

PLUCKLEY PARISH MAGAZINE.

APRIL, 1897.

Parish of S. Nicholas, Pluckley,

In the Diocese of Canterbury, the Archdeaconry of Maidstone, and the Rural Deanery of East Charing.

Archbishop: The Most Reverend Frederick Temple, D.D.

Bishop Suffragan of Dover: The Right Reverend George Rodney Eden, D.D.

Archdeacon: The Venerable Benjamin F. Smith, M.A.

Rural Dean: The Rev. P. F. Tindall, M.A., Vicar of Ashford.

Rector: The Rev. Frederic Newton Style, M.A.

Churchwardens: Mr. W. Maylam, Mr. H. Evenden.

Warden of S. Mary's: Mr. C. Cornes.

Master of the National School: Mr. Thomas Newton Coe.

Ass'tants: Mrs. T. N. Coe, Misses Smith, Porter, Coe.

Sexton: Mr. Thomas Skinner

Services at S. Nicholas'.

April 4—5th Sunday in Lent.

11, Morning Prayer, Holy Communion, and Sermon.

6-30, Evensong, Litany, and Sermon.

11—6th Sunday in Lent.

8, Holy Communion.

11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.

6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday before Easter—Morning Prayer at 8, and Ante-Communion at 11, and Evening Prayer and Sermon, at 7-30 p.m.

16—Good Friday.

8, Litany.

11, Morning Prayer, Ante-Communion, and Sermon.

7-30, Addresses on "The Seven Sayings from the Cross."

17—Easter Eve. 8, Morning Prayer and Ante-Communion.

18—Easter Day.

8, Holy Communion.

11, Matins, Holy Communion, and Sermon.

6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

19—Monday after Easter. 8, Holy Communion.

20—Tuesday after Easter. 8, Holy Communion.

25—1st Sunday after Easter. S. Mark.

8, Holy Communion.

11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.

2-30, Holy Baptism.

6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

Other Week-days—Morning Prayer, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 8 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, the 6th inst. Service and Sermon by Canon E. F. Dyke, at 7-15 p.m.

Monthly Meeting of the Communicant's Guild after Evening Service on the 11th.

Services at S. Mary's.

Thursdays, 1st and 8th, Lantern Service at 7-30 p.m.

Good Friday, Hymns and Meditations, at 3 p.m.

Every Sunday, Evening Prayer and Sermon at 3-15 p.m.

Baptism.

Feb. 21—Arthur Harlow.

Burials.

Feb. 26—Lucy Ellen Weeks, aged 24 years.

27—Edward William Barton-Bean, aged 60 years.

Mar. 13—John Skinner, aged 78 years.

OFFERTORIES AT S. NICHOLAS. Feb. 21st, 16s. 6d., in 86 coins, for the Choir and Organ Fund; 28th, £4 13s. 0½d., in 212 coins, for Indian Famine Relief Fund; March 7th, £1 2s. 2d., in 96 coins, for Warming and Lighting Fund; 14th, £1 6s. 2d., in 118 coins, for Indian Orphan Children; Ash Wednesday, 5s., for Kent Penitentiary; March 14th, 2s. 10½d. for the Sick. At S. Mary's. Feb. 21st, 3s. 9d.; March 7th, 2s. 8½d.; 14th, 10d., for Church Expenses; Feb. 28th, 13s 3½d., in 72 coins, for Indian Famine Relief.

The sum of £6 5s. 2d. has been sent to the Lord Mayor's Indian Famine Relief Fund. This total comprised:—Collection at Parish Church, £4 13s. 0½d.; at S. Mary's, 13s. 3½d.; at National School, 12s.; sent by persons who were unable to be at Church, 6s. 10d.

The amount of this collection is very encouraging, and so also was the special offertory on the 14th for the orphan children. No doubt, weather permitting, that on the 28th for these poor children and that on April 11th, which it is now proposed to give to a fund in aid of the child-widows, who are perhaps of all the most to be pitied, will be equally satisfactory. The question then arises, might we not continue these weekly offertories. It is a primitive and Apostolic custom. S. Paul writes to the Corinthians (1st Ep. ch. xvi. 1) "Now concerning the collection for the Saints, as I have given order to the Churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him." And there does not seem much sense in letting almsgiving be a part of our worship on half the Sundays in the year, and not on the other half. Visitors sometimes say, "I had my money ready, but to my surprise you had no collection." Some persons can only come to Church on certain Sundays, and they may miss the opportunity of giving for months if the collections are not always. Of course, if there are offerings every Sunday, we shall not expect the same amounts week by week, because no doubt many now give to the utmost of their power, and they will have to divide their usual contributions between two Sundays. It is not the amount we are thinking of, it is the principle, and the part that Almsgiving should have in our Christian worship. As to amount and frequency of giving, S. Paul's advice is excellent: "Let every man do according as he is disposed in his heart; not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver," and elsewhere we read, "Be merciful after thy power, if thou hast much, give plenteously; if thou hast little, do thy diligence gladly to give of that little, for so gatherest thou thyself a good reward in the day of necessity." Please think the subject over.

The offertory on Easter Day will be given, as last year, to the Diocesan Easter Offering Fund, for the poor clergy of the Diocese; and there are some of them with their families in great straits, because of the fall in the value of their benefices, which they could not foresee or provide against. Gifts of flowers for

the decorations should be sent to both Churches quite early on the previous Saturday. Assistance in decorating will be gratefully welcomed, especially at S. Mary's. We look for a large number of communicants. The Church's rule is that every parishioner shall communicate at least three times a year, of which Easter to be one. The subject of the address at the Communicants' Guild Meeting on the 11th will be Preparation for the Easter Communion. Any one who will stay to the meeting will be heartily welcome.

Canon E. F. Dyke will finish his Lenten course of Sermons on the 6th, and the Lantern Services will end on the 8th. During Holy Week the Rector will preach a course of Sermons every evening at the Parish Church, at 7-30 p.m., ending with the Seven Sayings from the Cross on Good Friday.

On Good Friday there will be Services at 8, 11, and 7-30, and at S. Mary's at 3. To some of these it is hoped every one will come, for it surely is a day for worship on part of those who put their one hope of salvation in the merits of the Crucified Saviour. "Is it nothing to you all ye that pass by"? Behold and see if there be any sorrow like unto My sorrow" (Lam. i. 12).

