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THE
BROMLEY RECORD
AND
MONTHLY ADVERTISER.

No. 462. JANUARY, 1897. Price One Penny.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER'S
Special
LOCAL REGISTER
(Published on the 1st of each Month)
contains reliable particulars of almost every available property to be Let or Sold situate in the undermentioned favourite districts of
WEST KENT:

Bromley	Cudham	Knockholt
Beckenham	Downe	Orpington
Bickley	Farnborough	St. Mary Cray
Chislehurst	Grove Park	Shortlands and
Chelsfield	Hayes & Keston	West Wickham

Gratis on application. Particulars inserted free.

PROPERTY WANTED (For Investment).

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER have several applicants wishing to purchase well-let Cottage Property or Shops in Bromley, and invite owners desiring to sell to forward particulars.

FURNISHED HOUSES WANTED.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER have a number of applications for Furnished Houses in Bromley, Chislehurst, Bickley, Orpington, Hayes, Keston, and neighbourhood, and will be glad to hear from owners desirous of letting.

BROMLEY.—Charming double-fronted Detached Modern Residence, in a choice situation on high ground, gravel soil, within a few minutes' walk of Sundridge Park Station (S.E.R.) The house is approached by a carriage sweep, and contains: seven bedrooms, dressing room, bath room, lavatory, housemaid's and hanging cupboards, &c., and three excellent reception rooms, the drawing room opening by casement to garden. Capital domestic offices on ground floor. Large garden, well-laid out. The house is exceptionally well-built and planned, and is in first-rate decorative repair. Rent £110 per annum. 13572

BROMLEY COMMON.—In a capital position, commanding fine views, 15 minutes walk from L.C. and D.R. station. Conveniently-planned Detached Residence. 5 bedrooms, dressing room, fitted bathroom (hot and cold), w.c., boxroom, 2 reception rooms, back staircase, and the usual offices. Good garden with fruit trees (170ft. by 30ft.) Rent 3½ guineas per week, or Unfurnished £50 per annum. 13491B

KENT, SHORTLANDS. — Pair of six-roomed Cottages, let to good tenants at 7/- and 6/6 per week respectively, landlord paying rates. Lease over 60 years. Ground rent £4 each. Price £270 the pair. Any reasonable offer entertained. 13496Z

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER are the appointed Agents of the Rock Life Assurance Company, for the Insurance of Leasehold Interests in Property, thereby securing the value of the same as permanently as Freehold. Further information can be obtained by applying at their Offices, where instructions for policies will be taken.

SUN FIRE & LIFE OFFICES, Established 1710. RAILWAY PASSENGERS, BURGLARY, and PLATE GLASS ASSURANCE COMPANIES.— New Insurances can be effected, and renewal premiums paid, through Baxter Payne & Lepper, Local Agents,
Auction and Estate Agency Offices:
10. MARKET SQUARE, BROMLEY,
and Beckenham, Kent, & 69 King William Street, E.C.

BROMLEY SCHOOL OF MUSIC, 5, Aberdeen Buildings, High Street, Bromley (branch of the Beckenham School of Music and Art, Established 1883.) President: The Duke of Fife, K.T. Vice-Presidents: Sir Arthur Sullivan, Mus. Doc.; Prof. C. Villiers Stanford, Mus. Doc., D.C.L.; Prof. Joseph Joachim, Mus. Doc. Examining Visitors: Miss Fanny Davies, Sir Walter Parratt, Mus. Doc., Walter Macfarren, Esq., Otto Goldschmidt, Esq., Josef Ludwig, Esq. William Shakespeare, Esq. Director of Studies: Arthur O'Leary. Fifty eminent Professors, selected from the Royal Academy of Music, Royal College of Music, Guildhall School of Music, &c. Thirteen Scholarships and Prizes offered annually. Fees from £1 11s. 6d. per term of 12 lessons.
Particulars by letter to the Secretary, or personally on WEDNESDAYS from 2.0 to 4.
Spring Term begins on Monday, 11th January.

BECKENHAM SCHOOL OF ART, 10 and 11, The Parade, Beckenham. Director of Studies and Visiting Examiner: John Brett, Esq., (Associate of the Royal Academy). Art Master: Mr. Oscar Tolhurst. Particulars by letter to the Secretary, or personally at Beckenham, on Wednesdays from 9.30 to 12.30.

MR. F. FERTEL (Organist and Choirmaster Bromley Parish Church) gives lessons on Pianoforte, Organ, Singing & Harmony. Holmcroft, Holwood Rd., Bromley.

"SPENLOVE" SCHOOL OF ART,
"THE YELLOW DOOR" Studios,
(near Ry. Stations). BECKENHAM.
Principal and Director:
Mr. FRANK SPENLOVE-SPENLOVE, R.B.A.,
(by Royal Charter) Royal Academy, Paris, &c.
THIS SCHOOL is one of the most important in England, and is instituted for highest class MODERN training in all branches of Drawing and Painting, Figure (from life), Landscape, &c. Also "BLACK and WHITE" for Illustration. SPECIAL JUNIOR Classes. Prospectus upon application.

MISS OLIVIA B. HARVEY (Advanced Senior Honours, Certificated, London College of Music) gives Lessons in Pianoforte, and Harmony. Engagements accepted for Concerts, At Homes, &c. Highest references from parents of pupils. Address, 42, Freelands Road, Bromley, Kent. rp342

DRAWING AND PAINTING in Oil and Water Colours, and Sketching from Nature. Miss Davis gives Lessons in the above. For particulars, apply at No. 1, Elmfield Park, Bromley.

BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.—Y GARN, Ravensbourne Road, Bromley. Principals: The Misses Hurst, assisted by certificated governesses. Pupils successfully prepared for Exams Preparatory Class for little Boys. School will re-open Thursday, January 21st, 1897.

MR. NORMAN BATH (Pupil of the late H. Wiest Hill, Esq., and B. Hollander, Esq.) Violin and Viola. Has vacancies for pupils. For terms, Address 46, Glebe Road, Bromley, Kent.

OF UNRIVALLED REPUTATION.

4/- PER BOTTLE.

THIS WHISKY IS FROM A VERY OLD ESTABLISHED FIRM IN SCOTLAND, WHICH HAS ENJOYED FOR MANY YEARS A HIGH REPUTATION FOR THIS PARTICULAR BLEND. GUARANTEED PURE HIGHLAND MALT, AND TEN YEARS OLD.

V.O.S

G. PAMPHILON & SON,
WINE MERCHANTS,
BROMLEY, KENT.

Established 1775.

FACSIMILE OF LABEL.

48/- PER DOZEN.

MELLOW, SOFT & FINE FLAVOR COMBINED.

G. PAMPHILON & SON,

WHOLESALE & FAMILY WINE MERCHANTS.

ILLUSTRATED REVISED CASH PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

Champagnes. *per doz*

Louis Pamphilon, Epernay 1889 Vintg. 60/-
Ditto ditto extra quality 78/-
Pol Roger ..... 1889 vintage
Piper-Heidsieck..... 1889 ,,
Bollinger..... 1892 ,,
Ayala Extra Quality..... 1887 ,,
Giesler, 1st Quality .....
Mumm, G. H. & Co.....
Louis Roederer..... 1892 ,,
E. Irroy & Co. Carte D'or 1892 ,,
Pommery & Greno ..... 1892 ,,
Heidsiecks Dry Monopole 1889 ,,
Perrier Jouet, P D.C. .....

Market Prices

Specialites for Invalids.

Champagne in Quarter Bottles.

Louis Pamphilon, Cuvee Reservee.. 18/-
Louis Pamphilon, extra quality 24/-

Other Sparkling Wines

Asti Spumante (Italian) 36/-
Saumur 36/-
Sparkling Burgundy, 1st Quality ... 60/-
Ditto Hock 54/
Ditto Moselle 54/

Half Bottles, 6/- per 24 extra
Single Bottles same rates.

Still Hocks.

	per doz. bot.	*per doz. half-bot.*
Laubenheimer	18/-	11/-
Nierstein	24/-	14/-
Erbacher.....	30/-	17/-
Hochheim	36/-	20/-
Liebfraumilch	42/-	23/-
Marcobrunn	56/-	30/-
Red Hock	42/-	

Australian Wines.

	pr doz.	*pr bot.*
Sauvignon	16/-	1/4
Branxton Cabernet	21/-	1/9
Tintara.....	26/-	2/2
Riesling (White).....	24/-	2/-
Highercombe (White)	30/-	2/6

In Quart Flagons.

Red & White Burgundy 30/- 2/6
Tintara and Ophir..... 42/- 3/6
6d. each allowed for Flagons when returned.

Italian Wines

	pr doz.	*pr bot.*
Vino da Pasto	12/-	1/-
Valtellina	18/-	1/6
Chianti	24/-	2/-
Capri (White)	24/-	2/-
Vino Vermouth	36/-	3/-
Sparkling Asti	36/-	3/-

Chianti.

In Tuscan Flasks.
18/- & 36/- per doz. 1/6 & 3/- each.

California Wines.

Burgundy 18/- 1/6
Hock 30/- 2/6

Aerated Waters. *per doz.*

Schweppe's Soda, Seltzer & Potass 3/-
Ditto Lemonade and Ginger Ale..... 3/6
Soda, Seltzer & Potass 2/-
Lemonade & Ginger Ale 2/6
Syphons — Soda, Potass, Seltzer, Lemonade 4/-
Johannis's Appollinaris, Ginger Beer in Stone Bottles.

Burgundies.

	pr doz.	*pr bot.*
Macon .....1893 vintage	20/-	1/8
Beaujolais .....1892 ,,	24/-	2/0
Beaune.....1891 ,,	30/-	2/6
Pommard .....1889 ,,	36/-	3/0
Volnay.....1884 ,,	42/-	3/6
Pommard, Superior, 1887 ,,	42/-	3/6
Chambertin.....1881 ,,	72/	6/-
Chablis .....24/- to 36/-		

Half Bottles.

Macon 12/- 1/-
Beaujolais 13/6 1/2
Beaune 16/6 1/5
Pommard 19/6 1/8
Volnay.....23/- 2/-

Ports.

Good Young 24/- 2/-
Fine old Tawny 36/- 3/-
Ditto well-matured 48/- 4/-
Superior old fine quality 54/- 4/6
Ditto Crofts No 1.....60/- 5/0
Ditto, ditto Grand Wine 66/- 5/6
Ditto very choice 72/- 6/-
Ditto rare old wine .....84/- to 150/-

Tarragona. *pr doz.*

Superior Wines..... 12/- 18/- & 24/-

Liqueurs. *pr bot.* *pr ½ bot.*

Curacoa... .....5/- 2/9
Maraschino 5/- 2/9
Chartreuse yellow..... 8/- 4/6
Ditto Green..... 10/6 5/9
Benedictine 7/- 3/6
Kirsch Wasser 3/6
Kummell Riga 4/-
Noyeau, Pink 2/6
Angostura Bitters 2/3
Heering Copenhagen Cherry Brandy 4/6 2/6

Cordials. *pr bot.*

Pamphilon's Cherry Brandy .....3/- & 4/-
Orange Bitters..... 3/-
Peach Bitters.....3/6
Ginger Brandy 3/- 3/6
Rum Shrub 2/6 3/-
Peppermint 2/- 2/6
Cloves.....2/- 2/6
Noyeau 3/-
Milk Punch 3/6
Lovage.....2/-

Bottled Ales, Stout, Etc.

	pr doz. Imp pts.
Pamphilon's Special Dinner Ale 2/6	
Ditto Nourishing Stout 2/6	
Light Dinner Stout 3/-	
Bass Pale Ale (½ pints 2/6) 4/-	
Bass No. 1 Burton in ½-pints.....3/6	
Pamphilon's Pale Ale 3/-	
Pilsener Lager Beer (½ pints 2/6).....	4/6
Guinness' extra Stout (½ pints 2/6).....	4/-

Clarets. *pr doz.* *pr bot.*

Claret 12/- 1/-
Vin Ordinaire 15/ 1/3
Vin de Medoc .....1893 vintage 18/- 1/6
St. Julien .....1893 ,, 24/- 2/-
Pauillac .....1891 ,, 30/- 2/6
Margaux.....1890 ,, 36/- 3/-
Chateau Margaux 1889 ,, 54/- 4/6
Chateau Palmer ...1890 ,, 54/- 4/6
Chateau Leoville ...1887 ,, 60/- 5/-
Chateau Larose ...1890 ,, 60/- 5/-
Sauternes, Graves .....21/- to 36/-

Stock in Half-Bottles.

Claret..... 9/- 9d.
Medoc ..... 10/6 11d.
St. Julien 13/6 1/2
Pauillac..... 16/6 1/5
Margaux 19/6 1/8

Sherries.

Natural Sherry.....16/- 1/4
Sherry 18/- 1/6
Light Sound Wine 24/- 2/-
Old-fashioned Brown 30/- 2/6
Pamphilon's Dinner Sherry.....30/- 2/6
Nutty Character 36/- 3/-
Golden, Generous 42/- 3/6
Very Fine Brown 42/- 3/6
Pale old Dry 48/- 4/-
Ditto very Choice.....54/- 4/6
Choice old Rare Wines..... 60/- to 100/-

Marsala. *per doz.*

Ingham & Woodhouse.....18/- 21/- & 24/-

Madeira.

Various .....36/- to 60/-

Scotch Whiskies.

	pr gal	*pr doz*	*pr bot*
Good 15/-		30/-	2/6
Fine old.....18/-		36/-	3/-
Superior 5 years old..... 20/-		42/-	3/6
Glenlivet Bd, 7 years old...21/-		44/-	3/8
Very fine Highland Malt ...21/-		44/-	3/8
Pamphilon's **VOS**, guaranteed 10 years old 24/-		48/-	4/-

Irish Whiskies.

