries as told by the crowded and enthusiastic congregations.

Our Bishop delivered his Synodal address in S. John's at 3.30 p.m. The service was short and simple. Seated on a raised dais, and supported on either side by the "guest" prelates.

His Lordship spoke—or rather read his address—which took just an hour in its delivery. It has been described—and in our opinion rightly so—as among the most masterful of such pronouncements ever heard in Australia. As it was printed fully in both of our northern dailies we need not attempt an analysis.

On Monday afternoon His Worship the Mayor gave the visiting Bishops and all the Synodal members a reception at the Albert Hall. Very large numbers attended. The function was quite a brilliant success, and well in keeping with all that His Worship and the Mayoress have undertaken during their responsible positions amongst us.

In the evening what is termed "The Diocesan Festival" was held. At this the Bishop presided, and the Mayor occupied a position to the right of the president. All the Bishops spoke and certain others. The speeches generally dealt with various phases of church life and work. It, too, was a great success. The Wardens of the chief Parish Churches had arranged that a special train should be run from Deloraine, returning after the meeting, at half-rates to encourage church-folk to come in to the Festival. To secure this privilege the said gentlemen had to deposit £10, believing that amount would easily have been recouped by the tickets taken. But the poor, low tone of church-life all along the line to the station in question is painfully evident, when it is known that only £4 9s—represented the amount spent in tickets—was taken, and so the sum of £5 11s had to be forfeited. It will be a lesson for the future.

The business portion of Synod began in earnest on Tuesday afternoon. The visiting Bishops were unable to remain, and left that morning for the mainland. With one break the session sat at the duly appointed hours until noon on the following Saturday. The greatest publicity was given to the various debates, and to the decisions arrived at through the medium of the daily press, and need not again be detailed here.

The break in the proceedings referred to above, consisted in an adjournment on the Thursday to attend a well-organised garden party at the Cliff Grounds, given by His Worship the Mayor and the Mayoress, and which, like the previous function in the Albert Hall, was a decided success. The members present were very large, and much real enjoyment got from the pleasant entertainment of our host and his cultured wife.

On Saturday the session terminated, when most of the delegates, both cleric and lay, returned to their homes. The Bishop, however, remained over Sunday, and officiated in the city on that day in two of the churches.

Parish Notes.

S. JOHN'S PARISH.

Reference having been made to Synod elsewhere in this issue we need not mention it here, but we may notice that during the Synod week Mrs Mercer who, with His Lordship the Bishop, were guests at S. John's Rectory, took the opportunity of re-organising the Girls' Friendly Society in this Parish. One of our leading ladies was induced to take the helm, at this rather critical time in its career, and, judging from her wonderful energy and cleverness in handling a movement, we are certain the future of this society will show a far better record than in the past.

Mrs Mercer was also able to look into the affairs of the "Mothers' Union," and by her wise advice to help that along also. So far as S. John's Parish is concerned it has felt the healthful stimulus of Synod and all that it represents, and though it meant a lot of real hard work for some, yet it has done a lot of good by provoking new incentives in our work, and a fresh interest in the splendid ambitions of our Church.

Things grave and gay come in the life of a Parish as well as in that of an individual. There was much to uplift and help during the various meetings in Synod week, but it had hardly terminated before it became known that one of our leading Parishioners—Mrs Henry Edgell—had been called to her long home. After an illness of a very brief character, with hardly any promonitory warnings, the end came early on Sunday afternoon, May 14. The last sad rites were performed by the Rev. A. Fernau. In losing Mrs Edgell not only does this Church part with a true, loyal, devoted daughter, but the whole community suffers. Gifted with an intellect far transcending that of most of her sex, highly educated, and with a heart full of devotion not only to the welfare of humanity, but to the alleviation of poor dumb animals, so unable to help or defend themselves, her absence will be painfully felt. In estimating the loss to us, who stood in the outer circle of her valued friendship, we are enabled to realise the terrible blank occasioned by her death, at a comparatively early age, in her own immediate family. We can only assure those so directly afflicted of our deep sympathy with them. May the consciousness that their "dear one" has been called to higher service in "the realms of undying light" bring that solace and sense of resignation which only "the religion of Jesus" can give.