A Confirmation was held at Egerton Church March 18th, when Bishop Speechly, lately Bishop of Travancore, in India, officiated instead of the Bishop of Dover, who is, we regret to say, still in bad health. There were six candidates from Pluckley.

The Report of the Diocesan Inspector on the Religious Knowledge of the School children as shewn at his examination on February 18th is—"The Religious instruction has been well and carefully given in all three groups, and the results were highly satisfactory throughout. All the teachers have evidently studied their subjects and have taken pains in teaching them. The answering was in nearly all subjects bright, intelligent, and evenly good throughout the class. I got some exceedingly good answers from several of the children in the Catechism in both first and second classes. The repetition, too, was well done. Written work neatly and correctly performed. Singing very fairly good. Great credit is due to the teachers for these results."

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MAY, 1897.

Parish of S. Nicholas, Pluckley,

In the Diocese of Canterbury, the Archdeaconry of Maidstone, and the Rural Deanery of East Charing.

- Archbishop*: The Most Reverend Frederick Temple, D.D.
Bishop Suffragan of Dover: The Right Reverend George Rodney Eden, D.D.
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Master of the National School: Mr. Thomas Newton Coe.
Ass'ts: Mrs. T. N. Coe, Misses Smith, Porter, Coe.
Sexton: Mr. Thomas Skinner

Services at S. Nicholas.

- May 1...S. Philip and S. James.
8, Holy Communion.
2...2nd Sunday after Easter.
11, Morning Prayer, Holy Communion, with Sermon.
6-30, Evensong, Litany, and Sermon.
9...3rd Sunday after Easter.
8, Holy Communion.
11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.
6-30, Evensong and Sermon.
16...4th Sunday after Easter.
11, Morning Prayer, Holy Communion, and Sermon.
6-30, Evensong, Litany, and Sermon.
23...5th Sunday after Easter.
8, Holy Communion.
11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.
6-30, Evensong and Sermon.
27...Ascension Day.
8, Holy Communion.
10-30, Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.
7-30, Evensong and Sermon.
30...Sunday after Ascension Day.
11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.
2-30, Holy Baptism.
6-30, Evensong and Sermon.
Other Week-days...Morning Prayer: Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 8; Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 10.

Services at S. Mary's.

All Sundays...Evening Prayer and Sermon, 3-15 p.m.
Sunday, 30...Holy Communion at 8 a.m.

Baptism.

March 28...Wilfred Allen Luckhurst.

Burial.

April 17...George Watson, aged 63 years.

OFFERTORIES. *S. Nicholas'*: March 21st, £1 5s. for Diocesan Education Society, in 98 coins; March 28th, £1 4s. 8d., for Indian Orphans, in 114 coins; April 4th, £1 6s. 9d., for Sick Relief, in 130 coins; April 11th, £1 9s. 2d., for Indian Child Widows, in 137 coins; Easter Day, £3 os. 3d., for Diocesan Easter Offering Fund, in 192 coins; also March 25th, 3s., for Kent Unions' Creche; March 28th, 4s.; April 11th, 3s. 2d.; April 19th, 1s. 2d., for Alms Fund. *S. Mary's*: March 21st, 3s. 4d.; 28th, 2s. 10½d.; April 4th, 3s. 11d.; 11th, 2s. 11d.; 18th, 2s. 11d., all for Church Expenses.

The appeal made on behalf of the sufferers from the Indian Famine has been met very generously. £6 5s. 2d. has been sent to the Lord Mayor's Fund, £2 12s. to the S.P.G. for the Orphan Children, and £1 9s. 2d. to the Church of England Zenana Society for the Child Widows, a total of £10 6s. 4d.

The Services on Easter Day were very bright and joyful. The Communicants (68) exceeded the number in 1896, though falling short of the 85 of 1895, and it was encouraging to see some fresh faces. The anthem, "I am He that liveth" (C. Simper), was very well rendered, and the Easter hymn, "Jesus Christ is risen to-day," was most heartily sung by the whole congregation. The Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis were Bunnett in F. Both Churches were very prettily decorated.

The congregations on Good Friday were not at all what they should have been. It is both strange and sad that so few come apart to worship on this solemn anniversary. The weather was certainly not favourable, but it will not account for the very sparse attendance. Few seem to say—

"Thou gavest Thy life for me,
What shall I give to Thee?"

The Institute Chess Team met eight of the Biddenden and District Club at Smarden, February 24th, and made a tie, each side scoring four. A match against Egerton Winter Club, played at Pluckley March 22nd, gave the victory to Pluckley by 5½ to 3½, but the tables were turned at Egerton, March 29th, Pluckley only scoring three to their opponents six.

The Parish Council have been re-elected; no one appeared anxious to supplant the former members.

The first of this month is the first day of practice for the Cricket Club. Great pains have been taken to get the pitch in good order. We hope the Club will be reinforced by many new members, and that all, whatever part of the parish they hail from, will pull together. Mr. C. Brooker is Captain for the ensuing year, Mr. J. Morris, Sub-Captain; Mr. Munns, Secretary; and the Rector, Treasurer. We wish the Club a most successful season.

Prizes for regularity of attendance at the Day School were distributed on April 2nd by Mrs. H. E. Dering. Mrs. Style, Miss Style, Mrs. Burrows, Mrs. and the Misses Cheesman, and the Rector were present. The scholars who had made full attendances for 40 weeks were Cecilia Brooker, Dorothy Skinner, Dora Brooker, Fanny Woolley, Alice Marchant, Alice Wise, Annie Pile, Isabel Clifton, Elizabeth Clifton, Mabel Coe, Hilda Skinner, Lily Buss, Fred Blackman, Joseph Blackman, Herbert Blackman, Herbert Bentley, Harold Skinner, William Skinner, Jesse Smith, William Paris, Albert Clifton, Alfred Strover, William Pile, Herbert Skinner. Those who did not miss during 30 weeks were Florence Bentley, Hannah Whitehead, Ethel Pile, Grace Luckhurst, Amelia Miles, Annie Coppins, Rhoda Buss, Rose Pentecost, Susan Skinner, Elsie Skinner, Lizzie Brooks, Flora Luckhurst, Lily Adams, Carrie Burton, Lotty Bryant, Catherine Welsted, Ethel Luckhurst, Grace Skinner, Alice Coppins, Lucy Copping, Alice Copping, William Porter, Edgar Smith, Henry Welsted, Percy Skinner, Sidney Excell, Robert Welsted, Jesse