Good 15/- 30/- 2/6
Fine old.....18/- 36/- 3/
Superior old.....21/- 42/- 3/6
Do., J. Jameson's, old Bonded 24/- 48/- 4/-

Rum.

Jamaica.....15/- 30/- 2/6
Old Jamaica.....18/- 36/- 3/-
V. O. Jamaica..... 3/6 and 4/-

Brandies.

Pale.....18/- 36/- 3/-
Fine old Pale ..... * ...24/- 48/- 4/-
Fine old Cognac..... ** ...27/- 54/- 4/6
Finest old Cognac ... *** ...30/- 60/- 5/-
Choice old Cognac ...**** ...34/6 69/- 5/9
Curious Old Cognac..... 100/- 8/6

Gins.

Cordial & Unsweetened 12/- 24/- 2/-
Fine old Tom..... ...14/6 30/- 2/6
Ditto Finest 15/6 32/- 2/8
Sloe, Orange, and Hop Gin.

CASK ALES.

OUR SPECIALITÉ F.P.A. BREWED FROM PURE MALT & HOPS.

Per Kild., 18/- ; Per Firkin, 9/6 ; Per Pin, 4/9.

ALL THE LEADING BRANDS OF **HAVANA CIGARS** CLUBS AND THE TRADE SUPPLIED.

QUERNMORE HOUSE SCHOOL,

HOLWOOD ROAD, BROMLEY.

Boys from 5 to 15 years prepared for the Public Schools, the Navy, and other Professions.

THE STAFF INCLUDES

SEVEN UNIVERSITY GRADUATES,

Four of whom are in First-class Honours.

Iron Play-room for wet weather All games played under the supervision of Masters.

Special classes for very young or backward boys are conducted in separate premises by Ladies, aided by Masters.

A Class in Vocal Music and Sight Singing is held weekly by Mr. F. LEWIS THOMAS, This may be joined by boys not in the School.

For Prospectus apply to

G. LOLY, B.A., Head Master.

BROMLEY HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS,

ELMFIELD ROAD, BROMLEY, KENT.

Head Mistress: MISS HEPPEL, B.A.

THE SPRING TERM WILL BEGIN ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 19th, 1897.

Prospectuses and forms of application for admission may be obtained at the School, or from the Secretary of the Girls' Public Day School Company Limited, 21, Queen Anne's Gate, London, S.W.

A PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT IS ATTACHED TO THE SCHOOL.

The HEAD MISTRESS will be at the School to see Parents and to enter New Pupils on Wednesday and Thursday, January 13th and 14th, from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.

E. STRONG & SONS,

Advertising Contractors & Bill Posters

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QUEEN'S (Small) HALL,
LANGHAM PLACE, W.

MISS ALICE BORTON

(Associate of the Royal Academy of Music)

WILL GIVE HER

FIRST EVENING CONCERT

TUESDAY, February 2nd, 1897, at 8 p.m.,

Assisted by the following Eminent Artistes:

Madame Alice GOMEZ, Madame Wilson OSMAN, Mr. Jack ROBERTSON, Mr. Walter HEAD, Mr. Norman BATH (Violin), **Mr. Vernon ADDISON** (Viola), **Mr. W. C. HANN** (Violoncello), **and MISS ALICE BORTON** (Pianoforte).

ACCOMPANIST: **Miss. A. A. READ.**

Pianoforte by Messrs. BROADWOOD and SONS.

Numbered Stalls, **7/6** and **5/-**. Un-Numbered Seats, **3/-**. Admittance **1/-**,

Tickets to be had of Messrs. Edwin ASHDOWN, Hanover-square, W.; Messrs Robert COCKS & Co., 6, New Burlington Street, W.; Rev. E. J. BOWRING, 58, Falmouth-road, Newington, S.E.; Miss Alice BORTON, Bickley, Kent; and Robert NEWMAN'S Box Office, Queen's Hall, W.

JAMES YOUNG,

LATE

J. K. HUNTER,

PRACTICAL COACH BUILDER

LONDON ROAD, BROMLEY.

Carriages built on the most approved principles.

GEORGE PYRKE,

147 & 148, HIGH STREET, BROMLEY, KENT.

FURNITURE REMOVED OR WAREHOUSED.

ESTIMATES FREE ON APPLICATION.

Staff of experienced workmen for carefully removing Furniture, Pianos, Pictures, Glass, &c., to or from any part of the world. Boat Seats, Plate, Glass, China, Mirrors, Linen, Dancing Cloths, Marquees, and every requisite for every class of Entertainments, Supplied on Hire.

Pianos (New and Second-hand), Bought, Sold, Lent on Hire, and Tuned by Contract or otherwise.

Furniture Repaired, Polished, and Re-stuffed by efficient workmen on the premises.

SECOND-HAND FURNITURE BOUGHT TO ANY AMOUNT

ESTABLISHED 1803.

COOPER BROS.,

Corn Merchants

AND

DEALERS IN HAY, STRAW, AND CLOVER

19, MARKET SQUARE, BROMLEY.

Noted Stores for Genuine Scotch Oatmeal

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Deliveries in Beckenham Daily. Price Lists on Application.

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Office for District: 71, CHURCH STREET, CROYDON. *TELEPHONE No. 9309.*

THE COMPANY provide Telephonic communication by means of Private Wires for direct service between two or more Addresses, or Wires connected with the Exchange System, this latter giving each Subscriber facilities for direct communication during ANY PERIOD OF THE DAY OR NIGHT with any other Subscriber to the same, and they are prepared to connect Business or Private Addresses by Metallic Circuits or Twin Wires in the Suburbs, if within one mile and a half of the nearest Exchange, at a rental of £10 per annum on a five years' agreement, or £12 per annum on a yearly agreement for local service.

Subscribers at the above rate will be placed in communication with any of the Company's Metropolitan Subscribers (many thousands in number), on payment of a Tollage Fee of 3d. per conversation of three minutes' duration. This tollage charge can be commuted upon payment of the whole Area rate (instead of £10 for local service only) viz., £17 per annum on a five years' agreement, and £20 on a yearly agreement, which gives communication throughout the entire Metropolitan area.

Communication by Trunk Lines with the Company's subscribers in all the principal towns in the United Kingdom can be obtained by Subscribers entering into an agreement to pay the Post Office Trunk Line Fees.

Where an address is beyond a mile and a half from the nearest Exchange of the Company an additional rental of £2 10s. per annum per half-mile will be charged over and above the foregoing rates.

The Company have opened a large number of Call Rooms in various Districts where the Public may speak to Subscribers connected with the Metropolitan Exchange System. A list of these Call Rooms will be supplied on application at the Local Offices.

Specially low rates quoted for Private or Direct Wires. Street Fire Alarms erected and maintained in connection with Fire Stations, Firemen's Houses, &c., &c.

Telephone and internal installations, with apparatus of the most approved patterns, erected and sold outright or maintained at a small annual charge.

Further particulars and information can be obtained upon application to the District Manager, 71, CHURCH STREET, CROYDON.

WM. E. L. GAINE, General Manager.

Head Offices: OXFORD COURT, CANON STREET, E.C.

February, 1896

NEW CURTAINS

BATCHELAR & SON,

UPHOLSTERERS,

6, WIDMORE ROAD, BROMLEY.

BATCHELAR & SON beg to announce that they are now showing their

NEW CURTAIN MATERIALS

FOR THE COMING SEASON,

and specially invite an Early Inspection of their Stock in this Department.

The variety (equal to any house in the trade) comprises many Novelties, and a wide range as regards different Fabrics and Prices, starting with TAPESTRIES **1/6** per Yard, 52in. wide, up to SILKS and BROCATELLES at **21/-** per Yard.

BATCHELAR & SON make a speciality of

CURTAINS AND FURNITURE COVERING

at this Season, and will be pleased to submit SAMPLES and ESTIMATES FREE OF CHARGE.

NEW CURTAINS

BATCHELAR & SON

6, Widmore Road, Bromley.

Head Office, Show Rooms and Depository, CROYDON.

APPOINTED BY SPECIAL ROYAL WARRANT

SOAP MAKERS TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

SUNLIGHT & LIFEBUOY SOAP COMPETITIONS.

£66,156 IN PRIZES OF CASH, BICYCLES,* WATCHES,† AND BOOKS GIVEN FREE during 1897.

Rules.

1. Competitors may enter EACH or EVERY MONTH for EITHER or BOTH "Sunlight" or "Lifebuoy" Competitions, but must SEND IN the "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY" Coupons in SEPARATE PACKETS carefully marked on the outside of the postal wrapper "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY."

2. For this Competition the United Kingdom will be divided into Seven Districts, and the prizes will be awarded every month during 1897 in each of the Seven Districts as stated below.

3. Competitors to save as many "SUNLIGHT SOAP" or "LIFEBUOY SOAP" Wrappers as they can collect. Cut off the top portion of each wrapper—that portion containing the heading "SUNLIGHT SOAP" or "LIFEBUOY SOAP." Enclose with these (called "Coupons") a sheet of paper stating Competitor's full name and address, and the number of coupons sent in, and forward same (see Rule I.) postage paid to Lever Brothers, Limited, Port Sunlight, near Birkenhead, marked on the Postal Wrapper (top left-hand corner) with the NUMBER of the DISTRICT Competitor lives in, and the word "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY," whichever coupons the packet contains.

4. The competition will CLOSE the LAST DAY of EACH MONTH. Coupons received too late for one month's competition will be put into the next. All parcels on which Postage has not been fully paid WILL BE REFUSED.

5. Competitors who obtain wrappers from unsold soap in dealer's stock will be disqualified. Employees of Lever Brothers, Limited, and their families are debarred from competing.

6. A printed list of winners in competitor's district will be forwarded to competitors in about 3 weeks after each monthly competition closes.

7. Lever Brothers, Limited, will endeavour to award the prizes fairly to the best of their ability and judgment, but it is understood that ALL WHO COMPETE AGREE TO ACCEPT THE AWARD of Lever Brothers, Limited, as final.

LEVER BROTHERS, Limited, Port Sunlight, near Birkenhead

No. of district.	NAME OF DISTRICT.	PRIZES FOR SUNLIGHT COUPONS.	Total Prizes in all Districts during 1897.
1	IRELAND.	The 1 Competitor in each District who sends in the **largest number of Sunlight** coupons from the District in which he or she resides, will receive **£21 cash**	£1,764 0 0
2	SCOTLAND.	The 10 Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number will each** receive, carriage paid, at **winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's "Premier" Bicycle,* **price £21**	17,640 0 0
3	LONDON, MIDDLESEX, KENT, SURREY.	The 40 Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number will each** receive, at **winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Rolled Gold Watch,† **price £4 4s**.....	14,112 0 0
4	WALES, LANCASHIRE, CHESHIRE.	The remaining **Sunlight** Competitors will **each** receive **Cloth-bound Books**, by Popular Authors, in the proportion of **1 Book** for **every 50 Sunlight** Coupons sent in	10,000 0 0
5	NORTHUMBERLAND, DURHAM, WESTMORELAND, CUMBERLAND, YORKSHIRE, ISLE OF MAN.	**Total Prizes for Sunlight Coupons during 1897**	£43,516 0 0
6	SHROPSHIRE, HEREFORDSHIRE, MONMOUTHSHIRE, STAFFORDSHIRE, WORCESTERSHIRE, WARWICKSHIRE, DERBYSHIRE, LEICESTERSHIRE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, OXFORDSHIRE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, BERKSHIRE, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, RUTLANDSHIRE, LINCOLNSHIRE HUNTINGDONSHIRE.	**PRIZES FOR LIFEBUOY COUPONS.**	
7	NORFOLK, SUFFOLK, ESSEX, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, BEDFORDSHIRE, HERTFORDSHIRE, SUSSEX, HAMPSHIRE, ISLE OF WIGHT, CHANNEL ISLANDS, WILTSHIRE, DORSETSHIRE, SOMERSETSHIRE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, DEVONSHIRE, CORNWALL.	The 1 Competitor in each District who sends in the **largest number of Lifebuoy** Coupons from the District in which he or she resides, will receive **£21 cash**	1,764 0 0
		The 5 Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number will each** receive, carriage paid, at **winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's "Premier" Bicycle,* **price £21**	8,820 0 0
		The **20** Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number will each** receive, at **winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Rolled Gold Watch,† **price £4 4s**.....	7,056 0 0
		The remaining **Lifebuoy** Competitors will **each** receive **Cloth-bound Books**, by Popular Authors, in the proportion of **1 Book** for **every 50 Lifebuoy** Coupons sent in	5,600 0 0
		Total Prizes for Lifebuoy Coupons during 1897	22,640 0 0
		GRAND TOTAL of all Prizes given for Sunlight and Lifebuoy Coupons, 1897.....	£66,156 0 0

* These Bicycles are the celebrated Helical (Spiral) Tube "Premier" Cycles, 1897 Pattern, manufactured by the New "Premier" Cycle Co., Ltd., of Coventry and 14 Holborn Viaduct, London, fitted with the Fleuss Tubeless Pneumatic Tyres and accessories.

† These are 14-carat Half-Hunter Rolled Gold Watches, jewelled, ¾-plate.

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MOON'S CHANGES.—JANUARY.

New Moon, 3rd, 6.3 a.m. | First Quarter, 10th, 9.46 p.m.
Full Moon, 18th, 8.17 p.m. | Last Quarter, 25th, 8.9 p.m.