Another sad death, also on May 14, was that of George Bushby, aged 19. The young fellow had been brought up in our Sunday-school, and always bore a good character. Our deep sympathy goes out to his mother in her loss.

On Wednesday, May 31, the boat for Sydney took Mr H. A. Lawrance and family to Sydney, where they are to reside for the future. Mr and Mrs Lawrance were widely known and respected. Mr Lawrance, for several years past, has acted as an honorary Lay-reader in this parish, in which capacity he was not only very helpful but popular also. Our best wishes go with them.

Mr W. Perrin, accompanied by three of the Misses Perrin, also voyaged to Sydney by the same boat, and are making a trip to New Zealand and the South Seas. They expect to be absent for about three months. We trust they may have a pleasant and instructive time of it, and come back in due course to tell us all about it.

June 1—Ascension Day—was observed by a celebration of Holy Communion at 8, when there were ten Communicants. In the evening the three choirs of the Parish Churches united for a hearty service in S. John's. The congregation was large, the choir enthusiastic, and the sermon, preached by the Rev. E. G. Barry, first-rate and most helpful. Under the circumstances it is no wonder that the service ranks high amongst the successful efforts of the year. This, too, is emphasised when it is remembered that the evening was cold and very stormy. The offertory, which was in aid of S. John's choir, amounted to £2 14s 10d—not a very large sum when one remembers how many were present—but nevertheless *laus Deo*.

There was a great rush on Tuesday evening, May 23, when the doors of S. John's School-room were opened for the first of the winter series of lantern entertainments for this year, and it was a proof of their popularity to find that nearly 500 people managed to get into the room. It was intended to use the bioscope at this entertainment, but was not to be as the electric light, which is an essential to the proper working of the machine, is not available yet. However a splendid programme, suitable for old and young, was provided, illustrated songs and recitations being very prominent, while a splendid lot of pictures, serious and comic, was shown by the aid of the limelight. The innovation of allowing parents to attend at a charge of threepence was taken advantage of by a large number. The second entertainment is put down for Wednesday, June 21, when it is expected that the "moving pictures" will be a part of the programme.

We make an earnest appeal for teachers in our Sunday-schools. Through various circumstances both S. John's and S. Aidan's have lost several teachers recently, and at a time when we can ill afford to spare even one, for some of the classes are so full that it is necessary to divide them. On the infant roll at S. John's there are no less than 130 names, and we want to promote some of these little ones into the main room, but we cannot because we have no teachers to take charge of them. Who will come and help us?

On Wednesday, May 17, the choir of S. John's gathered for a social evening. The event was one of the most successful yet held, and gave proof positive of the good feeling existing between the various members. The juniors were not neglected, but in order that they might get

home early, a table was spread for their sole benefit in one of the ante-rooms, and they were shut in to their labours—no one knows what actually took place, but when they came forth their satisfied looks gave indication that they had had all they required. During the evening Canon Beresford, on behalf of the members, presented Mr J. H. Fray, the choir-master, with an enlarged framed photograph of the choir, as a slight acknowledgement of appreciation of the care and labour bestowed on them so successfully for the recent competitions. Mr Fray, in thanking the choir for the gift, stated that the credit of the success was theirs alone—for his part he was so satisfied with their performance that he did not want the attestation of any judge. We may add, an organ may be exquisite in kind, but without the manipulation of a master hand the resultant music will be inferior. Mr Fred. Parsons, who is leaving the city, received from the choir a souvenir to remind him of the time spent with them.