Excell, Reuben Adams, Amos Pearson, Ernest Goodwin, Horace Paris, George Pile, Victor Morris, Ernest Miles, Ted Woolley, William Pearson, Fred Morris, Arthur Coppins, Charles Miles, William Croucher, William Pearson, John Buss, Fred Welsted, Ted Harlow, George Goodwin, George Bryant. The rewards were work boxes, writing desks, paint boxes, geometrical drawing instruments, tool boxes, books, drawing slates, according to the choice of the recipients. The School is excused the annual examination. Instead of that, the Inspector pays two or more surprise visits. His report is satisfactory, and the grant is identical with that of last year.

The Church Organ is sadly in need of cleaning. This is unfortunately an expensive operation. Please to bear this in mind when the offertory is for the Organ and Choir Fund.

The report of the proceedings at the Easter Vestry must be held over till next month, as the printer requires our news before the date of the meeting.

Miss Style, as Local Secretary for the Weald of Kent Zenana Mission to the women in the rice fields of Bengal, has remitted the sum of £3 7s. 5d., more than twice the amount collected last year. The collecting cards were—Mrs. Brooker, 10s. 9d.; Mrs. Burrows, 5s.; Miss Maylam, 5s.; the Misses Sewell, £1 16s. 8d.; Miss Style, 10s.

Thursday, the 27th, is Ascension Day, a day commemorating the completion of our blessed Lord's work for our redemption, so far as His life upon earth is concerned. Thank God, He continues this His gracious work in heaven, and Christians should gratefully commemorate His return to His heavenly glory. Let there be many worshippers at all the Services, although it be a week-day.

The three days before Ascension Day are the Rogation Days. It has been customary from a far distant date to make special supplication for God's blessing on the crops.

The Celebration of the Holy Communion on the 30th will be at S. Mary's at 8 a.m.

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Sexton: Mr. Thomas Skinner

Services at S. Nicholas'.

June 6...Whitsun Day.

8, Holy Communion.

11, Matins, Holy Communion, and Sermon.

6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

7...Monday in Whitsun Week. 8, Holy Communion.

8...Tuesday in Whitsun Week. 8, Holy Communion.

11...S. Barnabas. 8, Holy Communion.

13...Trinity Sunday.

8, Holy Communion.

11, Morning Prayer, Holy Communion, and Sermon.

6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

20...1st Sunday after Trinity.

11, Morning Prayer, Holy Communion, and Sermon.

6-30, Evensong, Litany, and Sermon.

24...Nativity of S. John Baptist. 8, Holy Communion.

27...2nd Sunday after Trinity.

8, Holy Communion.

11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.

2-30, Holy Baptism.

6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

29...S. Peter. 8, Holy Communion.

Other Week-days...Morning Prayer: Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 8; Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 10.

Services at S. Mary's Church.

All Sundays...Evening Prayer and Sermon, 3-15 p.m.

The Monthly Meeting of the Communicants' Guild will be held after Evening Service on the 13th.

Marriage.

May 1...William Skeer to Sarah Ada Fuggle.

OFFERTORIES. *S. Nicholas'*: April 25th, 2s. 8d., for Alms Fund, and £1 16s. 1d., for Sunday Schools, in 124 coins. May 1st, 1s., for Alms Fund, and £2 10s. 7d., for Choir and Organ Fund, in 128 coins; 9th, 2s. 1d., for Alms Fund, and £1 5s. 9½d. in 79 coins; 16th, £1 8s. 5d., for Alms Fund, in 82 coins.

S. Mary's: April 25th, 2s. 6½d.; May 2nd, 2s. 2d.; 9th, 1s. 11½d.; 16th, 2s. 11½d., all for Church Expenses.

The Easter Vestry Meeting was held on April 22nd. The Churchwardens were re-appointed, and Mr. C. Brooker and Mr. H. T. Smith were asked to serve as Sidesmen. The Churchwardens' Accounts were submitted and approved, and a grant of £5 was made to *S. Mary's Mission Church*. A Voluntary Rate of 2d was made to meet the expenses of the current year.

The usual "Vestry Dinner" took place subsequently at the Black Horse, when several parishioners of Pluckley and Little Chart dined together. The Rector presided in the absence of the Rector of Little Chart; Col. Cheesman, as Senior Churchwarden of Little Chart, taking the Vice-Chair.

The Rector and Churchwardens attended the Archdeacon's Visitation at Maidstone on May 3rd.

The financial Statement of the Parochial and Charitable Accounts for the twelve months ending March 31st is being printed. A copy will be sent to every house in the parish. If anyone is accidentally omitted, a copy can be obtained from the Rector.

The Rector and Mr. W. J. Moody Smith have been chosen by the School Managers to be their representatives to the Ruri-decanal Church Schools' Council. They attended at Ashford, May 4th, when the Rural Dean and Mr. James Burra, of Kennington, were elected as delegates from the Rural Deanery to the governing body of the Diocesan Association of Church Schools. The new Aid Grant of 5/- for each child in average attendance in the Schools of this and other similar Associations will be distributed by the Education Department to the Schools in each Association in the proportions which the governing body of that Association advise. The delegates will give information to the governing body about the Schools in their respective Deaceries, and most probably the governing body will have communications with the Ruri-decanal Schools Council as to the advice they shall give to the Department about the distribution of the grant. The Department, however, reserves to itself the right of finally deciding what grant, if any, shall be given. It has determined that town Schools shall have a larger proportion than country Schools, and it has made it a condition of a School receiving any grant at all that "*due regard shall be had to the maintenance of Voluntary Subscriptions.*" Our subscribers will therefore kindly note that the new grant will not relieve them from continuing their kind assistance. Its purpose is to "*increase the efficiency*" of the Voluntary Schools, and to enable them to meet the ever increasing demands of the Education Department: one of which, relating to the qualifications of teachers and the number of children they may teach, our School will have shortly to face. It will be seen, also, that we can by no means count on being granted 5/- a head for the scholars in our School. It is quite uncertain what proportions we shall receive, and when it will be paid.