The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

JANUARY, 1897.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

3rd.—*Second Sunday after Christmas.*
4th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30 a.m.
4th.—Social Gathering at St. Luke's Institute, in connection with Bromley Division, St. John Ambulance Brigade.
5th.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper of Furniture, &c., at "Ellesmere," Sundridge Park (and following day).
5th.—Bromley Urban District Council Meeting, Council Offices, East-street, Bromley, 7.30 p.m.
6th.—Oddfellows' united Supper at West Wickham.
8th. Bromley County Court, Court House, Bromley.
10th.—*First Sunday after Epiphany.*
11th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30.
13th.—Bromley Conservative Club Supper; Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P., to preside.
17th.—*Second Sunday after Epiphany.*
18th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley 10.30.
18th.—Bromley School Board meeting, Council Offices, Bromley, 8.0 p.m.
19th.—Bromley Urban District Council Meeting, Council Offices, East-street, Bromley, 7.30 p.m.
20th. -Bromley Conservative Club Ball at Grand Hall.
24th.—*Third Sunday after Epiphany.*
25th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley 10.30 a.m.
29th.—Annual Meeting of Bromley Conservative Club.
31st.—*Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.*

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

The above authority met on November 24th and December 8th, and 22nd.

THE CHAIRMAN'S POSITION.

At the meeting on November 24th the minutes of a special meeting of the Council sitting as a Committee were read, stating that the letters received from Mr. Harris dated 30th October and 9th November, were read. The Clerk submitted a copy of the Inspector's report presented to the Drainage and Sanitary Committee, on the 2nd July, 1895. together with copies of the notices served upon Messrs. Waterer and Dickins, in reference to the cottages referred to by Mr. Harris. The Clerk further submitted a copy of the correspondence which had passed between the Council and Messrs. Waterer and Dickins on the subject, together with extracts from the minutes dealing with the matter.

After full discussion Mr. Mayne moved and Mr. Dickins seconded that Mr. Harris's letters, having been read and the coincidences considered by a committee of the whole Council, they were of opinion that there was no reason to call upon the Chairman to vacate his seat. It was moved by Mr. Davis as an amendment, and seconded by Mr. Hutchings, that Mr. Harris having intimated that legal proceedings will be taken under section 45 (8) of the Local Government Act, 1894, the Council sitting as a Committee, having heard the facts connnected with the case, decline to express any opinion on the subject.—The amendment was carried.

THE PRICE OF WATER.

At the meeting on November 24th a letter was received from the Kent Water Company, acknowledging the Council's letter, applying for a reduction in the charge for water supplied for public purposes, and reminding the Council that the right to determine the existing agreement was specially reserved to themselves, and it therefore devolved upon themselves to give the notice for its determination. The Company explained that when a supply of varying and unlimited extent required to be delivered, as in the present case, the mere increase or extent of the quantity was not a justification for a reduction in price. The Company, in order to meet the large summer demand, had to make an outlay of capital which was not otherwise necessary.

Mr. D. Payne suggested that they should ascertain the prices paid by other public authorities.

It was decided to adjourn consideration of the matter to the next meeting, and the Clerk was instructed to make inquiries from other authorities in the meantime.

At the meeting of the Council on December 22nd, the Clerk reported that he had received 34 replies from local authorities around London, respecting the price paid by them for water for public purposes, and he submitted the detailed returns. The prices varied, he said, from 6d. to 1s. 3d., while the Bromley Council were paying 10d. The Grand Junction Authority charged 6d., while Beckenham paid 1s. for road watering and 10d. for water for sewer flushing.

The returns were referred to the Highways Committee for consideration.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHTING ORDER.

At the meeting on December 8th it appeared from the minutes that at a meeting of the Council in Committee, held on the 2nd December, letters from Messrs. Waterer and Dickins and Mr. Podger, on the question of electric lighting were considered, and after discussion, it was moved by Mr. Peill, seconded by Mr. Mayne, and carried—Mr. Davis dissenting—that further consideration of the matter stand adjourned, and that the Clerk and Surveyor should, in the meantime obtain any particulars available as to the working of the electric light in similar towns.

At the meeting on December 22nd the following minutes, in addition to those of the ordinary meeting, were read:—

At a meeting of the whole Council in Committee held on the 16th inst., in reference to the question of electric lighting, the Clerk reported that in accordance with the instructions given at the last meeting of the Committee he had addressed inquiries to various towns where the electric lighting undertakings were carried on by the local authorities, and he submitted a tabulated statement showing the result of such inquiries.

After discussion, it was moved by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. McIntyre, and resolved (Mr. Gilbert voting against) that the Committee recommend the Council not to entertain the question of lighting the town by electricity themselves.

With reference to the letter received from Messrs. Waterer and Dickins, dated 27th October last, it was resolved that no further action be taken in connection therewith until the local corporation be formed and the names submitted to the Council for approval.

THE WATER QUESTION.

Messrs. Baker and Postlewaite wrote, saying that much regret was expressed at the meeting of the Kent representatives at the Council not passing the resolution by the necessary majority.

The Chairman said he very much regretted the decision come to a fortnight since which placed the Council in a very unfortunate and undignified position.

Mr. Lawrence said, for once in a way, he agreed with the Chairman, for he was quite of his opinion that it was a great mistake to back out of that water question for the sake of about £40 expenses.

At the next meeting of the Council a letter was read from Messrs. Baker, Lees and Postlethwaite, Parliamentary Agents, on behalf of the Kent Authorities interested in the promotion of the Kent Water Board Bill, asking whether they were to understand that the Bromley Council no longer desired to be represented on the Water Board proposed to be constituted.

Mr. McIntyre said he thought it would be a pity for them to hold aloof. If any advantage was to be gained and they could gain it at an expense of about £40 it would be money well spent; if they did not gain any the loss would be very small. An important authority like Bromley should not put itself into a position of deriving an advantage for which others would have to pay. If it was possible for them to retrace their steps and join the other authorities they ought to do so.

The Clerk explained that at the present time it was a question of having inserted in the Bill the fact that that Authority would become one of the constituent authorities of the Kent Water Board. That Bill had to be presented by the 17th inst., and it would be impossible to have the statutory meeting of the Council in time for that, but if the Council stated that night that it was their wish to be included, then the statutory meeting could be called at the earliest possible date to confirm what would be a somewhat informal resolution that night. They would have to have a majority of eight in favour of the resolution.

Mr. Lawrence then moved and Mr. McIntyre seconded that the Council co-operate with the other Authorities in the promotion of the Kent Water Board Bill.

Upon the resolution being put to the meeting, five only voted in its favour, and the Chairman, therefore, declared it to be lost.

THE EXCURSIONIST NUISANCE.

At the previous meeting of the Council, Mr. W. B. Prosser, Clerk to the County Council, wrote, in answer to the Council's letter of the 16th September last, on the subject of nuisances caused by excursionists in Bromley, stating that the letter had been considered by a Committee of the County Council, and in reply he was directed to inform the Council that the subject of framing bye-laws under section 16 of the Local Government Act, 1888, was under consideration, and the Committee would be glad to know from the District Council what, in their opinion were the precise offences which were not covered by existing laws, and which required to be made penal by bye-law. No bye-law was, of course, needed to deal with the furious driving to which the Council referred, and the Committee, therefore, desire to know what were the exact matters which the District Council thought required to be dealt with by bye-law.

The Clerk reported that he had acknowledged the letter and forwarded copies of bye-laws in force by other Councils dealing with various matters of that kind.

ANOTHER IMPROVEMENT.

Major Satterthwaite wrote, stating that he was about to deal with the frontage on his land—the Spring Hill Estate—in College-road, and he considered there was a good opportunity for effecting a much needed public improvement by widening the lane (below Plaistow Church) and forming a footpath. He was willing to give up the necessary strip of land—averaging about 7 feet in width—on condition that the Council, at its own cost, would forthwith properly form a footpath and undertake to relieve the frontagers of any cost of paving, maintenance, &c., and that the Council agree to the building-line being 15 feet back from the new boundary, the original frontage was 15 feet back from the present boundary.

At the next meeting of the Council the Highways Committee recommended that Major Satterthwaite's offer be accepted, and that the Surveyor be authorised to set back the fence and roughly make up the footpath forthwith.

A ROAD RE-NAMED.

Some discussion arose upon a resolution moved by Mr. Gilbert to the effect that the road leading from Chislehurst-road past the "Bird-in-Hand," to its junction with the Pines and other roads be named, and in future known as the Bickley-road, which Mr. Gilbert thought would be an improvement upon the road by the "Bird-in-Hand," as it was at present styled.

Mr. Davis objected to unnecessary change, but eventually the resolution was added to, and passed as follows: "That the road leading from Chislehurst-road past the "Bird-in-Hand" to its junction with Pines and other roads be named and in future known as the Bickley-road, and that the road from Lewes-road to the junction of the Chislehurst and Bickley-roads be re-named the Widmore-road."

RESIGNATION OF MR. TWEEDY.

Mr. Davis moved, as a matter of public importance, that a letter be sent to Mr. Tweedy expressing regret at the reason which kept him away from their deliberations, and asking him whether there was any prospect of his being able to attend the meetings of the Council within a short period.

Mr. Lawrence seconded.

The resolution was put and carried.

At the next meeting of the Council Mr. Hugh Tweedy, of Widmore House, Bromley, wrote, saying that, finding he would be unable to attend any meetings of the Council or its Committees for some time, he felt that it was a matter of duty to his constituents to resign his seat on the Council. He, therefore, formally resigned his office as a member of the Urban District Council of Bromley, and enclosed a cheque for £5, the amount of fine on such resignation.

The Chairman said he was sure they all regretted the cause of Mr. Tweedy having to send in his resignation. He formally moved that the seat which he had filled in the Sundridge Ward be declared vacant.

Mr. Mallett also shared in the expression of regret, and seconded the resolution.

The motion was put to the meeting and carried.

A HANDSOME OFFER.

Mr. W. H. Bosanquet wrote, offering 23 engravings, of which 22 were after well-known pictures by Gustave Dore, to the Science and Art Committee.

At the next meeting of the Council Mr. J. Randall, art-master, reported that he had examined the engravings kindly offered to the Science and Art Committee, by Mr. W. H. Bosanquet, but was of opinion that they would be of very little use to the students of the School.

Mr. Davis accordingly moved that the engravings be returned to Mr. Bosanquet, as he had expressed his readiness to receive them back, with the best thanks of the Council for his offer.

The proposition was seconded and carried.

THE GAS.

Dr. Rideal wrote, stating that he visited the Bromley Gas Works on Nov. 30th, at 4.30 p.m., but found the testing apparatus out of order, and he enquired what steps the Council intended taking with a view to rendering the apparatus at the Gas Works more efficient.

Mr. Davis asked what steps the Council could take?

The Clerk pointed out that certain penalties could be enforced if the apparatus was not in efficient order.

At the meeting on Dec. 22nd, the Highways Committee, with regard to the hours for testing and the giving of notice, recommended that the Gas Examiner be instructed to make his tests of the illuminating power of the gas without giving previous notice of his intention, provided he attends within the limits of time prescribed by the Gas Works Clauses Act, 1871.

With regard to the condition of the testing apparatus the Committee recommended that they be authorised to appoint a Sub-Committee to visit the works in company with Dr. Rideal, to view the apparatus and confer with the Directors of the Company as to any improvements required therein.

At the same meeting two letters were received from the Bromley Gas Company. In the first they stated that, with reference to the testing apparatus being out of order, the Engineer met the Gas Examiner just as he was leaving the works, but he could not then fall in with the suggestion to make a further test, which would have been more satisfactory. The Directors were satisfied that the apparatus was in working order on the day of their last meeting, and they invited the Examiner to make any further test.

At the meeting on December 22nd, the same Committee also reported as follows:—

Your Committee have had under consideration the general lighting of the district, and recommend that they be authorised, in conjunction with the Gas Company, to conduct an experiment with a view to improving the general lighting of the town by incandescent lamps, or otherwise, and for that purpose to adapt 24 of the gas lamps in situations to be selected by the Committee.

The recommendation was agreed to.

THE FIRE BRIGADE.

Mr. W. H. Bosanquet, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer of the Bromley Volunteer Fire Brigade, wrote, stating that at a meeting of the members of the Brigade and its Committee, every member being present, the following resolutions were passed (1) That the members of the Brigade, having carefully considered the scheme submitted by the District Council, decline to accept it; (2) That the Bromley and District Volunteer Fire Brigade be dissolved as from the 25th of March, 1897; (3) That the Council be requested to at once remove the hose-van belonging to them, and at present standing in the Engine House, or to pay a fair rent, as it occupies half the room at the disposal of the Fire Brigade, and that they be informed that unless it be removed by the 1st of January next it will be sold to pay expenses.

The Clerk gave the details of the suggestions. The first was that the Fire Brigade should be managed by a general committee of six, to consist of three members of the Council and three elected by the working members of the Brigade; and the Chairman of the Committee to be a member of the Council. Secondly, all matters were to be under the control of that Committee; and the third suggestion was the appointment of an officer to have charge, the discipline to be under the control of officers, on appeal to the Committee; and all expenses of management to be borne by the Council.

The Surveyor said the hose van was of no value to the Council as a fire extinguishing appliance. They had some hose; but he suggested that the van should be sold.

Mr. Davis said they had now a distinct intimation that the Fire Brigade was going to be dissolved next year, and the time had therefore arrived for the Council seriously to consider what steps they would take with regard to the extinguishing of fires. He moved that the whole Council meet in Committee at an early date to take the matter into consideration.

Mr. Gilbert seconded the proposition; and it was carried.

At the meeting on December 22nd, the Committee of the whole Council reported having considered, on the 16th December, the resolutions passed by the Volunteer Fire Brigade and its Committee, and after discussion it was moved by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Dickins, and unanimously resolved that it is desirable to form a Fire Brigade for extinguishing fires within the district of Bromley, and to recommend the Council to take the necessary steps for that purpose.

It was further moved by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Worley, and unanimously resolved that the Surveyor be instructed to prepare an estimate of the probable cost, &c., and submit the same to a Committee consisting of Messrs. Douglas Payne, Lawrence and Peill.