Friday, May 19, saw the opening of the Young Men's Club in connection with S. John's. We may well be pleased with the outlook, judged of course by what has been done up to the present. The committee believed in having a solid basis to work on, and in readiness for the opening night games of all description were provided, thanks to the generosity of a few friends. Permanency has been looked for in the quality of material provided, and in the club room are now two bagatelle tables, two ping-pong sets with tables, shooting gallery, rope quoits, chess, draughts, and other table games—while a room is provided with magazines for those of a literary turn of mind. The programme for the season includes visits to and from other clubs; a ladies' night, when the gentler sex will be able to show their skill at the various games,

and last, but not least, arrangements have been made for lecturettes. One on "first aid," by Dr. Skinner, who is a specialist in ambulance work, will be illustrated by the aid of the lime light. Mr H. Masters will give a lecturette on "Electricity," with experiments, while Mr H. H. Scott will give us a microscopical evening. Our membership runs up to 50 already, and we cordially invite any of the male sex over 15 to pay a visit to the club-room on a Friday night, and see how things are in going order. A series of tournaments is in progress, and great interest is being taken in them.

The second quarterly meeting of the Launceston Church Choirs Association was held in S. John's school-room on Tuesday, May 30, the Rev. E. G. Barry in the chair, when there was a very good attendance of members. Mr Claude Rosevear gave a paper on "Woman Franchise," dealing more particularly with woman's sphere in church work. Mr A. H. Field dealt with "Church Music," chiefly treating of musical instruments adapted for the rendition of sacred music. Mr Cardew Jenkins gave a sketch of "Church services in Hawaii," and Mr T. W. Rule gave a *resume* of "S. John's Choir History," recalling reminiscences of interest, especially to the older members of that choir. All the papers called forth criticisms and remarks, and altogether a pleasant evening was spent.

The Rev. F. A. Fernau preaches his farewell sermon on Sunday, June 11, prior to leaving to take up the Rectorship of Beaconsfield. A social will be tendered to him on Wednesday, June 28, to express the goodwill and good-wishes of his many friends. The Rev. Jas. Hebblethwaite will take up the work pending the arrival of a curate to be chosen by Rev. Cecil Fawns in England.

HOLY TRINITY PARISH.

The holding of Synod in Launceston was an experiment which fully justified itself, and now it is a certainty that Synod will meet from time to time in the North as well as in Hobart.

On Sunday, May 7th—Synod Sunday—we had as preachers in Holy Trinity our own Bishop in the morning and the Bishop of Melbourne in the evening. On this Sunday a very handsome Litany Desk, the gift of Mrs C. Kent, was used for the first time, as also two beautiful Prayer Desks, the gift of Mrs E. G. Miller. All handsomely carved, these have called forth many expressions of admiration. They were designed by Mr A. North, and executed by Mr Cunningham. We heartily thank the donors for these gifts. At the evening service many were turned away, as the Church was packed. The service was sung by the Rev. R. K. Collisson, the lessons being read by the Rev. Mr Ratten and the Rector. The Bishop of Melbourne delighted all with a plain, earnest sermon, and the choir was at its best.

Sunday, May 14—The Quarterly Collections were made for the Building Fund, and realised with the late envelope returns, just over £20. This is below the amount hoped for each quarter, and we trust it may be made up next time. The amount this quarter from the Penny Fund, handed in on May 7th, was £7 3s 6d.

Sunday Schools—We are in need of a few teachers in our different schools, and give this notice hoping it may come under the eye of some willing to join our staff of teachers. Remember, one volunteer is worth many unwilling workers.

The Clubs.—Both the clubs are prospering, the Young Men's Evenings being very largely availed of by

members. In the Girl's Club members, we are glad to say, are increasing. In the near future a united social will take place.

Trinity Mission Hall, Inveresk.—The growth of the work is beginning to demand increased room, and all feel now that a small room built on to the Hall is a necessity which must be met in the near future. As usual want of money is the obstacle, but it must be overcome. Are there not those who might give where they do not feel disposed to labour. The question of an evening for the lads of this part is under consideration.

