

in his great and important parish of Burnie. With equal pleasure we note that his place at St. John the Baptist, Hobart, is to be filled by the election of the Rev. W. J. Reeve, from St. Paul's, East Kew, Victoria, who will be a distinct strength to our evangelical ranks. Mr. Reeve was for a few years on the regular staff of the C.M.S. in Victoria before he became vicar of St. Paul's, East Kew.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.—On two separate evenings in August we entertained the scholars of our "senior" and "intermediate" schools. These indoor picnics were greatly enjoyed.

"INASMUCH."

(Incidents from the Quarterly Letter of the Bishop of Central Tanganyika.)

A SLAVE—VISITED, COMFORTED, REDEEMED.

"Last week I had the privilege of helping a poor widow woman in her last days. (So characteristic of the ministry of Miss Miller, of N.S.W., during her 20 years in Tanganyika, who is writing.) She had very bad eyes and consumption as well. She had been a slave from childhood. The man who bought her died and she was inherited by another, and finally, when old enough, given to his nephew as his wife. He, having paid no dowry for her, considered her his slave too. He died, and the relations wanted no more of her because she was ill. They have tried to get the child of 14, and detained her in their village for a fortnight until I had to get the chief to send for her. The mother grew rapidly worse, and on Thursday I went to see her twice. On Friday I was called at 6 a.m. She had no one to care for her, as the child was still away. She had heard the Gospel gladly as early as 1913, but the war delayed her progress, and it was not till 1924 that I had the pleasure of admitting her as an enquirer. Last month she asked for the Catechism and confessed to faith in our Saviour, so was admitted. On Friday morning on her sick bed she was baptised. A native Christian woman sat with me after that little service only three and a half hours till she passed away to be with the Saviour Whom she had learnt to trust. Only one

poor, dark slave woman. But we know there is joy in the presence of the angels over one brought in. Please pray for the girl, who is now in our boarding school."

DONATIONS.

This little "Messenger" requires the patronage of all who are interested in reading it. A little from everyone will be greatly appreciated. Kindly hand it to the distributors or to Mr. A. A. Castley, Brisbane Street, or to the Rector. Received—Miss Genders (Penguin), 2s 6d; Miss Windeatt, Miss Molloy, Miss Prior, Mrs. Nathan, Mrs. Rigney, Miss V. Sadler, Mrs. C. Bryant, Anon, 2s each; Mrs. Houghton, 1s.

OFFERTORIES.

Sunday, 3rd August, £12; 10th August, £9; 17th August, £11 1s; 24th August, £11 17s 3d; 31st August, £10 10s. Including envelopes—No. 758, £4; No. 761, 18s; No. 766, 6s; No. 767, 10s.

BAPTISMS.

"Take this child and nurse it for Me, and I will pay thee thy wages."

Valmai Jean Willes, Aileen Mary Boucher, Valerie Doris Margaret Viney, Beverley Florence Richardson, Maude Rita Richardson, Terence Lehner, Gwendoline Merle Lehner.

MARRIAGES.

"Life at best is short, but love immortal."

George Warren Rattray and Doris Amy Scott.

James Millwood and Jessie S. Yost.

Russell Kidd and Florence May Forsyth.

Harold O. Sperring and Edna Irene Smyth.

St. John's Parish Messenger

A Monthly Message from the Mother Church of Launceston. St. John's Church was opened 1825, but our records go back to 1811. The new portion (still unfinished), as shown below, was commenced in 1901.



VOL. XI.—

No. 8

FREE.

SEPTEMBER, 1930

STAFF:

REV. D. ROSS HEWTON, M.A., F.R.G.S. (Eng.). 'Phone No. 525.

REV. R. C. BROWN, Th.L.

MISS ISABELL KELLY, in charge of Mission House, Canning St. Phone 541

MISS T. GARRARD, Kamuli, Uganda.

MR. PERRIMAN, St. John's Own Missionary, Northern Territory.

Mr. A. R. GEE, Mus.Bac., Organist, 171 St. John Street. 'Phone 1670.

MR. A. FORD, Verger's Cottage, 39 Elizabeth Street.