It was further resolved that the Surveyor be instructed to remove the whole of the property belonging to the Council at present standing in the engine-house rented by the Volunteer Fire Brigade.

MAKING-UP OF COLLEGE-ROAD.

The following tenders were then received for the widening and making up of College-road:—J. Mowlem, £287; S. Hudson, £264; and R. Stockwell, £351 15s. 6d.

The Surveyor's estimate was £242.

Mr. Lawrence thought the Surveyor ought to carry out the work.

After some discussion, a resolution proposed by Mr. Davis, accepting the lowest tender (that of Mr. S. Hudson) on condition that his bill of quantities was in order, his references satisfactory, and that the conveyance was received from the Charity Commissioners, was accepted. An amendment by Mr. Lawrence in favour of no further progress being made until the Council had considered the Surveyor's estimate, found very little support.

AMENDED BYE-LAWS.

At the meeting on December 22nd, a supplementary report of the Highways Committee was presented, being to the effect that they had that evening considered the draft bye-laws respecting new streets and buildings, with the alterations and amendments suggested by the Local Government Board. The majority of the amendments were small and unimportant, but with reference to several of the bye-laws the Council desired to again communicate with the Local Government Board. The Committee had made various suggestions with regard to bye-laws relating to the sewerage of new streets, external walls of timber, &c., and these had been written on the draft, and the Committee suggested that it should be returned to the Local Government Board for their consideration.

Mr. Mallett moved the adoption of the report, and in doing so he detailed the different laws proposed. He mentioned that the Council prepared this amended set of bye-laws about 12 months ago, but had only just received the Local Government

Board's report. Concerning the points won and lost, he considered these nearly balanced each other. He referred to the points the Council had gained, including an extension of the exempted buildings, whereby iron buildings were included, so giving the Council some jurisdiction over their construction.

Mr. Mallett also pointed out that the point urged by the Council with reference to composition of mortar and cement-mortar being included in the schedule had been allowed; they also had a definition of what a factory chimney should be and many other suggestions had been adopted. They had now their bye-laws in proper order. Among the things asked for and refused, was the control of new sewers in new roads, so that they would have to fall back upon their former powers.

Mr. D. Payne seconded, and the Committee's report was adopted.

ABSENCE OF MR. WHEELER BENNETT.

Mr. Wheeler Bennett wrote, stating that he observed the Council's attention had been called to the absence of some of its members, and there seemed to be some misunderstanding with regard to his own seat, because, he understood, that by living out of the Bromley Urban District, and his name being removed from the rate-book he was disqualified from attending any longer, and that that really invalidated his seat. He thought it was a matter in which the Council should move, and he would be glad to know what the real situation was.

The Clerk said the Local Government Board had decided, in the case of a London vestryman, that even if he moved from his proper parish, he still retained his seat on the vestry. In this particular case Mr. Wheeler Bennett acquired his qualification by being a parochial elector; he was still on the list for next year, in regard to his freehold qualification at Carisbrooke, though he had since sold that property. There was no doubt that he was entitled to sit at the Council, if he thought proper.

Mr. McIntyre: When would he retire in the ordinary way?

The Clerk: Next April.

It was decided to send a reply to Mr. Wheeler Bennett, acquainting him of his position.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

Meetings of this Board were held on November 23rd and December 7th and 14th.

FINANCE.

At the meeting on Dec. 7th, the financial statement of the Finance Committee was presented, from which it appeared that the balance in hand amounted to £1,536 10s. 2d., and payments amounting to £292 5s. 11d., including the instalment of a loan from the Prudential Assurance Co., of £227 8s. 3d., were recommended for payment.

A SATISFACTORY REPORT.

A letter was received from the Education Department, giving the results of the examination at the Bromley Valley Schools. In the boys' school there was, the report mentioned, good order and generally, a satisfactory year's work had been done. The careful, energetic and skilful supervision of the mistress in the girls' school and the industry of her staff, continued to make it a really good girls' school and in the infants' school the children continued to be taught in a thoughtful, kindly and intelligent manner.

The Clerk also reported that in the above schools the average attendance of the boys had been 176, which, with a grant of 20s. 6d. per head, gave a total of £100 8s.; girls, 185, total grant £189 12s. 6d.; infants, 120, 17s. per head, total £102. Fifty-nine girls also earned the cookery grant of 4s. each, making a total of £11 16s. The total of the merit grant therefore amounted to £492 16s. 6d., which, with a final balance on the fee grant of £62 17s. 6d., made a grand total of £555 14s.

Notice was received from the Education Department to the effect that the annual inspection to be held in October, 1897, would be omitted from the Bromley Valley Schools.

Mr. Gomer remarked that the reports were highly satisfactory, and showed that the labours of the teachers had had very good results.

A DISCLAIMER.

The following letter was read by the Clerk from Mr. G. Loly, of Quernmore House School, a member of the Board. "An important engagement prevents my being able to be present at your meeting this evening, and I shall therefore feel obliged if you will kindly give a public contradiction on my behalf to certain mis-statements which are being industriously spread about Bromley, in reference to the Board's contracts with the Educational Supply Association. It is asserted that I am a director of and a large shareholder in that Company. I beg to give both statements an unqualified denial. I have never had the slightest interest in it either directly or indirectly. The expenditure of one shilling at Somerset House, would have enabled the originator of the fabrication to find out that I have never possessed a single share in that or in any other company with which the School Board has ever had dealings."

FORMATION OF A FREE CHURCH COUNCIL.—On December 4th, a meeting of local non-conformists was held in the Bromley Congregational School-room, to consider the question of forming a Free Church District Council for Bromley, Beckenham, Chislehurst, the Crays and district. The Rev. R. T. Verrall presided, and ministers from various Nonconforming churches in Bromley and Beckenham were present. In a stirring speech, Mr. R. W. Perks, M.P., pointed out that the Free Church Council movement was neither political nor sectarian, nor did it mean an attack upon the Established Church. It was first and foremost, a spiritual association, which would enable them to ascertain by mutual intercourse improved methods of church work, and to join together for the purpose of defending the liberties of Nonconformists, and securing such alterations in the laws, as were essential to put their people on a proper level of equality with other religious communities. The Rev. W. Matthews, (Secretary of the Metropolitan Free Church District Councils), also addressed the meeting, upon the constitution of such Councils. Upon the proposition of the Rev. R. Stewart Fleming, (Beckenham Baptist Church), seconded by the Rev. T. Eynon Davies, (Beckenham Congregational Church), it was decided that a Free Church Council for this district be established; and it was provisionally arranged that the public inaugural meeting should take place at Bromley in February.

BALL AT SUNDRIDGE PARK.—On Monday, December 21st, Sir Samuel Scott and Lady Sophie Scott gave a ball to the tenants on the Sundridge Park estate and tradespeople of Bromley, in commemoration of Sir Samuel's wedding in the summer, when the inhabitants of Bromley gave a very warm reception to the newly wedded pair on returning from their honeymoon. Nearly three hundred guests were entertained, and there were a number of non-commissioned officers and men present from the Baronet's old troop of the Royal Horse Guards, the Blue Band of which was in attendance. The host and hostess, with the members of the house-party joined the guests and dancing was kept up to an early hour on Tuesday morning, a special train from Sundridge Park station conveying the members of the Band and the troopers back to town. Supper was served in one of the spacious drawing rooms facing the terrace, on which the Bromley Foresters' Band discoursed a selection of music during the progress of the repast.

THE KENT WATER SUPPLY.

The following correspondence on the above subject has appeared in the "Bromley Chronicle."

Sir,—I am glad that our Bromley Board has not joined in promoting the Kent Water Works Purchase Bill.

The Water Company is now paying its maximum dividend, and the purchase, if effected at all, will have to be on that basis, so that we could not hope for any reduction of our Water Rate.

There are, however, some circumstances which convince me that if a purchase is carried out, the Water Rate will be considerably increased.

In the first place, if we buy up the Company, we shall have to hand over to London, on the same basis, the portion which is situated in London.

The London County Council will, therefore, have the lower wells, and may considerably lower the level of the water in our distict, which would be a great misfortune.

In the second place, the division between the County Authorities and the London County Council would involve a re-arrangement of the mains, which would be a great expense to the ratepayers both of Kent and of London.

Thirdly, if we buy up the Kent Water Company, we shall have to redeem the stock in, say, 60 years.

For that period, therefore, the ratepayers will not only have to be paying for the water, but for the redemption of the stock.

This may possibly, at the close of the period, benefit the freeholders, but it will certainly throw a heavy additional burden upon the leaseholders, and probably, indeed, double our Water Rate.

On these grounds, therefore, I hope that our Bromley Board will not only not support, but oppose the Bill now before Parliament.

I am,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN LUBBOCK.

High Elms, Down, Kent.
11th December, 1896.

The following editorial criticism appeared in the same paper:

As to the first of Sir John Lubbock's arguments—that we should have to purchase on the basis of the maximum dividend—the reply is obvious. The water rents depend upon the rateable value of the district, and there is no doubt whatever that the rateable value in this district will largely increase in the future, as it has done in the past. Heavy, though the price would be, therefore, there is no reason on this ground to think it would not be a profitable transaction from the ratepayers point of view. . . . With reference to the rateable value, we may take Bromley as an instance—though Beckenham, no doubt, would show a still more favourable result—we find that here, the rateable value has increased in the last ten years by more than 25 per cent.

Sir John Lubbock writes in reply:—

Sir,—In response to my letter on the purchase of the Kent Water Company, which you were good enough to insert, I have received one criticism which induces me to ask your permission to add a few words.

It has been alleged that the increasing rateable value of the district will in the future largely increase the profits of the Company.

Those who urge this, however, forget that the Company is limited to a 10 per cent. dividend (with the right to make up the back dividends), and this right will, of course, be fairly valued in the price which would have to be paid.

The increase of profits due to a rise in the value of the district, therefore, even as matters now stand, would not enable the Company to pay more to the Shareholders, but would have to go in reduction of the Water Rate; and it is no doubt important to secure that we should receive the benefit to which we are entitled.

I have suggested, in order to secure our rights: firstly, that the number of years for which the back dividends can be claimed should be limited, as was done in the case of the Gas Companies.

Secondly that the Ratepayers, through their representatives, should nominate some directors, so as to ensure our obtaining the advantages to which we are entitled.

I am,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN LUBBOCK.

High Elms, Farnborough, Kent,
24th December, 1896.

Sir,—Sir John Lubbock's letter in your issue of the 17th instant was obviously written under a misapprehension of the facts.

The position of the Kent Authorities is well summarised in Sir John's own words, given in evidence before a Parliamentary Committee last year in opposition to the London Water Bills.

Sir John said, "We contend that we cannot benefit by the transfer, and we shall probably lose by the transfer; but if a transfer is to be made then we contend we should have the water in our hands and supply what we can spare to London, on the ground that the collecting area is, by far the larger part of it, in the Kent District.

"The fear of the Kent Authorities, and that I believe is entirely shared by the people of Kent, is that if this Company passes into the hands of the London County Council they may obtain a greater supply of water from Kent in order to supply the rest of the Metropolis."

"One of their real fears is that they will have to pay more for the water, and the other real fear is that they will get less of it."

The position to-day is the same as it was in 1895; the London County Council have again introduced their purchase Bills of all the eight Metropolitan Companies, and the Kent Authorities have introduced a Bill, as advised by their Counsel, to place them in a position to deal with the matter in the coming Session.

Should Parliament empower the London County Council to buy up the Kent Water Company, the Kent Authorities, in the absence of a Bill of their own, to establish a Water Trust for the outside districts, will be utterly at the mercy of the London County Council, who would be able to sell us our own water at a profit, for the benefit of London, and pump us dry for the supply of any part of their district, to which they might find it profitable, or convenient to supply Kent water, and in addition make us pay heavily towards their scheme for bringing water from Wales.

The fact that the Kent Authorities are willing to make an agreement with the London County Council in no way detracts from our position, such an agreement could only have effect in the event of the London County Council's Bill becoming law, and it would relieve us of the serious cost of appearing in the annual Parliamentary Water contest.

The Bromley Urban District Council will, of course, decide whether they join or not in a purely defensive measure, from which they will reap the chief benefit, but I can hardly think that they will oppose the policy which they have hitherto cordially joined in supporting.

I am, Sir,
Yours obediently,
J. FARNABY LENNARD.

Wickham Court, West Wickham, Kent,
29th December, 1896.

VOLUNTEER PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

On Wednesday Dec. 23rd the annual distribution of prizes to the members of the Bromley detachment, 2nd Volunteer Battalion (The Queen's Own) Royal West Kent Regt., gained in the various shooting competitions, held during the year, took place at the Bromley Drill Hall. Mr. H. W. Forster, the member of Parliament for this division, made the presentations, and the proceedings were followed by a smoking concert.

There were present on the platform, in addition to Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P., who presented the prizes, Colonel and Mrs. Satterthwaite, Major E. Latter, Major Horton, Major Gally, Lieutenant R G. Mullen (West Kent Mounted Infantry), Major Harman (Tower Hamlets), Captain B. H. Latter (Commanding Officer of the Detachment), Captain Matthews, Lieutenant Stringer, Lieutenant Lynch White, &c.

Interesting speeches were made by Capt. Latter, Col. E. Satterthwaite, and Mr. Forster, M.P.