Now that winter is with us will friends remember that our mission work may be helped by gifts of old clothes, boots, etc. It so often happens in this part of our parish that children cannot attend either day or Sunday-school through want of clothing. We work on the principle of trying to help people to help themselves, and guard against that loss of self-esteem which so often follows pauperising measures.

Friday, May 26th.—An entertainment was held in the above Hall, when, in spite of the very unfavourable weather, there was a large audience. The proceeds were to go towards paying for the sewing machine now in use at the Mothers' Meetings. The programme consisted of vocal and instrumental items, interspersed with *tableau vivants*, besides which Mr F. Richardson contributed some very pretty and interesting gramophone selections. The Rector presided, and Miss Kent had charge of the piano, and opened with a solo. The following were the items:—Songs, Miss L. Worth, "Under the bamboo tree," and "The passion flower"; songs, "The Island of Dreams," and "Coon Song," Miss Heales; song, "Good-night, Daddy," Miss E. Burrell; song, "What will you take for

me, Puppa," Miss Nellie Hudson; song, "Baby, you're Mahoney," Miss F. Matthews; songs, "What next?" and "Daddy's Angel," Miss C. Peppiatt; songs, "The miller and the maid," and "The old folks at home," Miss Alice Sullivan; quartette, "The flower girl," by Misses Green, Burrell, Wood, and Hudson; recitations, "The owl critic," and "The enchanted shirt," Oswald Wood. Tableau, "Caught tripping," "Had," "Internal economy." The final item was "The Japanese fan drill," by the girls of the choir. This was a very taking performance, the girls all being dressed as Japs, and its success reflects great credit on Miss Wood and others who had devoted much time to training the children. It has been decided to repeat the evening, and have it next time in Holy Trinity School, Cameron-street.

On Sunday, May 14th, the Sunday-school prizes were presented to the scholars by the Rector. In the course of his remarks the Rector referred to the work of the superintendent, and said that in days to come many would look back and remember the unselfish labours of Mr. Nicholas with gratitude. What are now the coveted prizes of the school, the Rector's prize, were won this year by Edith Burrell and Oscar Wood, there being a prize for girls and boys.

Newnham and Mowbray. — On May 19th a very successful social was held in the school. A fine moonlight night was in its favour, and the room was filled with friends from many parts. A tent erected at the rear for supper was a great convenience. Several musical items, and also selections on the phonograph given by Mons. Issell, varied the evening's amusement, while different games were indulged in between. Many of these caused much laughter and fun, and served

to make the evening of a very sociable character. The organiser of the evening was Mr C. White, who had spared neither time or pains to make it a success, and we congratulate him and others who helped on the result. We understand that about £6 will be handed over to the Building Fund. We hope to report in our next issue the adoption of some scheme for a building. The question of land has been and is our obstacle, but we trust that some definite conclusion may be arrived at in a few days, and then we feel sure our Church affairs will prosper still more. The Rector preached on the morning of June 4th, and had a talk after service with the people about the matter.

S. GEORGE'S, INVERMAY.

The wet and cold weather of the past weeks has not interfered in any marked way with the attendances at services or Sunday-school, and this is a most pleasing feature in a congregation, for now-a-days one sees too often an evident desire to stop at home on Sundays on any slight excuse, and cold or wet weather makes as good an excuse as any. Regularity in attendance at church services is a cardinal point, and the practice of it on the parts of parents and children (the former at the services and the latter at the Sunday-school) is

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surely one of the ways in which the Christian's high ideal may be consummated. But regularity will avail little unless there is a total absence of distracting influences, and one often notices that a distinct difficulty is experienced in such a simple matter as finding the Collect, Psalms, or occasional prayers readily during the service.