Four of our Sunday School Teachers and the Rector attended a meeting of Teachers in Ashford, May 19th. Evensong having been said at the Parish Church, Tea was served in *S. Mary's Parish Room*, when the meeting was also held. Canon Nisbet had promised to speak on "Teachers' Difficulties." Illness

unfortunately prevented him, and his place was taken by the Rural Dean. Mr. Mr. Spicer, Rev. W. H. Ady, the Rector and others spoke.

The School Lobby is now built and answers its purpose admirably.

On Whitsun Day and Trinity Sunday there will be two celebrations of the Holy Communion, to enable everyone to take part in the highest act of Christian worship on these great Festivals. Copies of the Special Prayers to be used on June 20th, and of Special Hymns will be provided. The Offertories of that day will be for the "Queen Victoria Clergy Sustentation Fund," by which it is hoped that something substantial may be done to raise the poorest livings throughout the country to a reasonable value. In the Canterbury Diocese alone there are no less than 137 Benefices under £200. The Sustentation Fund has been started by laymen, and it is much to be hoped that in every parish some laymen and laywomen will offer themselves as collectors of small subscriptions, so that the effort made this year may not die out, but be continued as an annual thing. The Offertory on the 27th will be for that most deserving Institution, the Ashford Cottage Hospital.

Is not the responding, especially with the Amens, becoming very feeble and intermittent at both Churches? Every person in the congregation must do his part, if we are to have congregational worship; and it is no sign of reverence to be inaudible.



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Sexton: Mr. Thomas Skinner

Services at S. Nicholas.

July 4...3rd Sunday after Trinity.

11, Morning Prayer, Holy Communion, and Sermon.
6-30, Evensong, Litany, and Sermon.

11...4th Sunday after Trinity.

8, Holy Communion.
11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.
6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

18...5th Sunday after Easter.

11, Morning Prayer, Holy Communion, and Sermon.
6-30, Evensong, Litany, and Sermon.

25 ..S. James.

6th Sunday after Trinity.
8, Holy Communion.
11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.
2-30, Holy Baptism.
6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

Morning Prayer is said daily, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, at 10.

" " " Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, at 8.

Services at S. Mary's.

All Sundays, Evening Prayer and Sermon at 3-15 p.m.

Baptisms.

May 30...Kathleen Vine.

30...Ernest Edward Groves Hogben.

Burial.

June 1...Edith Kate Pile, aged 25 years.

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Services at S. Nicholas'.

April 4—5th Sunday in Lent.

11, Morning Prayer, Holy Communion, and Sermon.

6-30, Evensong, Litany, and Sermon.

11—6th Sunday in Lent.

8, Holy Communion.

11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.

6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday before Easter—Morning Prayer at 8, and Ante-Communion at 11, and Evening Prayer and Sermon, at 7-30 p.m.

16—Good Friday.

8, Litany.

11, Morning Prayer, Ante-Communion, and Sermon.

7-30, Addresses on "The Seven Sayings from the Cross."

17—Easter Eve. 8, Morning Prayer and Ante-Communion.

18—Easter Day.

8, Holy Communion.

11, Matins, Holy Communion, and Sermon.

6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

19—Monday after Easter. 8, Holy Communion.

20—Tuesday after Easter. 8, Holy Communion.

25—1st Sunday after Easter. S. Mark.

8, Holy Communion.

11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.

2-30, Holy Baptism.

6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

Other Week-days—Morning Prayer, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 8 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, the 6th inst. Service and Sermon by Canon E. F. Dyke, at 7-15 p.m.

Monthly Meeting of the Communicant's Guild after Evening Service on the 11th.

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Services at S. Nicholas, Pluckley.

Aug. 1...7th Sunday after Trinity.

11, Matins, Holy Communion and Sermon.
6-30, Evensong, Litany, and Sermon.

8...8th Sunday after Trinity.

8, Holy Communion.
11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.
6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

15...9th Sunday after Trinity.

11, Morning Prayer, Holy Communion, and Sermon.
6-30, Evensong, Litany, and Sermon.

22...10th Sunday after Trinity.

8, Holy Communion.
11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.
6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

24...S. Bartholomew. 8, Holy Communion.

29...11th Sunday after Trinity.

11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.
2-30, Holy Baptism.
6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

Morning Prayer is said daily—Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, at 10.
Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, at 8.

Services at S. Mary's.

All Sundays. Evening Prayer and Sermon at 3-15 p.m. 29th, Holy Communion at 8 a.m.

Baptisms.

June 20...Frances Celia Victoria Wilcox.

27...Sydney Claud Miles.

OFFERTORIES. *S. Nicholas*'—June 20th, £2 15s., in 164 coins, for the "Queen Victoria Clergy Sustentation Fund;" 27th, £2 4s. 3d., in 127 coins for Ashford Cottage Hospital; July 4th, £1 14s. 1d., in 114 coins, for Sick Relief; July 11th, 8s. 7d., for Alms Fund and £2 2s. 4d. for Choir and Organ Fund, in 106 coins; July 18th, £1 15s. 5d., for Sunday Schools, in 103 coins; *S. Peter's Day*, 1s., for Alms Fund. *S. Mary's*—June 20th, 2s. 11d.; July 4th, 1s. 9d.; 11th, 2s.; 18th, 2s. 5d., for Church Expenses; June 27th, 2s. 11d., for Cottage Hospital.

The Organ at the Parish Church has been much improved by the renovation it has undergone, and it is hoped that it will not soon call for further repairs. The sum raised for the permanent memorial of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee is £44 6s. 9d. This will go a very little way towards a new Organ, although it is a beginning by no means to be despised. We must save up our money, and also ask from our friends, especially from those who have some connection with Pluckley.