APPOINTMENTS:

SUNDAY SERVICES, 8, 11, and 7—Sunday School, 10 and 3. Holy Communion, 8 a.m. (every Sunday), 10 a.m. (second Sunday), 11 a.m. (first and third Sunday). Young Men's Bible Class, 2.30.

MONDAY, 2nd and 4th—League for Young People, C.M.S. Depot, 8 p.m.

TUESDAY—G.F.S., 7.30.

WEDNESDAYS—Ladies' Sewing Guild, Girl Guides, Boy Scouts.

Baptisms every Wednesday, 11 a.m. Special Service, Wednesday, 7.30 p.m.

THURSDAYS—Choir Practice, 8. Missionary Band, 4.15. Fourth Thursday, Mother's Union, 3.

ST. OSWALD'S, TREVALLYN—Service every Sunday, 7. Holy Communion, Fourth Sunday, at 9 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S MISSION, CANNING STREET—Service every Sunday, 7 p.m.

CORMISTON—Every alternate Sunday, 3.30 p.m.

A CORDIAL INVITATION is hereby given to ALL to Attend our SERVICES. YOU will be Welcomed, Shown to a Seat, and, if necessary, provided with Books.

RECTOR'S NOTES.

THE TRUE STORY OF A BOOK.

The following article by the Rev. C. C. Dobson, M.A., is published in "The National Message and Banner."

The early 18th century was the darkest period religiously in the history of England since the time of the Reformation. It was the age of notable deists, agnostics, rationalists, and unbelievers, when "all men of rank were thought to be infidels." Amongst such leaders of thought were Gilbert West and Lord Lyttleton, the friend of Dr. Johnson, Chesterfield and others. These two men believed the Bible to be an imposture, and they determined to expose it. To do this they decided that they must begin by exposing the two greatest miracles by each writing a book. Lord Lyttleton chose the Conversion of St. Paul and Gilbert West the Resurrection. Their tasks led them to a careful examination of the Bible accounts of these two events, and they took about a year to write their books. When they had completed their tasks they met together and something like this passed between them:

"I have written my book," said Lord Lyttleton, "and I have a confession to make. When I came to study all the evidence for the story of the conversion of St. Paul, and weighed it by all the known laws of evidence, I found St. Paul was miraculously converted in spite of himself. I am now a Christian, and I have written my book on that side, and not against it."

Gilbert West replied: "I have a similar confession to make. I have found the Resurrection of our Lord to be a true fact, and I, too, have become a believer, and have written my book on that side."

This story was well known to me, and I often wondered whether it was strictly correct, or whether it had become coloured by repetition. One day while I was busy writing my own book on the Resurrection there was a knock at my door, and a man came in to see me. He said: "I was looking at a second-hand bookstall in the city, and I came across an old book on the Resurrection. They only wanted a penny for it, so, as I knew you were writing a book on the subject, I bought it for you. Is it any good to you?" I thanked him, and looked at

the book. You may imagine my surprise when on opening it I read: "Observations on the History and evidences of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ," by Gilbert West, printed by Dodsley, 1747. It was the very book which Gilbert West had written as related above. Very significant is the motto he had written on the title page:

"Blame not before thou hast examined the Truth:
Understand first, and then rebuke."
—Eclus. ii, v. 7.

To me that book is not worth a penny, but at least £50. It proved the truth of the story.

But I was to have another proof. Not long afterwards I was looking among the books in my father's library, and I found a large volume I had never noticed before. It was called "The Works of Lord Lyttleton." One of the first things I found in it was "Observations on the Conversion and Apostleship of St. Paul in a Letter to Gilbert West."

I think it appropriate to quote the above, because Sunday, the 21st September, will be observed as "Bible Sunday" in Launceston. It is well in these days, when there is an impression abroad that amongst the many changes taking place there is also a change in our reverence for the Bible. Sir Walter Scott said: "The most learned, acute and diligent student cannot in the longest life obtain an entire knowledge of His One Volume. The more deeply he works the mine the richer and more abundant he finds the ore."