This has led the superintendent of the Sunday-school to suggest to the Rector that a few minutes be given each afternoon to the memorising of certain parts of the service, and to instructions in "the way of the Prayer Book," which, learnt while a child, is never forgotten. As for committing to memory such parts of the service as the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Canticles, this becomes necessary when one thinks of the parrot-like way in which some children learn these. The words, as they know them, can convey no meaning whatever, and become nothing better than a repetition of unintelligible sounds, and that has been condemned by a very high authority.

The usual children's service was held on the third Sunday, and was very well attended, but we would like more of the parents to avail themselves of the invitation always given on the previous Sunday to come with their children. We must thank Miss Brown for very kindly volunteering to play the organ at both the opening and closing of the school, and also at the children's service, her kindness is greatly appreciated.

We were all glad to see Miss Field at the celebration last Sunday, and especially so after such a serious illness as she has passed through. We sympathise with Mr Fair in his illness, and hope as the weather settles to be able to record his complete recovery.

The first annual social, given by the S. George's branch of the guild, was held on Wednesday night, and in spite of very unpromising weather the room was as full as was comfortable. Songs, games, and pianoforte solos were the order of the evening, and an excellent supper, with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne," brought the social to a close, and all will look forward to the next the guild inaugurates.

Just as our notes are going to press the news comes of the death of Mr John Wilmore, at his residence in Mayne-street. It happened after an illness of only two or three days, and came as a shock to his large circle of friends. Mr Wilmore was one who, though of a quiet and retiring disposition, was always held in the highest estimation and respect, and his death is a distinct loss to our suburb. Our hearts go out in Christian sympathy to those who have to mourn their loss, and our feelings are echoed by hundreds of others who had the privilege of knowing Mr Wilmore in other parts of Tasmania.

S. PAUL'S PARISH.

The early part of May was indeed a busy and happy time. We hope, not only for our own church people of the three Anglican parishes, but for many others who, for the first time for many years, were enabled to take part in a most enjoyable and we hope greatly helpful session of Synod. It was indeed a graceful act on our Bishop's part to convene a meeting of Synod in the north, and in alluding to what he had done, he happily said "After many years wandering in the wilderness, the Synod had come to the land flowing with milk and honey." We must confess it was with many misgivings that we made our preparations, thinking to ourselves, shall we be able to do it? But the ready re-

sponse to all requests being so cheerfully complied with by our friends of the laity, made it after all more than an easy task for our committees. May God's blessing rest upon their labours, and one and all are ready to do their share when we shall have the pleasure of meeting the members of Synod once again in Launceston. We know that many people considered holding "Synod in the north" too great an experiment. Well, we can only say that on all sides from our friends north, south, east, and west came the answer, "It is a great success." One lay representative, whose opinion we value highly, wrote, "I am a convert to Synod in Launceston," and we shall gladly welcome him when he comes to the north again.

* * *

The Rector had a very happy time with friends old and new. Around the hospitable board at the Rectory were to be found lay-representatives who had sat at that same table when Synod was last held in Launceston, and were recalling memories of what might now be termed "ancient history." The hearty and enthusiastic welcome accorded to our own Bishop, must have helped to lighten the burden of that busy week to him, and that to the Lord Bishops of Melbourne and Wangaratta will, we hope, make them want to come to our island diocese again.

* * *

On Monday, May the 8th, the Mayor and Mayoress held a reception in the Albert Hall in honour of the Bishop of Tasmania and members of Synod, and also of the Bishops of Melbourne and Wangaratta, who were here at the invitation of Bishop Mercer. The Hall, which was decorated with flowers and flags, was laid out as a drawing-room, the Mayor and Mayoress receiving the guests in the centre of the hall, which was prettily arranged for the occasion. The Rev. H. B. Atkinson