The Jubilee Treat seems to have given universal satisfaction. At any rate, all the members of the Committee reported that they had heard nothing but praise with regard to it. The only subject for regret was that some of the old folks did not feel equal to the exertion of coming. The weather was perfect, the Gordon Boys' Band was excellent, the sports went off without a hitch, everybody had a good tea, and everybody behaved admirably. The obstacle race was even more cleverly arranged than last year, while the Dutch Cheese chase was a very taking novelty. When voluntary help is given in the abundance and thoroughness which characterized this treat, there can be no fear of failure. We have the most pleasing recollections of our Jubilee Treat.

It was a kind thought of Sir Henry Dering to provide Jubilee medals for the children; with them and with their Jubilee mugs they ought to remember the day for many a long year.

The patriotic songs, which Mr. Coe had taught in School, made a very pleasing item in the programme.

The amount collected for the Treat was £35 19s. 6d., the whole of which was spent, the heads of expenditure being:—

	£	s.	d.
Provisions	19	5	9
Jubilee Mugs	3	6	8
Sports and Flags	5	16	1
Band (travelling)	2	10	0
Donation to Gordon Boys' Home ...	2	10	0
Printing and Postage	0	9	6
Conveyances and Cartage	1	3	0
Helpers	0	13	6
Sundries.....	0	5	0
	<hr/>		
	£35	19	6

We have left to the last the mention of the principal commemoration—that of Sunday, the 20th June. It was hearty. The Church bells rang joyful peals many times during the day, flags waved from the Church Tower, the National Anthem began our morning and ended our evening worship, our money offering reached a

larger sum and consisted of a greater number of coins than usual. With these outward tokens of gratitude we trust there were many grateful hearts yielding their tribute of thanksgiving and praise to God, the King of kings, who has so blessed our Nation in continuance of our Sovereign's wise and devoted reign.

The Rector and Churchwardens are greatly obliged to Mr. Coe for lending his American Organ while the Church Organ was under repair.

The members of the Girls' Friendly Society, accompanied by Mrs. Burrows and Miss Style, Associates, spent a pleasant afternoon at Canterbury on Saturday, July 10th, the only drawback being the unpunctuality of the trains. They were at Evensong at the Cathedral, and after tea Canon F. E. Carter conducted them round the building, explaining in a most interesting way its history and principal features.

The Meetings of the Communicants' Guild will be suspended for the next three months. When resumed, in November, the Rector hopes for a larger attendance.

At a Meeting of Voluntary School Representatives for the Rural Deanery held in Ashford, June 29th, the Revs. W. H. Ady and F. N. Style, Col. Cheesman, Messrs. Alexander Brown and John Sayer, were chosen members of the Local Committee of the Diocesan Association, together with the Rural Dean and Mr. James Burra, who are the Delegates from the Rural Deanery to the Governing Body.

Parish of S. Nicholas, Pluckley,

In the Diocese of Canterbury, the Archdeaconry of Maidstone, and the Rural Deanery of East Charing.

- Archbishop:* The Most Reverend Frederick Temple, D.D.
Bishop Suffragan of Dover: The Right Reverend George Rodney Eden, D.D.
Archdeacon: The Venerable Benjamin F. Smith, M.A.
Rural Dean: The Rev. P. F. Tindall, M.A., Vicar of Ashford.
Rector: The Rev. Frederic Newton Style, M.A.
Churchwardens: Mr. W. Maylam, Mr. H. Evenden.
Sidesmen: Mr. C. Brooker, Mr. H. T. Smith.
Warden of S. Mary's: Mr. C. Cornes.
Master of the National School: Mr. Thomas Newton Coe.
Assistants: Mrs. T. N. Coe, Misses Smith, Porter, Coe.
Sexton: Mr. Thomas Skinner

Services at S. Nicholas'

- Sept. 5...12th Sunday after Trinity.
 11, Morning Prayer, Holy Communion, and Sermon.
 6-30, Evensong, Litany, and Sermon.
- 12...13th Sunday after Trinity.
 8, Holy Communion.
 11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.
 6-30, Evensong and Sermon.
- 19...14th Sunday after Trinity.
 11, Morning Prayer, Holy Communion, and Sermon.
 6-30, Evensong, Litany, and Sermon.
- 21...S. Matthew. 8, Holy Communion.
- 26...15th Sunday after Trinity.
 8, Holy Communion.
 11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.
 2-30, Holy Baptism.
 6-30, Evensong and Sermon
- 29...S. Michael and All Angels. 8, Holy Communion.
 Morning Prayer is said daily at 8 o'clock.

Services at S. Mary's.

Sundays. Evening Prayer and Sermon at 3-15 p.m.

Baptisms.

- Aug. 8...May Alberta Skinner.
 8...Victoria Fisher Brooker.

OFFERTORIES. *S. Nicholas'*: July 25th, Essex Farmers' Relief Fund, £3 17s. 5d., in 126 coins; August 1st, Church Warming and Lighting Fund, £1 11s. 2d., in 97 coins; 8th, Alms Fund, £1, in 87 coins; 15th, Choir and Organ Fund, 13s. 11d., in 71 coins. *S. Mary's*: July 25th, Essex Farmers' Relief Fund, 2s. 7d.; Aug. 1st, 1s. 2d.; 8th, 1s. 10d.; 15th, 9d., for Church Expenses.

Customers mustering their own jugs or mugs if they wish to drink these beverages away from the barrow. We have very few mugs left.

Hop-picking is so uncertain in its duration that it is difficult to form plans in connection with it beforehand, but probably we shall be able to have our Harvest Thanksgiving Services at S. Mary's on Wednesday, September 29th, the Festival of S. Michael and All Angels, and at S. Nicholas' on the first Sunday in October.

Hop-picking is very tiring work, and we all feel very slack on the Sundays, but the need for a little extra effort ought to be cheerfully met, and the numbers of our congregation should not be suffered to diminish. The fruit is God's gift, and the ability to gather it in is His gift; so His worship is the last thing that should be affected for the worse.

The candidates for the Girls' Friendly Society, to the number of 24, had tea and games in the Rectory Garden on July 30th.

On August 4th the members of the Mothers' Meeting, 29 in all, were the guests of the Rector and Mrs. Style. After tea under the Wych Elm, and a stroll round the garden, there was dipping in the lucky bag for presents, and then swings and skipping, egg and spoon race, needle threading competition, and other games, finishing with the good old English dance of Sir Roger de Coverley.