No one objects to your reading other books—philosophy, poetry, history, fiction—but if you would refine the judgment, fertilize the reason, wing the imagination, attain unto the sturdiest manhood, read the Bible reverently and prayerfully until its truths dissolve like iron in the blood.

DAVID ROSS HEWTON.

Sept., 1930.

GENERAL NOTES.

THE VEN. ARCHDEACON WHITTINGTON (Vicar-General).—We regret that the genial Vicar-General has

had rather a serious time in St. Margaret's Hospital, Launceston, but is making a gradual recovery, we are glad to hear, after a painful operation.

REV. R. C. BROWN, Th.L.—We also regret that before the Archdeacon broke down he succeeded in kidnapping our Curate by appointing him Rector of Ellendale, a country parish in the South. After a little over two years of happy service Mr. Brown will leave St. John's at the end of this month with the best wishes of all the parishioners.

ST. JOHN'S MISSION (Shoobridge Hall).—The Girls' Club, under Miss Olive Justin, gave another exhibition of their skill on Monday evening, the 1st September, when the proceeds were devoted to the Bush Nursing Fund.

Miss Kelly is organising a good entertainment to be given on Thursday, 11th September inst., in aid of C.M.S. funds. The Y.P.U. and M.S.L. are taking part. Two little plays will be staged, "The Widows of India" and "Go Tell." A small charge of 6d will be made.

CHRISTMAS BOXES FOR OUR OWN MISSIONARIES.—An urgent appeal is made to all friends to remember that this month we must pack the box for our missionaries in the Northern Territory. A complete list of suggestions regarding the kind of articles required will be found posted in the porch of the church. The following are some of the things asked for:—Quilts, strong material, dress material (red), strong khaki trousers (shorts), strong twine, pocket knives, old razor blades, linen (washed) and bandages, fishing lines and hooks, large mouth organs, good tomahawk, healing ointments and medicines, Lifebuoy and common soap, lollies in tins, steel nibs and pencils, etc., etc., etc. Any articles of this kind may be left at our Depot, 92 St. John Street. If we could only read to you the appreciative letters we always get, showing what pleasure it gives to these poor people in the isolated parts of the North, it would prove to the most stoney-hearted how this little effort can give so much joy.

For Miss Garrard, in Uganda, we ask you to send money, so that she may purchase locally Christmas presents and thus save much expense.

"THE MYSTIC TREE."—This is the name of a mystery play to be given at the Mechanics' Institute Hall on Tuesday evening, the 23rd September, also a display of Grecian dancing. St. John's Girls' Friendly Society have been rehearsing for this play for some time, and we are promised something very beautiful and instructive. The G.F. Society has proved a good friend to the Church at all times, and it is to be expected that all the parishioners will show their gratitude by patronising this great effort. The proceeds are to be divided between the G.F.S. and St. John's Mission.

ST. JOHN'S BUILDING.—We have been watching with great interest Mr. Gordon Cumming, who is carving the capitals to the pillars at the north porch. The work seems slow, but sure. There is much carving still to be done in the interior of the building. Surely someone would like to undertake a little special memorial in that direction.

THE MOTHERS' UNION.—Our Branch of the Mothers' Union entertained members of all other Launceston Branches on Thursday afternoon, 28th August. Notwithstanding a wet day, there was a large attendance. In addition to dainty refreshments, an excellent programme was provided, contributed to by Mrs. Learoyd, Misses Steedman, Bessell, Bungey, and Abra, and Mr. T. H. Atherton. Mrs. Anthony Smith, our hon. secretary, also arranged some competitions, which created much friendly intercourse.

ST. JOHN'S CHOIR.—Very favourable comments are often passed by visitors and others who have attended this Church during the last few months, which must be very gratifying to Mr. A. R. Gee, the organist. At the choir festival on Sunday, 31st August, the Rector spoke some encouraging words, and referred to the immense value of music in the worship of God. At the morning service on the same day a neat little brass tablet was unveiled to the memory of Mr. F. R. Unsworth, for many years a member of the choir.

RECENT APPOINTMENTS.—It is with very great pleasure that we welcome Rev. W. Greenwood again in the North. We wish him every blessing