announced the guests, who, upon paying their respects to the host and hostess, were presented to the Bishops of Melbourne and Wangaratta by the Rev. A. Barkway. Archdeacon Whittington and a large number of Anglican clergymen, who were in the city for the purpose of meeting in Synod, were present; all the Aldermen were in attendance, and some of the ministers of other religious bodies. Most interesting addresses were delivered by the Lord Bishops of Melbourne, Wangaratta, and Tasmania. Afternoon tea was provided by the members of the three Anglican parishes, and served round by 36 young ladies—12 from each parish—all dressed in white, with very becoming green ribbons and bunches of violets. One clerical visitor remarked thus upon the reception, "everything went off with the greatest *eclat*." The diocesan meeting at the Albert Hall at 8 p.m. was a great success, but space forbids more thereupon.

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On Sunday, May 8th, at S. Paul's, Dr. Armstrong, Bishop of Wangaratta, was the preacher in the morning. He took for his text Luke 24, 6. "He is risen," from which he gave a masterly address. In the evening Archdeacon Whittington officiated, and took for his text S. Matthew 28, 5, "And the angel answered and said, fear not ye for ye seek Jesus who was crucified," from which the preacher in his usual brilliant and very impressive style gave a most earnest and practical address. Appropriate hymns were sung, the choir at both services being assisted by Mr S. Prismall, of Queens-town, formerly a valued member of S. Paul's choir.

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On Sunday, the 14th, the special preacher in the morning was the Warden of S. Wilfred's College, Canon Kelly, who took for his text S. John 4, 22, from which he

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preached an impressive sermon. He also feelingly alluded to the fact that this was the 52nd year of the Rector's ministry, and expressed the pleasure it gave him (the preacher) to be present in the church. The service, which was choral, was intoned by the Rev. W. S. Stone, Rector of Zeehan, the lessons being read by the Rector. At evensong the preacher was the Lord Bishop of Tasmania, who gave a most brilliant and masterly address from Numbers 24, 3, 6. His Lordship was most attentively listened to by the large congregation, which included many members of other denominations. The service, which was fully choral, was intoned by the Rev. C. G. Wilkinson, M.A., the lessons being read by the venerable Rector. The choir was again assisted by Mr S. Prismall, of Queens-town, and Mr J. H. Billing.

We should like to remind our church people of the entertainment which is to take place in the school-room, Cleveland-street, on Wednesday, June 7th, at 8 p.m. Many of the items will be rendered by the scholars of the Sunday-school, and we trust you will all show your sympathy with the movement by honouring us with your presence on that evening.

St. John's.

BAPTISMS.

May 17th—Marjorie May Smale
Marjorie Kemsley Knott
Imogen Ermgutruide Logan
Edgar Clarence Rule
" 22nd—Richard Garth Atsel.

BURIALS.

May 15th—Charlotte Edgell.



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GENERAL ITEMS.

His Lordship the Bishop of Norwich, in his *Dsocesan Gazette*, offers the following suggestions for the observance of Whit Sunday :—

1. There should be an early celebration of the Holy Communion, with a pause after the administration for silent prayer for a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon our Church and nation.

2. At the eleven o'clock service the appointed Psalms and Lessons will, of course, be said, and proper Whitsun hymns be sung, one of which should be the old hymn of the Catholic Church, *Veni Creator*. After the Collect for the day may be said the Collect for the Fourth Sunday in Advent. The sermon should, of course, be upon the Nature, the Person, and the work of the Third Person of the Trinity, especial pains being taken to impress upon the hearers the truth that the Holy Ghost is a living and a loving Person, as real in His Personality and love for us as the Holy Father or the Divine Son of God; and therefore to be realised and loved by us with a fervent personal love as our Divine Friend and Guide, our Comforter and Sanctifier. With this view the history of His works of love towards us may be dwelt upon, His work in Creation, Inspiration, the Holy Incarnation, His completion of the work of the Father and the Son, His conviction of the world and sanctification of believers, His entrance into the Church in the place of the Divine Son, His abiding work in the Holy Church, our absolute need of His guidance, His "grace and power."