A third treat to be chronicled is the outing of the Choir boys of the Parish Church and the boys and girls of the Choir of S. Mary's to the Crystal Palace on August 17th. Leaving Pluckley at 8-15, they journeyed to London Bridge, and, changing to the Brighton line, reached the Palace about noon. Then they dispersed to see the various objects of interest, and met again at 4-30 for a very excellent and well-served tea. Among the attractions were the printing of the "Daily Chronicle" for the day and of the forthcoming Christmas number of "The Graphic," candle making, cricket bat and racquet making, spinning and weaving, the representation of a coal mine and of gold diggings, beautiful models of ships, and many other interesting objects. The Palace was left at 6 o'clock, a walk between the stations at New Cross brought the party to the S.E.R. again, and Pluckley was reached about half-past 8. Mr. Sewell had kindly made arrangements for 2 reserved carriage each way. The return journey was enlivened with songs, and all had a happy day. Mrs. and Miss Style, Miss Smith, and the Rector accompanied the young people, who numbered 34. As the expenses of such a treat make a considerable drain on the Choir and Organ Fund we hope the offertories on that behalf will be generally supported. There is no good reason for the Choir treat to be given at the expense of the Rector and five or six others; it is more fitting that *all* the worshippers should contribute to everything connected with the musical rendering of praise, and so we regard the treat as having a fair demand on the offertory funds.

The sad misfortunes of the Essex farmers called forth much sympathy and very practical help. The collections at both Churches, and a donation, enabled us to send £4 2s. 6d. to their aid, a contribution which was very gratefully acknowledged.

A parcel of useful clothing, made by the G.F.S. members, and another containing dolls, prettily dressed by Mrs. Sewell and her daughters, have been sent to the Secretary of the Calcutta Zenana Mission.

PLUCKLEY PARISH MAGAZINE.

OCTOBER, 1897.

Parish of S. Nicholas, Pluckley,

In the Diocese of Canterbury, the Archdeaconry of Maidstone, and the Rural Deanery of East Charing.

Archbishop: The Most Reverend Frederick Temple, D.D.

Bishop Suffragan of Dover:

Archdeacon: The Venerable Benjamin F. Smith, M.A.

Rural Dean: The Rev. P. F. Tindall, M.A., Vicar of Ashford.

Rector: The Rev. Frederic Newton Style, M.A.

Churchwardens: Mr. W. Maylam, Mr. H. Evenden.

Sidesmen: Mr. C. Brooker, Mr. H. T. Smith.

Warden of S. Mary's: Mr. C. Cornes.

Master of the National School: Mr. Thomas Newton Coe.

Assistants: Mrs. T. N. Coe, Misses Smith, Porter, Coe.

Sexton: Mr. Thomas Skinner

Services at S. Nicholas, Pluckley.

Oct. 3...16th Sunday after Trinity.

8, Holy Communion.

11, Matins, Holy Communion and Sermon.

6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

10...17th Sunday after Trinity.

8, Holy Communion.

11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.

6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

17.. 18th Sunday after Trinity.

11, Morning Prayer, Holy Communion, and Sermon.

6-30, Evensong, Litany, and Sermon.

24...19th Sunday after Trinity.

8, Holy Communion.

11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.

6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

31...20th Sunday after Trinity.

11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.

2-30, Holy Baptism.

6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

Services at S. Mary's.

Oct. 3rd, Evening Prayer and Sermon at 3-15 p.m. Oct. 31st, Holy Communion at 8 a.m. Evening Prayer and Sermon at 3-15 p.m.

Baptisms.

Aug. 22...Victoria Lizzie Kettle.

29...Thomas Frederick Skeer.

Burials.

Aug. 28...George Luckhurst, aged 49 years.

Sept. 6...Jane Dering, aged 85 years.

The Rector proposes to be away for a holiday for three weeks from Oct. 5th. There will not be any Service at S. Mary's on Sundays, Oct. 10th, 17th, or 24th; but on Sunday, Oct. 31st, there will be the Celebration of the Holy Communion at 8 a.m., and Evening Service at 3-15 p.m. The Sunday Services at the Parish Church will be at the usual hours, the Rev. J. M. Rodwell, of Woodchurch, officiating. The Rector earnestly hopes that the 8 o'clock Communion Service on the 10th and 24th will not be allowed to drop through for want of Communicants. The Daily Morning Prayer will be discontinued after Oct. 5th till the Rector's return, and it will not be possible to have the usual Celebration on S. Luke's Day, Oct. 18th, or S. Simon and S. Jude's Day, Oct. 28th. If the services of a Clergyman are required for Private Baptism, Visiting the Sick, or any other purpose, one of our good neighbours, Mr. Hardy, Mr. Mercer, or Mr. Oldham will be sent for, if application is made at The Rectory, or to Mr. Thomas Skinner, the Sexton. As long notice as possible of Marriages and Burials should be given to Mr. Skinner.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES. It will have been seen from the notices already issued, that we regard the Celebration of the Holy Communion on S. Michael and All Angels' Day as the first of these Services. This is followed, the next day, Thursday, Sept. 30th, by Evensong at S. Mary's, at 7-0 p.m., the preacher being the Rev. Andrew Welch, the Rector of Woodchurch. On Sunday, Oct. 3rd, there will be two Celebrations of the Holy Communion at the Parish Church, and we earnestly hope to see a large number of Communicants joining in the great Thanksgiving Service of the Christian Church. The Rector will preach at Matins, and the Rev. E. B. Brackenbury, Assistant Curate of Ashford, at Evensong. The Rector will also preach at S. Mary's at 3-15 p.m.

OFFERTORIES. *S. Nicholas*: Aug. 22nd, 1/2 Alms Fund, and 16/4 $\frac{1}{2}$ Churchyard Fund, in 103 coins; 29th, 18/1, for Mission Work among Hop-pickers, in 83 coins; Sept. 5th, 17/-, for Alms Fund, in 92 coins; 12th, 3/10, for Alms Fund, and £1 4s. 6d., for Warming and Lighting Fund, in 130 coins. *S. Mary's*: Aug. 22nd, 1/7; 29th, 2/-; Sept. 5th, 1/1; 12th, 2/2, for Church Expenses; and Aug. 29th, 2/-, for Alms Fund.