Appended is a full list of the prize winners: —

FIRST COMPETITION.

		s.	d.
1.	Corpl. Payne 77	10	0
2.	Sergt. Verrells 76	7	0
3.	Corpl. H. Smith 76	6	0
4.	Pte. Ralph 75	5	0
5.	Sergt. Bulleid 73	4	0
6.	Lance-Corpl. W. Brown 73	3	0
7.	Sergt. Davis... 71	2	6
8.	Sergt. Gask... 71	2	6

SECOND COMPETITION.

		s.	d.
1.	Col.-Sergt. Perry 45	10	0
2.	Lance-Corpl. W. Brown 43	7	0
3.	Pte. Napier 42	6	0
4.	Corpl. Fawsitt 41	5	0
5.	Sergt. Davis... 41	4	0
6.	Sergt. Verrells 39	3	0
7.	Pte. R. Smith 39	2	6
8.	Sergt. Bulleid 38	2	6

THIRD COMPETITION.

		s.	d.
1.	Sergt Bulleid... 93	10	0
2.	Sergt. Gask 90	7	0
3.	Pte. Ingles 88	6	0
4.	Sergt. Davis... 87	5	0
5.	Corpl. Owen 87	4	0
6.	Pte Napier 81	3	0
7.	Corpl. Fawsitt 80	2	6
8.	Lance-Corpl. W. Brown 80	2	6

FOURTH COMPETITION.

		s.	d.
1.	Pte. Coles 45	10	0
2.	Sergt. Davis... 41	7	0
3.	Pte. Napier 41	6	0
4.	Sergt. Bulleid 40	5	0
5.	Pte. Dunford 40	4	0
6.	Corpl. Smith 39	3	0
7.	Pte. Maynard... 38	2	6
8.	Pte. R. Smith... 37	2	6

CONSOLATION COMPETITION.

		s.	d.
1.	Bugle-Major Heaysman 39	7	0
2.	Pte. J. Lovell 38	6	0
3.	Pte. G. Simpson... 38	5	0
4.	Pte. Francis... 38	4	0
5.	Pte. Newell 37	4	0
6.	Pte. Maynard 34	3	6
7.	Sergt. Towell 32	3	6
8.	Sergt. Newman 32	3	0
9.	Pte. Barlow... 32	2	0
10.	Pte. Bryant... 28	2	0

SHOOTING CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP.

Sergt. Bulleid ... ... 244 Gold Jewel.

RECRUITS' COMPETITION.

		£	s.	d.
1.	Pte. H. Hunt 36	1	0	0
2.	Pte. M. Payne 31		10	0
3.	Pte. W. Morgan 25		5	0
4.	Pte. A. Lansbury... 24		5	0

WHITSUNTIDE 2ND CLASS COMPETITION.

		£	s.	d.
1.	Pte. J. Lovell 42	1	0	0
2.	Bugle-Major Heaysman 41		15	0
3.	Sergt. Bulleid 41		10	0
4.	Pte. Napier 40		10	0
5.	Corpl. Fawsitt 39		5	0
6.	Corpl. H. Smith 38		5	0
7.	Pte. R. Smith 34		5	0
8.	Pte. F. Marchant 34		5	0
9.	Sergt. Davis 33		5	0
10.	Corpl. Owen... 33		5	0
11.	Col.-Sergt. Perry 33		5	0
12.	Corpl. H. Taylor... 30		5	0
13.	Lance-Corpl. W. Brown 27		5	0

NOMINATION COMPETITION.
3rd Class Conditions.

		£	s.	d.
1.	Lance-Sergt. Verrells 76	1	0	0
2.	Sergt. Bulleid 73		15	0
3.	Sergt. Davis 71		5	0
4.	Corpl. H. Smith 71		5	0

3 and 4 tied.

ST. BLAIZE CUP AND BADGE.
(Presented by Mr. Coles Child, J.P.)
Under 2nd Class Conditions.

1.	Col.-Sergt. Perry 45	Cup, Badge & £1	
2.	Pte. Napier 42	10	0
3.	Corpl. Fawsitt 41	5	0

LADIES' CUP.
(Presented by the Ladies of Bromley).
1st Class Conditions.

1.	Sergt. Davis 41	Cup & £1	
2.	Pte. Napier 41	15	0
3.	Sergt. Bulleid 40	10	0
4.	Bugle-Major Heaysman 36	5	0

DETACHMENT CUP.
(Presented by the late Sir Edward Scott, Bart.

1.	Sergt. Bulleid 93	Cup & £1	
2.	Sergt. Davis 87	1	0 0
3.	Corpl Owen 83	10	0
4.	Pte Napier 81	10	0

LIEUT. HITCHINS' MEDAL.

Sergt. Bulleid 419

FIELD FIRING COMPETITION CUP.
(Presented by Mr. Cakebread, of Beckenham).

		£	s.	d.
1.	Sergt. Bulleid, No. 1 Sec., E Co. Cup &	4	10	0
2.	Sergt. Towell, No. 2 Sec., F Co. ...	2	5	0

GENERAL EFFICIENCY CUP.

Corpl. H. Smith E Co.

TRADESMEN'S PRIZES COMPETITION.

1. Sergt.-Inst. Morgan, 25s., Co-operative Society.
2. Pte. Napier, 21s., Mr. D. Payne.
3. Pte. Player, 21s., Mr. Uridge.
4. Corpl. Owen, value 21s., Mr. Howard.
5. Bugle-Major Heaysman, prize, Mr. Taylor.
6. Pte. J. Lovell, 21s., Mr. W. H. Wood.
7. Corpl. Fawsitt, 21s., Mr. W. E. Ferris.
8. Pte. Dunford, 15s., Co-operative Society.
9. Sergt.-Inst. Hardy, 10s., Mr. Fawsitt.
10. Pte Newell, kild. of ale, Messrs. Lovibond & Son
11. Pte. R. Smith, kild. of ale, Messrs. Cooper Bros.
12. Col.-Sergt. Perry, 10s., Co-operative Society.
13. Pte. H. Hunt, umbrella, Mrs. H. A. Davis.
14. Pte. G. W. Simpson, half ton of coals, Mr. Grinsted.
15. Sergt Bulleid, prize, Mr. Sharpe.
16. Sergt. Davis, value 10s. 6d., Mr. A. Wheller.

17. Pte. G. Marchant, half ton of coals, Mr. Marsh.
18. Pte. Maynard, 10s. 6d., Mr. A. Newell.
19. Pte. W. Morgan, 10s. Messrs. Lansbury Bros.
20. Corpl. H. Taylor, prize, Mr. H. Collins.
21. Lance-Corpl. W. Brown, 10s. 6d., Mr. R. Griggs.
22. Sergt. Verrells, 10s., Mr. R. Hunt.
23. Pte. White, 10s. 6d., Mr. D. Dutton.
24. Sergt. Towell, kild. of ale, Messrs. Fremlin Bros
25. Sergt. Newman, kild of ale, Messrs. Fox & Sons
26. Pte. S. Hunt, rug, Mr. Pickard.
27. Pte. G. Davis, prize, Mr. S. Causton.
28. Pte. Francis, value 10s. 6d., Mr. Parsons.
29. Sergt. Lane, prize, Mr. Dunn.
30. Corpl. H. Smith, 10s., "District Times."
31. Pte. Barlow, 10s. 6d., Mr. A. A. Hunt.
32. Corpl. Field, 10s. 6d., Chislehurst Mineral Water Co.
33. Lance-Corpl. A. Smith, 10s., Messrs. Hunt Bros.
34. Pte. J. Green, umbrella, Mr. F. Medhurst.
35. Pte. M. Payne, 3 bottles of spirits, Mr. A. Ferris
36. Pte. E. Muncey, 10s. 6d., Mr. M. Lloyd.
37. Pte. W. T. Wood, 10s., Mr. J. Burgess.
38. Pte. E. Bryant, box of cigars, Mr. H. Dunford.
39. Pte. H. Muncey, 10s., Mr. F. Dean.
40. Pte. R. Humphrey, 10s., Mr. A. Griffen.
41. Corpl. Burbridge, prize, Messrs. Steiert & Son.
42. Pte. Bacon, value 10s. 6d., Messrs. Broadley Bros.
43. Pte. E. Davis, cake, Mr. G. Allen.
44. Pioneer Winn, box of cigars and 2 bottles of spirits, Mr. Read.
45. Pte. H. Coles, 10s., Mr. S. Roots.
46. Pte. Ingles, value 10s. 6d., Mr. Dotter.
47. Pte. James, prize, Mr. Tosland.
48. Capt. Matthews, prize, Mr. Shillcock.
49. Pte. Tassell, 10s., Mr. E. Peill.
50. Pte. Tuffin, kild. of ale, Messrs. Jones & Veness.
51. Pte. Worley, box of cigars, Mr. Steele.
52. Pte. Steele, prize, Mr. Thornton.
53. Pte. Styles, 3 bottles of spirits, Messrs. J. Sanders & Sons.
54. Pte. Mellis, hamper of wine, Mr. G. Pamphilon.
55. Pte. W. Humphrey, 10s. 6d., Messrs. Arnaud & Son.
56. Pte. Green, hamper of wine, Mr. Sutton.
57. Pte. Dewsall, silk umbrella, Mr. J. King.
58. Pte. F. Marchant, 3 bottles of spirits, Mr. Venner.
59. Pte. E. A. Brown, value 10s. 6d., Mr. Sills.
60. Pte. H. Palin, prize, Mr. J. Lowrence.
61. Corpl. Seal, cake, Mr. Maunder.
62. Lance-Corpl. Churchett, prize, Messrs. R. Ferris & Sons.
63. Pte. Dean, box of cigars, Mr. Stackhouse.

SECOND COMPETITION (JUDGING DISTANCE).

1. Lance-Corpl. W. H. Brown, box of cigars, Mr. J. Newell.
2. Corpl. Field, prize, Mr. G. Kirby.
3. Pioneer Winn, box of cigars, Mr. Hull.
4. Pte. Dunford, prize, Mr. Hambleton.
5. Col.-Sergt. Perry, 2 bottles of spirits, Mr. H. Draper.
6. Corpl. Owen, 2 bottles of spirits, Mr. Thomas.
7. Pte. R. G. Humphrey, prize, Mr. Nelson.
8. Pte. Oswald, prize, Mr. Mayhew.
9. Pte. H. Palin, saddle of mutton, London & Provincial Meat Stores.
10. Sergt. Davis, two shirts, Mr. Quick.

THIRD COMPETITION.

1. Pte. G. Davis, prize, Mr. Pyrke.
2. Sergt. Verrells, prize, Mr. Burr.
3. Sergt. Bulleid, prize, Messrs. Weeks & Sons.
4. Pte. Napier, photo of winner, Mr. Harman.
5. Pte. H. Hunt, prize, Mr. Lavender.
6. Corpl. Taylor, value 10s. 6d., Mr. Keer.
7. Sergt. Newman, prize, Mr. Bourdon.
8. Pte. W. Morgan, prize, Messrs. Strong & Sons.
9. Sergt. Davis, prize, Mr. Romary.
10. Sergt. Towell, 7s. 6d., Mr. W. Cook.
11. Pte. Maynard, 3 bottles of spirits, Mr. Worth.
12. Pte. Dunford, prize, Messrs. W. Clarke & Sons.
13. Pte. Player, ham, Mr. Marsh.
14. Pte. G. Marchant, 5s. Mr. Eyres.
15. Pte. R. Smith, leg of mutton, Mr. Wright.

RECRUITS' COMPETITION.

1. Pte Lansbury, rug, Mr. Ingles.
2. Pte. H. Hunt, 2 shirts, Mr. Rendall.
3. Pte. M. Payne, cake, Mr. McDonald.
4. Pte. Grinsted, prize, Messrs. E. Clarke & Sons.

CONSOLATION COMPETITION.

1. Pte. J. B. Lovell, prize, Mr. W. J. Brown.
2. Pte. Strange, box of cigars, Mr. Kincey.
3. Pte. Coles, 2 bottles of spirits, Mr. Hadden.
4. Pte. Hind, joint of meat, Messrs. Heaysman Bros.
5. Sergt. Crowhurst, joint of meat, Mr. H. G. Cooper.
6. Pte. Chapman, joint of meat, Messrs. Covell & Harris.

DONORS (NON-SERVICE)

	£	s.	d.
1. Mr. Dutton	1	0	0
2. Mr. Pickard		15	0
3. Mr. Lowrence		10	0

DONORS (SERVICE).

	£	s.	d.
1. Mr. R. Hunt...	1	0	0
2. Mr. Harman		15	0
3. Mr. Simcock		10	0

Whilst John Brooks, of Beckenham, was working at the new church of St. Mark's for Messrs. Crossley and Son on Wednesday Dec. 16th, he was taken suddenly ill in a fit, and on being taken to the Bromley Cottage Hospital, his temperature was found to be very high. It rose during the night to 105 deg., and the unfortunate man did not recover consciousness, and died on Thursday morning at seven o'clock.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT INQUIRY AT BROMLEY.—Colonel A. G. Durnford, R.E., held an inquiry, on behalf of the Local Government Board, at Bromley on December 8th, into the application by the Bromley Urban District Council for sanction to borrow £3,750 for street improvements, £1,500 for private street improvements, £730 for surface drainage, and £320 for public conveniences. Among those present were the Chairman of the Council (Mr. D. Grinsted, J.P.), Mr. Mallett, Messrs. F. C. Davis, E. S. Harris, W. Heaysman, H. Ranger, W. Yeates, W. R. Gunton, I. Gunton, and the officials. It was pointed out that the street improvements included the widening of High-street by the "Bell" Hotel, and the widening of a portion of Beckenham-lane, both of these thoroughfares being at present dangerous to traffic.—Some opposition was raised to the High-street improvement, the ratepayers, who objected, contending that it was unnecessary. The sum for public conveniences was also criticised. It may be added that the proposal to erect one of these structures in the open space opposite the new Post Office, in West-street; is being strenuously opposed, a petition bearing many influential signatures having been prepared for presentation to the Council.

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A REVIEW OF 1896.

Through varying wishes, hopes, and fears,
Fever'd the progress of these years,
Yet now, days, weeks, and months but seem
The recollection of a dream.