3. After Evening Prayer there may well be an "after-meeting" in the church, for which the congre-

gation may be invited to remain. The proceedings may consist of collects, an address or instruction upon the subject of the day, hymns (perhaps one kneeling), and extempore prayer.

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WORK IN THE POLICE COURTS.

The latest returns of the C.E.T.S. show that there is no diminution in this most valuable department of temperance effort. The number of missionaries employed by the Church of England alone now reaches a total of 97, in addition to which there are 16 mission women. 294 police courts are now regularly visited, and the following figures for the past year are an eloquent testimony to the activity of the missionaries :—

74,960 persons were visited in their homes.
6,906 cases were attended to at the magistrates' request.
29,960 prisoners were met on discharge from prison.
20,367 free breakfasts were provided.
4,999 persons (chiefly young women and girls) were placed in homes or restored to their friends.

2,540 persons were provided with employment.
20,253 persons were assisted with money, shelter, food, clothing, tools, etc.
3,174 persons were handed over to the care of the parochial clergy.

Among the parliamentary papers recently issued was one giving a return of the number of victuallers, beerhouse, and other licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquors, the renewal of which was refused at the annual licensing sessions held in England and Wales in February and March last. The total number refused was 422, but there were appeals in 263 cases. The result of the appeals was that 21 were abandoned, 108 dismissed, and 114 were allowed, while there were 20 appeals still pending. Among the licenses refused were—

286 victuallers' licenses
101 beerhouse licenses, and
35 other licenses.

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Hail the day that sees Him rise
To His throne beyond the skies.

Ascension Day ought to be the very happiest day in all the year to Christian people, because on it we think specially of the Lord Jesus returning to His home in Heaven. The joy of Christmas and Easter has more to do with ourselves; now we rejoice for Himself alone. In one of the psalms appointed for this day there are these words, "Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors: and the King of Glory shall come in." It sounds like the song of the angels welcoming their King. What a beautiful song of praise it must have been! How it would echo through the courts of Heaven as the holy angels conducted their King back to His place at the right hand of God! See the Conqueror mounts in triumph; see the King in royal state,
Riding on the clouds His chariot to His heavenly palace gate!
Hark! the choirs of angel voices joyful alleluias sing,
And the portals high are lifted to receive the heavenly King.

Dear children, the day is coming—it may be soon—when we too shall see the "King in His beauty," and all who have loved and served Him faithfully will enter with Him through the palace gates, and reign with Him for evermore.

WHIT SUNDAY.

Our blest Redeemer, ere He breathed His tender last farewell.
A Guide, a Comforter bequeathed with us to dwell.

Once when Jesus was talking to His disciples about going away from them, He told them to look out for some one else whom He would send to guide and teach them, and help them to remember all that He had

said to them while He was here. They were to remain in Jerusalem until this promise was fulfilled. In the 1st chapter of the Acts of the Apostles we read, "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from Heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost." This is how the Guide and Comforter came to them. He comes to us now in a different way. We do not see the fiery tongues, but

His is that gentle voice we hear,
Soft as the breath of even,
That checks each thought, that calms each fear,
And speaks of Heaven.

We must listen for this "still small voice" that speaks to us. It is the voice of God speaking in our hearts, and helping us to choose the right way.

He came sweet influence to impart,
A gracious willing Guest,
While He can find one humble heart
Wherein to rest.

And every virtue we possess,
And every victory won,
And every thought of holiness
Are His alone.

We cannot even think anything that is good unless the Holy Spirit puts it into our minds. We need His help in everything. We must ask Him to come and dwell in our hearts, and make them pure and holy: more and more like God.

Spirit of purity and of grace,
Our weakness, pitying, see;
Oh, make our hearts Thy dwelling place,
And worthier Thee.

From Thy hand I am willing to receive indifferently good and evil, sweet and bitter, joy and sorrow, and for all that befalleth me I will be thankful.