An exchange of 120 books from the Parochial Library has been made with the Smarden Parish Library, so that both parishes are supplied with a good amount of fresh literature at no expense.

The death of the Hon. Lady Dering has removed one who took a keen interest in the parish, and the large attendance at the funeral testified to the great regard and respect felt by the parishioners towards her. It was a pleasure to notice the reverent behaviour of all in the Church and Churchyard: and the Rector gladly bears testimony to the way in which the parishioners generally have fallen in with his efforts to make the Burial Service an intelligent act of worship. At every funeral now all join in the Psalm, and all make the Responses and repeat together the Lord's Prayer and utter the *Amens*: and so there is worship where there was none; and this is a great gain. We should be glad, if it were possible, to have Hymns at every funeral, and, if they are asked for, we will endeavour to get a choir together for the purpose. The small number of the choir present at the last occasion was owing partly to the exigencies of hop-picking, but still more to the prevalence of mumps: those who were absent much regretted their inability to be there.

The Diocesan Conference is to be held at Lambeth Palace Oct. 6th and 7th. The Rector hopes to attend as one of the Delegates of the Rural Deanery.

The loss to this Diocese by the appointment of the Bishop Suffragan to be Bishop of the Diocese of Wakefield is very great. But the appointment is an excellent one, and calls for rejoicing rather than regret. We must pray for the choice of a good man to succeed him here.

The Rector has had two most willing and efficient helpers during hopping in Mr. Thomas and Mr. Williams, Lay Readers in the Diocese of London. It has been a great pleasure to him to have had them as fellow-workers. The labour connected with the supply of tea and coffee has been much lightened by the thoroughness with which Mr. and Mrs. Basil and Miss Martin did their part, and the Rector is under great obligations to Messrs. Thomas Tiffen and Alfred Cox for their help with the magic lanterns. Mrs. Burrows again put the copper at her house at our disposal, and Mrs. Brown, at Jenning's Farm, allowed the use of her kitchen, and Mr. Relph permitted us to run in and out of his house many times a day. Quite an episode in the proceedings was the visit paid us by the Rev. James Adderley, and Mr. Browning. Mr. Adderley has founded a Brotherhood to work in his East London Parish, and he and Mr. Browning wore the peculiar dress of their Society. It was somewhat startling to us, and would have proved very inconvenient to them in the hop-gardens, had these been as muddy as they sometimes are, but we believe everyone had the good sense to overlook the eccentricity of the dress, and to admire the self-denial of the men. At any rate, as soon as they spoke, we found that their preaching was the simple Gospel of Jesus Christ and Him Crucified, and all listened to them with great attention; and we hope that the earnest words spoken by them and by Mr. Thomas and Mr. Williams will be remembered and will bear fruit. The fine weather enabled us to use the lanterns frequently, and both Newlands and Pevington were visited with them. The Rev. R. S. Hassard, who was taking duty at Little Chart, most kindly conducted Special Services on the Sunday afternoons. Beautiful weather was granted to us. We have many reasons to give hearty thanks to God for His goodness.

PLUCKLEY PARISH MAGAZINE.

NOVEMBER, 1897.

Parish of S. Nicholas', Pluckley,

In the Diocese of Canterbury, the Archdeaconry of Maidstone, and the Rural Deanery of East Charing.

- Archbishop:* The Most Reverend Frederick Temple, D.D.
Assistant Bishop: The Right Reverend William Walsh, D.D.
Archdeacon: The Venerable Benjamin F. Smith, M.A.
Rural Dean: The Rev. P. F. Tindall, M.A., Vicar of Ashford.
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Warden of S. Mary's: Mr. C. Cornes.
Master of the National School: Mr. Thomas Newton Coe.
Assistants: Mrs. T. N. Coe, Misses Smith, Porter, Coe.
Sexton: Mr. Thomas Skinner

Services at S. Nicholas', Pluckley.

- Nov. 1... All Saints' Day. 8, Holy Communion.
7... 21st Sunday after Trinity.
8, Holy Communion.
11, Matins, Holy Communion and Sermon.
6-30, Evensong and Sermon.
14... 22nd Sunday after Trinity.
8, Holy Communion.
11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.
6-30, Evensong and Sermon.
21... 23rd Sunday after Trinity.
11, Morning Prayer, Holy Communion, and Sermon.
6-30, Evensong, Litany, and Sermon.
28... 24th Sunday after Trinity.
8, Holy Communion.
11, Morning Prayer, Litany, and Sermon.
2-30, Holy Baptism.
6-30, Evensong and Sermon.
30... S. Andrew. 8, Holy Communion.

Services at S. Mary's.

All Sundays. Evening Prayer and Sermon at 3-15 p.m.

Baptisms.

- Sept. 26... Jane Elizabeth Brenchley.
26... Victor Fred Brenchley.
26... Bertie James Woodcock.
26... Florence Lilian Skeer.

Burial.

Sept. 30... Stephen James Pack, aged 2 years

Morning Prayer will be said at the Parish Church on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 10; and Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 8.

OFFERTORIES AT S. NICHOLAS'. September 19th, £1 12s., in 112 coins for the Canterbury Diocesan Church Building Society. September 26th, 3/4 for Alms Fund, and £1 4s. 7d. for Choir and Organ Fund in 94 coins. At the Harvest Thank giving Services, the total of the collections was £8, made up of 724 coins; at S. Nicholas' the amounts were 1/9 on S. Michael and All Angels' Day, and £6 10s. 11d. on Sunday, October 3rd; at S. Mary's, £1 4s. on Thursday, September 30th, and 3/4 on Sunday, October 3rd. £4 was sent to the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Society, and £4 to the Ashford Cottage Hospital, and a good contribution of fruit and vegetables was also forwarded to the latter Institution.

The following letter will be read with much interest: " Maidstone. Dr. C. Page Oliver wishes to convey to those who have so generously contributed such a splendid supply of clothing and linen for use during this sad typhoid visitation his sincerest and heartiest thanks. Amid all the gloom and suffering it is pleasant to think that the kind people of Pluckley have shewn such practical sympathy and he can assure them that those who have received clothing are deeply grateful for their kind thoughtful action."