The truth of such lines as these is emphasised by their universal applicability; they are appropriate for every revolution of the cycle of time. In many respects it is difficult to realise that our close acquaintance with 1896 has been determined by the inexorable finger of Time, and that nothing but events which have marked its progress are left impictured on the mind for reflection and examination. Though gone, however, these recollections are still fresh, and may, if properly exercised, serve not only to interest, but to instruct us in preparation for a future course.

Viewed from either a national or an international standpoint, 1896 has been full of incident, and in many respects remarkable. The year opened darkly, the Venezuelan scare being closely followed by news of the Jameson Raid, while all the time there was the "haunting horror" of the Armenian Atrocities, though it was sometimes obscured by nearer national dangers. Towards the end of the year, however, the clouds abroad somewhat dispersed, though the Eastern problem is still unsolved. The year 1896 will be memorable for the fact that during its course our gracious Queen outstripped in length of reign all previous British sovereigns. The death of her son-in-law, Prince Henry of Battenberg, in the Ashanti expedition, cast a gloom over the Court and evoked the sympathy of the nation with the bereaved Princess. The tragically sudden death of Dr. Benson, Archbishop of Canterbury, removed from the Church an able administrator and a widely respected Primate. Among events of a different character, the removal of the legal restrictions on the use of light locomotives, has led to the introduction of a new industry, and a new form of locomotion which promise to attain considerable proportions. With this brief general review we proceed to our usual retrospect of local affairs.

Local Government.—Rural.

In the life of the different local governing authorities the year has been a fairly busy one. The most important matter coming before the Rural District Council was the question of the right to take gravel from Hayes Common for use on the roads. The Conservators of the Common disputed this right, and eventually the matter came before the Magistrates, who held that they had no option and decided in favour of the Rural Council, granting them an order to take gravel, on condition that certain regulations were observed. Against this, the Conservators appealed to the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court, where the Judges held that the Justices had power to refuse an order, and referred the case back to them to consider upon its merits, and to decide whether gravel should be taken at all, or under conditions. Profiting by a year's experience, the Parish Councils have been able to take a more active part in the management of the rural districts, and have shown a commendable vigilance in the protection of public rights by looking after any attempted encroachments. The question of forming the parishes of Chislehurst and Foots Cray into an Urban District was also brought forward, and the Chislehurst Council are still considering the advisability of applying for autonomy. The powers formerly devolved upon parochial committees by the Rural Council have been transferred to the Parish Councils within the Union, in order to secure more uniformity of procedure. Some controversy has arisen over the question of the attendance of the Rural Authority's officers at the Parish Council meetings, and an appeal has been made to the Local Government Board on the subject, some of the Parishes contending that they ought to attend without payment, at the Parish Council meetings. The Parish Council elections in March made very few changes in their composition.

Bromley Urban Council.

During the year the Bromley Urban District Council Chamber has been the scene of some lengthy deliberations, and the Committees have experienced a busy time. Not that any very great schemes have been formulated, though several local improvements have been arranged for, and others are under consideration. Contentious matters have, of course, cropped up; indeed, the new year had hardly entered before the wages problem was reintroduced, and led to the resignation of Mr. Bosanquet, the Chairman, and, after some discussion, Mr. D. Grinsted was appointed as his successor. Negotiations for the widening of the High-street, by the "Bell" Hotel, and also for a similar improvement at one part of Beckenham Lane have been completed, and await sanction from the Local Government Board: while College-road is also to be widened in two places, and other smaller works of this kind have been put in hand. Considerable time was occupied in Committee and Council, respecting a proposed agreement between Mr. Coles Child and the Council for the widening of Widmore-road, a portion of Masons-hill and Homesdale-road, the principal conditions being that the Council did not enter into litigation in respect of an encroachment on the highway at Masons-hill, and also supported Mr. Coles Child's application for the diversion of a footpath across the Bromley Palace Estate. The matter was repeatedly before the Council, and the townspeople also held a meeting to protest against the footpath diversion. Eventually the scheme was abandoned, as Mr. Coles Child insisted upon the retention of the old elm trees in Widmore-road, and would not agree to other suggestions of the Council, but a modified and less objectionable arrangement was afterwards come to. The power of appointing Overseers was transferred to the Council in March, when Mr. D. Payne and Mr. R. Peill were appointed to that post. At the end of March the elections also took place, when all the retiring members were re-elected with the exception of Messrs. Stoneham and Bosanquet, resigned, and their places were filled by Messrs. Worley and Dickins. Mr. Hugh Tweedy's resignation at the end of the year caused another vacancy, and to this seat Mr. H. C. Bond was returned without opposition. One of the most important questions before the Council, and one which still remains on hand, arose in connection with the maintenance and management of the Volunteer Fire

Brigade, which, for 28 years, has done good service. The Brigade Committee and the Council failed, however, to come to terms, and in consequence the Council have decided to establish a new brigade, notice having been given that the old Volunteer Brigade would be dissolved early in 1897. Among other matters engaging attention has been the question of public lighting, and some experiments in incandescent gas lighting are to be made. Steps have been taken to obtain better control over the streets, and to put down rowdyism. Towards the end of the year several questions were raised relating to the purity of public life; the employment by the Council of the Chairman's son, a past irregularity on the part of one of the officials, and one or two other matters causing some lively debates. Enough has been recorded, however, to show that some useful work has been accomplished without seeking to belittle the value of such efforts by commenting at any length upon these few unpleasant incidents.

POOR LAW.

The administration of this important branch of public service in the Bromley Union has proceeded quietly and in most respects uneventfully. One of the changes in the personnel of the Board of Guardians arose through the death of Mr. W. B. Fox, a very old member of the Board, and his place, as representative for Chelsfield, was filled by Mr. Thomas Figgess. Sir J. Farnaby Lennard's re-election as Chairman of the Guardians was unanimously agreed to at the annual meeting in April; and Mr. C. Harris was appointed as Vice-Chairman. In March, two extra Guardians for Bromley, two for Beckenham, and one for Chislehurst were appointed without the necessity of any contests, the new members being: Bromley, Mrs. Emily ..all and Mr. G. H. Payne; Beckenham, Messrs. F. L. Brown and J. J. Wilks; and Chislehurst, Mr. H. J. Hadrill. Mr. H. J. Rose retired on a pension after 34 years' service as Relieving Officer for Bromley, and received a handsome testimonial from his colleagues. It is satisfactory to note that the number of inmates of the Workhouse has shown a decrease during the greater part of the year.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

The local authorities of the district have had to devote a great deal of attention again to the important question of the water supply. Early in the year the London County Council announced its approval of the main principle of the Kent Water Board Bill, which had been introduced by a number of the authorities of West Kent, but in April the introduction of the Government's Metropolitan Counties Water Board Bill, which proposed to include Bromley and the neighbouring towns within its area, upset all calculations, and caused the Kent Authorities Bill to be rejected. The Government measure was, however, abandoned, after passing through the House of Lords, without being submitted to the judgment of the House of Commons, and the question of repeating the effort to get the concerns of the Water Companies serving this district, transferred to an elected Board, had again to be considered. It has been decided that a Bill shall be re-introduced into Parliament for this purpose; but the Bromley Council has, by a majority, determined to hold aloof from the other authorities in this second effort. The Bromley Council, it may be noted, endeavoured, during the year, to get a reduction in the charge for water used for public purposes, but the Kent Water Company declined to accede to this request.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING POWERS.

There has been further talk of Bromley availing itself of the Electric Lighting Order obtained some years ago, but up to the close of the year no definite step had been taken beyond the Urban Council resolving not to put the powers into operation themselves. It will be remembered that four years ago the old Local Board stepped in between a syndicate and Electric Lighting Powers on the understanding that they would themselves put the Order into operation. They are now in treaty with another body of gentlemen who desire to purchase these rights, and the negotiations should be carefully watched in the interests of the public.

EDUCATIONAL.

Educational work in Bromley has, during the twelve months, been steadily and satisfactorily pursued in the elementary schools, and in consequence of the growth of population the School Board has had to take steps to provide additional accommodation in the Bromley Common district. The plans for an extension of the Raglan-road Schools have been approved, and the work will now soon be commenced. Both secular and religious instruction has, according to the examiners' reports, been diligently and successfully rendered, and despite the fact that the attendance was considerably affected at times by the prevalence of various infectious disorders, the work in all branches has been satisfactory. One important question confronted the members of the School Board in October, when it was alleged that one of their number—Mr. F. Peill—was interested in a contract for school work held under the Board. Legal opinion was taken, and was to the effect that the supplying of building materials for the execution of a contract with the Board came within the Act forbidding a member to share or be concerned in the profits of any bargain or contract under the body of which he was a member. Notwithstanding, however, a statement that proceedings would be taken, up to the present nothing has been done, and Mr. Peill retains his seat. Technical and Science and Art Classes—which are conducted under the auspices of the Urban Council—have afforded ample opportunities to those who are anxious to improve themselves in almost any sphere of knowledge, and have attracted a large number of students.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The past year's working of the Free Library has proved, if proof were wanted, how acceptable to the general body of inhabitants this institution is, the first annual report published early in the year showing a very substantial increase in the number of readers. All classes have here sought "silent companions of the lonely hour," and to meet their increasing wants the Committee had to issue an appeal for outside help. The reading-room has also become very popular.

RELIGIOUS MATTERS.

Efforts for the advancement of the moral and spiritual welfare of the inhabitants have been continued with unabated vigour during the year. Though there have been no ministerial changes in the Established Church, the Vicar of Bromley (the Rev. A. G. Hellicar) has, owing to ill-health, had to relinquish his duties for some months, but he has now returned; and the Rev. W. Farnsworth, Curate at St. John's, is on the eve of his departure, having accepted a foreign cure. The movement for the erection of a new church at Masons-hill, in the place of the present iron structure, has made considerable progress, and a tender for the principal part of the building has been accepted,, and the work of building commenced. The fund for clearing off a building debt on the church of St. Mary's Plaistow, benefited considerably by a grand bazaar, held at the Drill Hall, on October 30th. Several changes in the Nonconformist pulpits have taken place. The Rev. T. H. Whitamore, from Wolverhampton, succeeded the Rev. W. Nicholson in the pastorate of the Bromley Wesleyan Church; and at

the Beckenham Congregational Church the place of the Rev. T. Sissons, resigned, has been filled by the Rev. T. Eynon Davies, from Glasgow. The Bromley Baptist Church friends also made a spirited effort to reduce the building debt, which had long rested on that place of worship, and as the result of a bazaar no less a sum than £350 was realised. At a meeting held in Bromley during the month of December it was resolved to form a Free Church Council for Bromley, Beckenham, Chislehurst, the Crays and district, and the inaugural meeting is to be held at the Bromley Congregational Church in February. Constant efforts have been put forth by the Temperance Societies of the town and district, and a very successful week's Congress was held in Bromley in the spring, in connection with the Kent County Temperance Federation.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

A very satisfactory feature of the old year has been the continuance of the good standard of public health, which was experienced in the district during the preceding year. Infectious diseases among the young, however, affected the elementary school attendances during the summer, and at present the infectious hospital has a rather large complement of scarlet-fever patients, principally juveniles. With these exceptions, the district has been very healthy, and the vital statistics of Bromley show a steady increase in the population, the births during the twelve months numbering 620, while 289 persons of all ages have been removed by death. It is of interest to mention that Mrs. Howell Jones, a resident in Bromley College, for the last 45 years, attained her hundredth year in October.

TRADE AND LABOUR.

The demand for labour in the district has been particularly brisk during the year, principally owing to the large number of new houses that have been built. We have fortunately been spared any prolonged disputes between Capital and Labour, although during the spring there was trouble between the masters and men in some branches of the building trade, and threats of a serious stoppage of work. The revival in trade, which had begun in 1895, has been steadily maintained, and there is every promise of a prosperous New Year. There have, unfortunately, as usual, been several failures, both among the traders and private residents of the locality, but these have been due apparently as much to extravagance in living and want of business habits as to misfortune.

RECREATIONS.

The many sports and pastimes with which leisure hours in both summer and winter can be so pleasantly beguiled have all found increasing numbers of devotees during 1896, and in some branches of sport the record of the locality is distinctly creditable. Cricket, cycling and tennis were all very popular during the summer months, and some good performances were registered. Football, of course, claimed the greatest interest during the later months, and the close of the year finds the Bromley premier team in an exceedingly gratifying position. They head the list in the London League competition, have won their preliminary engagements in the London Senior Cup, so entering the contest proper, and their season's record so far is untarnished by defeat. The second—A team have also made some very satisfactory displays, and with another local club—the Bromley Swifts—appear at the top of the Bromley and District League table. Other clubs—too numerous to enumerate—have produced some very promising players. In the increasingly popular game of hockey, the Bromley Club have made their mark, and are now leading in the South of England Championship contest. These few facts will suffice to show that the physical development of our youth is in no danger of degenerating.

THE YEAR'S OBITUARY.

We have again to deplore the loss of many old and valued residents who have left us since our last annual review. One fact that will be noted in looking over the year's obituary is the great age attained by many among the number.

Mr. George Jackson, who had reached the advanced age of 86, died at Bromley Common, on Jan. 5th. He had been in business as a wood-broker for over 60 years.

Mr. Henry Poole, the active head-master of the Chislehurst Wesleyan Schools, was struck down at the early age of 43, on Jan. 14th.

Mrs. Oxlad, who had resided in Bromley College for upwards of thirty years, passed peacefully away on Feb. 27th, aged 85.

Dr. Orlando Jones, of Grange House, Bromley, at the age of 57, on Feb. 12.

Mr. James William Ilott, surgeon of Beechfield, Bromley, at the age of 80, on Feb. 21st. Mr. Ilott, who had retired from practice for some years, was one of the oldest inhabitants of the town, having been born in the High-street, in the house now occupied by his son. He was closely identified in many respects with the progress of the town.