We will give next month a full account of the money and clothing sent. Meanwhile it is gratifying to know that our efforts to help are appreciated.

Mrs Style hopes to resume the Mothers' Meetings during the month.

The Rector attended the sittings of the Diocesan Conference at Lambeth Palace, October 6th and 7th.

The Right Reverend William Walsh, Bishop of Mauritius, has been appointed Archdeacon and Canon of Canterbury, in succession to Bishop Eden, and he will no doubt act as Assistant Bishop throughout the Diocese. He was ordained in 1860; he has held country and town curacies and incumbencies, and taken active interest in both Home and Foreign mission work. He was consecrated Bishop of Mauritius in 1891.

Bishop Eden will be enthroned in Wakefield Cathedral on the 4th. He carries with him the best wishes and grateful remembrances of all to whom he has ministered in this diocese.

Our Harvest Thanksgiving Services were very hearty, and we hope very real. There were many contributors to the decorations and many workers who made both Churches very bright with flowers and fruit. The bellringers and the choristers discharged their offices well and heartily. The communicants numbered more than on any previous similar occasion, though too many still took no part in the Christian's Chief Thanksgiving Service. We are very grateful to the Rev. A. Welch and the Rev. E. B. Brackenbury for their sermons.

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Rural Dean: The Rev. P. E. Tindall, M.A., Vicar of Ashford.

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Sexton: Mr. Thomas Skinner

Services at S. Nicholas', Pluckley.

Dec. 5—2nd Sunday in Advent.

11, Matins, Holy Communion, and Sermon.

6-30, Evensong, Litany, and Sermon.

12—3rd Sunday in Advent.

8, Holy Communion.

11, Matins, Litany, Sermon.

6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

19—4th Sunday in Advent.

11, Matins, Holy Communion, and Sermon.

6-30, Evensong, Litany, Sermon.

21—S. Thomas. 8, Holy Communion.

25—Christmas Day. 8, Holy Communion.

11, Matins, Holy Communion, Sermon.

3, Evensong.

26—1st Sunday after Christmas. S. Stephen.

8, Holy Communion.

11, Matins, Litany, Sermon.

2-30, Holy Baptism.

6-30, Evensong and Sermon.

27—S. John, Evangelist. 8, Holy Communion.

28—Holy Innocents'. 8, Holy Communion.

Morning Prayer, on other days, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at 10 a.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 8.

Services at S. Mary's.

All Sundays. Evening Prayer and Sermon at 3-15 p.m.

Baptisms.

Oct. 10—Frederick George Luckhurst.

10—Sarah Jane Gladys Brooks.

Nov. 7—Kate Strover.

Burials.

Oct. 26—Elizabeth Cox, aged 52.

26—Edward Copping, aged 74.

Nov. 10—Amy Pile, aged 72.

OFFERTORIES, S. NICHOLAS'. Oct. 10th, £2 15s., in 136 coins, and Oct. 17th, £1 1s. 6d., in 111 coins, both for the supply of clothing to the sick at Maidstone. Oct. 24th, 19s. 2d., in 90 coins, for the Choir and Organ Fund. Oct. 31st, £1 2s. 2d., in 100 coins, for Warming and Lighting Fund. Nov. 7th, £1 18s. 9d., in 130 coins, for Relief of the Sick. Nov. 14th, 4/9 for the Sick, and £1 12s. 7d. for Church of England Temperance Society, in 132 coins. Also Nov. 1st, 9d. for Alms Fund.

S. MARY'S. Oct. 31st, 2/10 at Holy Communion for the Sick, and 1/11 for Church Expenses. Nov. 7th, 2/10. Nov. 14th, 2/3½, for Church Expenses.

The aid given from Pluckley to our sorely-afflicted neighbours at Maidstone was very general. Some gave of their money, either by donations or by contributions to the offertories, or by both; some gave material for making up into clothes; some gave clothes which they had by them; others, a very large number, gave their time, making up material, either in their own houses or at the Working Parties held by Mrs. Burrows and Miss Maylam. The money collected, and which has been expended in the purchase of material, or of ready-made garments, was £15 10s. 6d., comprising offertories of £2 15s. and £1 1s. 6d., and donations ranging from £4 to 1s., amounting to £11 14s. The number of garments sent in great variety to Maidstone, including 28 blankets, 33 sheets, 77 pillow-cases, was considerably over 500. Everyone worked with a will, and all made it a labour of love.

The Cricket Club Concert was a great success, and made us regret that we have not a larger room for such purposes.

An Entertainment, in aid of the funds of the Institute is been arranged for Thursday, Dec. 9th, when we hope for a full audience and a good programme.

Six of the Institute Chess Club gave a good account of themselves in their opening match against six players, whom they met at Egerton Vicarage, Nov. 15th, scoring 4 to 2.

The Assistant Inspector of Schools paid a surprise visit to the National School on Nov. 4th. He expressed himself pleased with what he saw and heard. We shall expect, before long, to see the Chief Inspector walking in, and as it will be his first visit, we hope he will form a favourable opinion. Will the parents do their very best to keep up regularity of attendance?

A Missionary Meeting will be held in the Schoolroom on either the 14th or 15th. Due notice will be given when the date is definitely settled. Views from the Mission Field will be shown by Magic Lantern, and explained by the Rev. H. P. Brewer, Assistant Curate of Ashford. Will those who have collecting boxes bring them to the meeting or send them to the Rectory.

The Parish Almanack will be ready about Christmastide, and can be had from the Rector or Mr. Coe. Price 1d.

We wish a Merry Christmas to all our readers. We hope they will all recollect the sacred character of the season, and "will keep the Feast" to God's honour and glory. The Communicants in 1894 were 50; 1895, 46; 1896, 44. The diminution may be accidental, but we trust it will not continue. The day when the Son of God condescended to be born the Saviour of mankind is surely a day for "doing this in remembrance of" Him; and our family gatherings ought not to be allowed to keep us from our Heavenly Father's House or from His Table. Let us seek to sanctify our earthly family joys by first of all worshipping as brothers and sisters in God's family.