Lady Dacres, widow of Field-Marshal Sir Richard J. Dacres, G.C.B., R.H.A., on Feb. 4th, at Shortlands.

Mr. Thomas Yeldham, for 40 years Scripture Reader in connection with Bromley Parish Church, on March 27th, aged 77.

Mr. William Beardsworth Fox, farmer, of Chelsfield, a much respected Guardian of the Poor, on March 20th, in his 80th year, after only four days' illness.

Lady Mary Fielding, sister of the 8th Earl of Denbigh, at Bickley, on April 24th.

Mr. Thomas Beggs, of Hazledene, Shortlands, at the ripe age of 87, on March 30th. Mr. Beggs was the first Chairman of the Beckenham Local Board, and took an active interest in social and sanitary reform.

Colonel North, the well-known financier and sportsman, died suddenly at his office in the City, on May 5th, at the age of 54.

Mrs. Ellis, widow of the Rev. R. Stainton Ellis, on May 16th, at her residence, The Hollies, Beckenham-lane, Bromley.

Mrs. Webber, wife of Mr. S. B. Webber, of Hawthorn Cottage, Bromley, passed away after a very short illness, on May 23rd.

Colonel William Bristow, Commandant of the 2nd Vol. Batt., Royal West Kent Regiment, died from an illness contracted at the Easter Manœuvres, on May 23rd.

Mr. C. F. Devas, J.P., of Pickhurst Manor, Hayes, on May 26th. Mr. Devas had resided in Hayes for about 20 years, having previously lived at Bromley, where he had taken a prominent part in local affairs.

Mr. Thomas Paine Hilder, on June 1st, at Barfield Lodge, Bickley. Mr. Hilder was a well-known member of the London Stock Exchange, and a prominent supporter of cricket and other sport in the county.

Sir John Pender, G.C.M.G., F.R.S., died at his residence, Foots Cray Place, on July 7th, in his 80th year. Sir J. Pender was an extremely successful merchant in Manchester, but his reputation was gained in connection with the laying of the Atlantic cables.

Dr. James John Ilott, of Bromley, died suddenly at Cologne, on Aug. 11th, aged 67.

Lady Nickalls, wife of Sir Patteson Nickalls, of Fallowfield, Chislehurst, on Aug. 25th.

Mrs. Richardson, widow of John Richardson, of Ravensfell, Bromley, who had resided in Bromley for nearly 40 years, passed away on Sept. 7th.

Mr. George Field (Stuchfield) cab proprietor, of Camden Hill, Chislehurst, was found dead in bed on Sept. 10th.

Dr. Benson, Archbishop of Canterbury, died very suddenly in Hawarden Church, on Sunday morning, Oct. 11th, while on a visit to Mr. Gladstone.

Mr. A. P. Jackson, late of Bromley Common, died from blood-poisoning at the early age of 39, on Oct. 3rd. He had been closely identified with public affairs in St. Luke's parish and had just instituted a successful scheme of freehold allotments.

Mrs. Baxter, wife of Mr. W. W. Baxter, chemist, of High-street, Bromley, on Oct. 23rd.

Mr. W. G. Hibbs, house-steward at Sundridge Park, on Oct. 26th, at the early age of 44.

Mr. R. S. Stubberfield, well known in connection with local cricket, at the age of 72, on Nov. 10th.

Mrs. Darwin, widow of the famous naturalist, at Downe House, on Oct. 2nd, at a very advanced age.

Mr. John James, who for many years carried on the business of a pastry-cook in the Bromley Market Square, passed away on Nov. 20th, at the age of 75.

Mrs. Willis, of South Hill House, Bromley, died on Nov. 22nd, at an advanced age.

Mrs. Woods, widow of Mr. Samuel Woods, of Clarecroft, Bromley, passed away on Dec. 11th, at the great age of 90.

Mrs. Johnson, who had lived in Bromley for nearly 50 years, widow of Goswell Johnson, on Dec. 13th, having attained the very advanced age of 91.

Mr. George Thomas Bartlett, on Dec. 22nd, landlord of "The Three Compasses," Bromley.

Mr. J. Dunstall, baker, of Widmore-road, on Dec. 23rd.

Mrs. Chalmers, widow of a former Rector of Beckenham, departed, at Bromley, on Christmas Day, in her 86th year.

Sir John Brown, a well-known engineer and citizen of Sheffield, died at Nervion, Shortlands, on Dec. 27th, aged 80.

Mr. H. Draper, a well-known cricketer and proprietor of the "Star and Garter," High-street, Bromley, on Dec. 31st, aged 49.

THE RAINFALL.—The rainfall for November as measured in Widmore road, Bromley, amounted to 1·72 in. Rain fell on 10 days, the largest amount registered in one day being 0·62 in. on the 7th. For the corresponding month last year the fall was 3·64 in., and in 1894 it reached the total of 4·12 in.

A MUSICAL TREAT.—Miss Alice Borton, an associate of the Royal Academy of Music, and a resident of Bickley,—whose name has appeared from time to time in these columns as a composer of songs,—is announced to give an Evening Concert at the Queen's (small) Hall, London, on February 2nd, 1897, when she will introduce several of her charming songs. These will be interpreted by such well-known artistes as Madame Alice Gomez, Madame Wilson-Osman, Mr. Jack Robertson and Mr. Walter Head. Mr. Norman Bath, (violin), and Mr. W. Hann, (violincello), will also take part in the concert—joining Miss Alice Borton in Schumann's pianoforte quartet, besides solos from all three. Altogether a delightful programme is put forward. The proceeds of the concert are to be devoted to the benefit of a poor South London parish.

DIARY.

NOVEMBER.

27th: Lecture at the Science and Art School, on "South Spain and Tangiers," in connection with the Bromley Camera Club.—Inquest at West Wickham on boy, named A. L. P. Williams, aged 10, who, according to medical testimony, died from inflammation of the brain, secondary to poisoning from a cesspool.—28th: Annual dinner at "Bell" Hotel of non-commissioned officers, Bromley Detachment of Volunteers.—30th: St. Luke's vestry; Messrs. Chapman, Hodder and Peill being re-elected members of the Burial Board.

DECEMBER.

1st: Body of a newly-born male child discovered in grounds of a house at Kingswood-road, Shortlands.—2nd: Display of arms, by Bromley Detachment of Volunteers, at the Drill Hall.—Bromley Cricket Club dinner at the "Bell" Hotel.—4th: Meeting at Bromley Congregational Church, when the formation of a Council of the Evangelical Free Churches of this district was decided upon.—Bromley Philharmonic Association's conversazione at the Drill Hall.—7th: Musical recital by Mr. Arthur Roberts, at Bromley Grand Hall.—Cycling Club's smoking concert at Chislehurst.—8th: Local Government Board inquiry at Bromley into the Bromley Urban District Council's application to borrow various sums for public improvements.—Confirmation service at Hayes Church.—9th: Bromley Co-operative Society's annual entertainment at the Drill Hall.—16th: Will Hole's Bohemian concert at Bromley Grand Hall.—Mr. H. C. Bond elected, without opposition, as successor to Mr. Hugh Tweedy, resigned, to represent the Sundridge Ward on the Bromley Urban District Council.—18th: Prize distributions and entertainments in connection with Quernmore House School and Bromley Park School.—21st: Tradesmen's and tenants' ball at Sundridge Park.—22nd: Bromley Musical Society's concert at the Drill Hall.—23rd: Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P., presented the prizes to Bromley Detachment of Volunteers, at the Drill Hall.—Bromley Hockey Club defeated by Oxford University team by 3 goals to 1.—26th: Wilson Barrett's play, "The Sign of the Cross," produced at Bromley Grand Hall, with great success.—27th: Musical service and festival evensong at St. Luke's Church, Bromley.—29th: Inquest at Chislehurst on a woman, named Mrs. Ann Doughty, who was, according to the jury's verdict, burned to death a parcel at Chislehurst, on Christmas morning. In also on the body of an infant found wrapped up in a parcel at Chislehurst, on Christmas morning. In this case a verdict of Found Dead was returned.

STRONG'S DIRECTORY.—This old-established Directory, the 1897 issue of which is now before us, still maintains its excellent standard of merit as a reliable and comprehensive guide for the town and district. The directory portion deals fully with Bromley, Beckenham, Chislehurst, and all the parishes in the Bromley Union. The descriptive historical information relative to the various parishes, and the institutions contained therein is interesting and instructive reading. Not the least valuable feature of the publication is the admirably arranged index. Amongst the numerous illustrations, those of the old Bell and the old Post Office have a special interest and value at the present juncture when both structures are likely soon to be demolished. The large street map (four inches to the mile) of the whole district, defining the electoral wards of Bromley, is another valuable feature. The book is capitally got up, and at the price of one shilling is wonderfully cheap.—*District Times.*

BROMLEY MUSICAL SOCIETY.

At the second concert of the season, on December 22nd, this society gave a performance of Spohr's "Last Judgment"; a work which though widely known, seldom forms part of a concert programme. To those who have only heard it at St. Paul's, either in the years when Sir J. Stainer accompanied with matchless skill on the organ or more recently with orchestral accompaniment, or as it has been rendered at one or other of our suburban churches, there was therefore a feeling of strangeness amounting almost to incongruity in listening to it from a concert platform. Nevertheless although it appeared to be felt that any demonstrative applause would be out of keeping with the character of the work, there can be little doubt that the audience greatly appreciated the performance. The singing of the choir was characterised as usual by delicacy of expression and artistic finish, especially that of the sopranos, who were above reproach, but in the other parts there was scarcely as much crispness in attack as on some former occasions, the tenors in the chorus "Destroyed is Babylon" missing one lead altogether.

The important orchestral score was admirably rendered throughout, the overture and the symphony being especially excellent, though in the latter the numerical weakness of the first violins made itself felt. The solo parts were ably interpreted by Miss Bertha Rossow and Miss Maude Clough, both of whom possess beautiful voices and sing with great effect, and Mr. Harry Stubbs and Mr. Bertram H. Latter. The quartet and chorus "Blest are the departed," and the duet "Forsake me not," were perhaps the most effective pieces, and were greatly admired.

The second part of the programme included, besides songs by Misses Rossow and Clough, the unaccompanied part song "The Hemlock Tree," by Charles Wood, in which the voices were well balanced and the singing excellent; the part song with orchestral accompaniment "Liberty," by Eaton Faning, the soprano solo in which was beautifully rendered by Miss Amy Grossmith, and the orchestral suite "Peer Gynt," by Grieg, which fully deserves the wide popularity it enjoys and which was played in first-class style throughout.

As usual Mr. F. Lewis Thomas as conductor, and Mr. Norman Bath as leader of the orchestra, contributed very largely to the success of the concert.

Fortissimo.

BROMLEY CRICKET CLUB.

The annual dinner of the Bromley Cricket Club was held on Wednesday, Dec. 2nd, at the "Bell" Hotel. Mr. A. C. Norman, the President of the Club, occupied the chair, and was supported by between 25 and 30 members, among whom were Messrs. Coles Child (Vice-Chairman) E. Packe, W. H. Bosanquet, J. Weeks, E. Clark, A. H. Hewett, S. E. Pamphilon, F. Clark, J. F. Arnaud, W. L. Crossley, Norman, P. Marples, Montague Smith, T. W. Heaysman, L. R. Laumann, A. Romary, Kelleway Hall, &c.

Dinner over, and the loyal toasts having been duly honoured, the President rose to propose the toast of the evening—that of the Institution under whose auspices they met. On previous occasions, as a rule, he had had to congratulate the Club on a more or less successful season. That year he was afraid it was rather on the "less" side. He did not regard it as a permanent discouragement, but for the moment it was discouraging to see that of the twenty matches played by the first XI. only five were won, and of six played by the second XI. there was only one victory. Those figures, on paper, looked bad. He, however, believed that the real results were not so bad. On many occasions the team played a plucky game, sometimes with a stronger XI., and lost only by a short head, and those which they did win were won against good teams. He had a little difficulty in accounting for the results perhaps the officers would be better able to do it. One would have expected that in a summer like 1896, it would have arisen from inability of the bowlers to keep down the runs, and not from the batsmen failing to make them, but the boot seemed to be on the other leg. There were at least three bowlers whose averages were very good: one was quite exceptional, that of Mr. Frank Clark. (Applause.) He took 41 wickets at an average cost of nine runs and a fraction. Remembering what the season was like they must regard Mr. Clark's performance as one of very exceptional merit. The other two were Mr. Hellyer, who took 14 wickets, with an average of ten runs, and Mr. John Weeks, who took 28 wickets with an average of 14. The figures of the batting averages were not so encouraging. All the gentlemen whose names were before him had done very good work and made good scores on several occasions, but they could have expected to see the top performances reach a higher figure. Mr. Pamphilon made 65 on one occasion; Mr. Clark 56, and Mr. Arthur Hewett 46, not out. Mr. Pamphilon came out at the top of the averages. On previous occasions he had frequently had to remark on the monotonous regularity with which the Hewett family had appeared at the top. He was glad to see that one of them had again done well, but was sorry that the name of Mr. C. P. Hewett did not figure in the list. Unfortunately for them he had removed from the neighbourhood. Thirty-five new members had joined during the year, but the number of removals had been so great that the losses rather more than balanced the gains. That, as they knew, was a very shifting neighbourhood. The accident to Draper, the groundman, at the early part of the season was a misfortune of which they could hardly gauge the results. It was especially a misfortune to the young players; he supposed they had had to get their practices in the matches—rather an expensive way of getting it. (Laughter.) Then more than one member of the club met with an accident. After all these were only the results of one season. They should bear in mind that a great many matches were played, sometimes two on the same day. That taxed the resources of a club very severely, and, after all, the actual results of wins and losses did not represent the only advantage of such a club to the neighbourhood. One could get a lot of fun out of a losing match. Those twenty-six matches spoke of many pleasant afternoons. It did not argue that the club was on its last legs, but rather that the younger members would do all the better if they were able to get the practice which they hoped they would get in the ensuing season if the committee were lucky enough to secure the services of a good groundman. He coupled with the toast the name of the Captain, Mr. Reginald Smith. (Applause.)

Mr. Reginald Smith, in responding, said he could not offer to explain away the result of the season. Want of practice had a great deal to do with it. The committee were doing their best to remedy that difficulty for the next season. The club was one of the oldest in the district, and ought to be well supported. In conclusion he wished to thank the members of the club, and of the team especially for the kind way in which they had backed him up in the field.

Mr. Weeks, in proposing the healths of the Vice-Presidents, said they had a list of vice-presidents, which most clubs would envy—nine or ten gentlemen, who were enthusiastic cricketers at some period of their lives. They could never forget the services which Mr. Packe rendered to the club, when he was instrumental in securing for

them the beautiful ground they now had. Nor could they forget the obligation they were under to Mr. Coles Child, who, since he last took the Vice-chair, had succeeded to a most important post in the district—the Chairmanship of the Bench of Magistrates. (Applause.)

Mr. Coles Child and Mr. Packe responded to the toast, both expressing the deep interest which they took in the club.

The Vice-Chairman submitted the toast of the Committee and Officers of the Club. Upon them, he said, the club largely depended for success. They looked to the officers to see that everything was done for the best interests of the club. They were proud of the way the committee had done their work, both from the financial and cricket point of view. He coupled with the toast the name of Mr. Bosanquet, who replied in a very happy speech.

Later on Mr. Bosanquet gave the health of the President. From watching the papers during the season he saw that their President had been scoring very considerably in an obscure part of the county, called Bromley Common. He hoped that he would find himself able to play for their club.

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm and with musical honours.

The President briefly replied and in conclusion, proposed the health of the Visitors, to which response was made by Mr. Romary.

During the evening, songs were given by several of the company.

CHISLEHURST.

ELECTRIC LIGHT AT CHISLEHURST. — The residents of Chislehurst have just decided to form a local company for providing the electric light at their houses, and at the last meeting of the Parish Council a letter was received asking that body to apply to the Board of Trade for a license, pending the obtaining of a provisional order. The light will be available to all residents in the parish, but not in the lower borough, and it is hoped the work will be under weigh in a few months.

A CHISLEHURST FATALITY.—West Chislehurst was thrown into a state of excitment on Christmas Eve by the discovery being made that Mrs. Ann Doughty, a married woman, living in a court adjoining the High-street, had been burned to death. From the evidence adduced at the inquest, it appeared that deceased was last seen alive shortly before nine o'clock on Christmas Eve sitting by the fire, and a short time afterwards she was found terribly burned, and some of the articles of furniture were also alight. Deceased's clothing had by some means caught fire; and the jury returned a verdict of Accidential Death.

A BABY MYSTERY.—Early on Christmas morning the body of an infant was found, wrapped in a parcel, on Chislehurst-common near the Imperial Monument. The medical evidence at the inquest was to the effect that the child was not born alive. A verdict of "Found Dead" was returned.

KESTON.

The school prize distribution took place at the National Schools on Tuesday before Christmas. Mrs. Wright gave the prize winners their various rewards, after which the children were regaled with buns and apples. There were also present the Rev. C. H. Wright, Miss Thompson, and Miss Wright.

RECORD PORTRAITS.

XV.—THE LATE ARCHBISHOP BENSON.

We were purposing to give some particulars o the distinguished career of Archbishop Benson when our intention was frustrated by his sudden and much lamented death. We are sure, however, that some details of his life, particularly those relating to his home life at Addington, which is on the borders of our own parish, will prove of interest to our readers.

Dr. Edward White Benson, the late Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of All England, and Metropolitan, was the son of Edward White Benson, Esq., of Birmingham Heath, formerly of York, and was born near Birmingham in 1829. He was educated at King Edward's School, Birmingham, and afterwards at Trinity College, Cambridge, of which he was successively scholar and fellow, and where he graduated B.A. in 1852 as a First Class in Classical Honours and Senior Chancellor's Medallist, obtaining also the place of a Senior Optime in the Mathematical Tripos. He graduated M.A. in 1855, B.D. in 1862, and D.D. in 1867, Hon. D.C.L. (Oxford) 1884. He was for some years one of the masters at Rugby School, and he held the headmastership of Wellington College from its first opening in 1858 until 1872. For several years he was Examining Chaplain to the late Bishop of Lincoln, by whom he was appointed Chancellor and Canon Residentiary of Lincoln, having been a Prebendary of the same Cathedral for the three years previous. He was select preacher to the University of Cambridge in several years, and to the University of Oxford 1875-76, hon. chaplain to the Queen 1873, and Chaplain in Ordinary 1875-77. In December, 1876, he was nominated by the Crown, on the recommendation of the Earl of Beaconsfield to the newly-restored Bishopric of Truro, and was consecrated in St. Paul's Cathedral, April 25th, 1877. During his occupation of the See he began the building of a new cathedral at Truro (with Mr. J. L. Pearson as architect) of which the outward shell has cost over £100,000, much of that sum having been gathered through the energy of the Bishop. In December 1882, Dr. Benson was appointed by the Crown, on Mr. Gladstone's recommendation, to the Archbishopic of Canterbury in succession to Dr. Tait. Dr. Benson found time to publish several books in the course of his busy life. He married in 1859, Mary, daughter of the late Rev. William Sidgwick, of Skipton, Yorkshire, and has left several children.

AT ADDINGTON.

The following particulars concerning the Addington life of the late Archbishop are kindly furnished by one whose position afforded him many opportunities of becoming acquainted with it.

Addington was essentially the Archbishop's "home." He loved the place, its people, its church and school, and he took great delight in the charming park which surrounds the house, the extent and beauty of which gave him that sense of repose and quiet which was an absolutely necessary refreshment after the wearying publicity and unending engagements of his life at Lambeth.

But the Archbishop's country life was no time of ease and holiday enjoyment. No one on whom in a true sense "the care of all the Churches" had fallen could afford to relax for a single day the tension of work. Letters poured in from

every part of the world seeking advice and decisions on widely diverse questions. Then the hospitality of "the Park" was extended and delightful. Many of the leading men in Church and State met him to discuss the gravest questions of the day, under the presidency of a host whose courtesy and gentleness, and whose animating lead in counsel or in conversation could not be surpassed.

The Archbishop's favourite exercise was riding. Almost every afternoon, mounted on Serena, most intelligent of steeds, and accompanied by Miss Tait, or by one of his chaplains, he would ride swiftly through the country lanes round Addington, or canter over the grassy rides of Hayes Common.

The Archbishop attended the service at the Parish Church regularly twice a day on Sundays. It was his custom to pronounce the Absolution and to give the Benediction at Matins and Evensong. He preached once a year only—on Christmas Day, when he spoke in simple and affectionate words to the parishioners and others who would come from a distance to hear him.

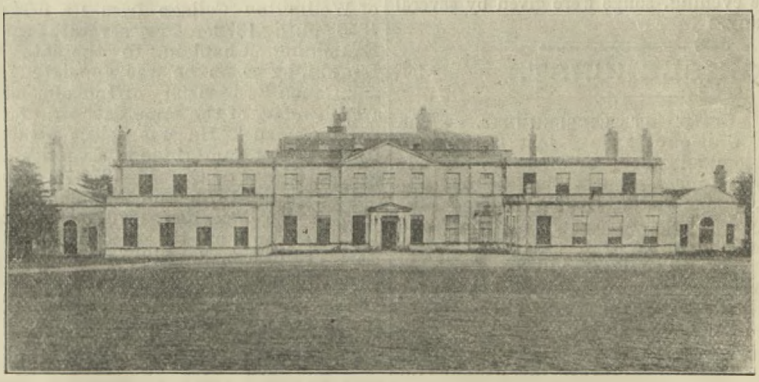
The Village School was another interest for the Archbishop at Addington. Not only would he be present on such grand occasions as the prize giving, and speak of the children and to the children in a charming, fatherly fashion, but he would enter the school on ordinary days and take part in the teaching. Addington children will have pleasant recollections of the great Archbishop for many a year in the distant future.

Another trait in the Archbishop's character ought to be long remembered at Addington, namely, his great liberality; he was not only generous, but thoughtfully generous. On one occasion thieves entered the vestry of the Parish Church during Divine service and carried off two coats belonging to choirmen. All efforts to regain the lost possessions were in vain, but each choirman speedily received a "solatium" in the shape of a handsome cheque from the Archbishop, who was in the church at the time.

Another characteristic of the Archbishop was his admiration of good work wherever he found it. Woodman, carpenter, mason, every workman, whatever his craft was, would describe the interest the Archbishop took in his special line of work, and how well he understood it. This is indeed largely the explanation of the Archbishop's own career, and of the good and enduring services which his Primacy has conferred on the Church of England. He possessed what Bismarck has defined to be the distinguishing mark of genius, "an infinite capacity for taking pains."

Addington Park.

Addington has not very long been an archiepiscopal residence, but it has an ancient and interesting history. The manor of Addington figures in very early historical documents. From the Domesday Survey we find that at the time of William I. there were two manors in this parish. At the dissolution of the monasteries both these manors came into possession of the Leigh family, once a very influential Surrey family. The Leigh family had first settled at Addington, or at least acquired one of the manors in 1447, and there for about three centuries they flourished, the last of the race, Sir John Leigh, dying in 1737. The "Gentleman's Magazine" for May 1733, contains the following curious and locally interesting notice of the marriage of this baronet:—"Sir John Leigh, of Addington, Surrey, Bar..of £3000 a year, aged near 70, to Miss Wade about 18, daughter of Mr. Wade, Apothecary at Bromley in Kent, who lately cured Sir John of a mortification in his toe." The old mansion of this family was situated within Addington Park, and probably on the rising ground to the north of the church. Traces of the old cellars and the piers of the entrance Gates still remain. The former are probably remains of the mansion which was built here in 1541 by Nicholas Leigh, and which was long known as Addington Place. The house was demolished in 1780, and the present mansion which occupies a more western site, was commenced in 1772 by Alderman Trecothick, who had purchased the estate. In or about the year 1802, his nephew James Trecothick, Esq., sold Addington Place to Thomas Cole, Esq., and from his son William the estate was purchased in 1808 by Archbishop Manners Sutton, as a more suitable place for the summer residence of himself and successors than the decaying edifice at Croydon. The mansion stands in a beautifully undulating and well wooded park, with charming views of the surrounding country. Birch trees, firs and pines form the chief part of the plantations, but there are also some choice trees, and a very noted cedar of Lebanon. The drives and vistas are cleverly contrived, and have the effect of making the park appear of a larger area than it really is. This was to a large extent the work of Mrs. Howley, the wife of Dr. Howley, who was Archbishop from 1828 to 1847. The house is built of stone in the Palladian style, with a central body and wings. The principal entrance is from the west, and our illustration prepared from a photograph represents the west front of the house. The terraces and gardens behind it look eastward and command a pretty view of the Addington



Addington Park.

valley with its church, cottages and beautifully tended gardens. In the entrance hall are portraits of Queen Elizabeth and Queen Mary of Scots (or probably Queen Mary of England) on either side, and also oil paintings representing Sir Walter Raleigh and Prince Charles Edward Stuart, with the Palace of St. Germain's in the back ground. In the next room on the left leading to the dining room, is a portrait of Archbishop Warham. A private chapel built on the north side of the house, was added when this place became the residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and was subsequently fitted up with oaken stalls and other suitable accesories and decorations. The first Archbishop who resided here was Dr. Manners Sutton a prelate who is still remembered at Addington by the old people, from his habit of throwing shillings to the boys who touched their hats to him as he rode along. He has been succeeded by Drs. Howley, Sumner, Longley, Tait and Benson. Five Archbishops of Canterbury are buried in the Churchyard of Addington.

CHRISTMAS DAY IN THE WORKHOUSE.

The inmates of the Bromley Workhouse were, thanks to the thoughtfulness and kindness of their Guardians and a number of Bromley friends, able to participate again this year in the festivities of Christmastide. On Christmas morning Mr. C. W. Gedney, for the twentieth year, attended the House with a band of willing helpers, including Miss Gedney, Miss Pyrke, Mr. G. Hopton, Mr. Redfern, Mr. Latham, Mr. C. Harris, Mr. Dyson, &c., The 65 children were well supplied with toys, sweets, and fruit; while some 53 juvenile scarlet-fever patients, in the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital, were similarly treated.. The adult roll-call at the Workhouse numbered 460, and they had all been reminded of the great festival by gifts of cards, &c., while the men were given an ounce of tobacco and a wooden pipe each, and the women received enough tea and sugar to last for about one month. Of course, the great feature of the day was the Christmas dinner; and a right hearty meal they made. It was served at mid-day, and the visitors were kept busy for some time in supplying the wants of the occupants of the different wards. The dining-hall was most elaborately decorated with evergreens, banners and mottoes; and everyone and everything looked bright and festive. The fare consisted of beef, pork and mutton, with three vegetables, and to satisfy the needs of all, no less than 800 lbs. of meat were provided. Then came the puddings, weighing altogether 1,000 lbs., and these were admirably cooked and promptly distributed. A pint of beer was allowed to each who chose to have it, while a bottle of aerated water was provided for everyone, and the invalids were regaled with British wines. The arrangements reflected great credit upon the Workhouse staff, and old and young alike thoroughly appreciated the efforts made to promote their enjoyment. At the close of the proceedings the master (Mr. Gregory) proposed a vote of thanks to the Guardians, which was carried, and three hearty cheers were given for the friends who had assisted.—In response, Mr. Gedney remarked that that was the twentieth Christmas Day he had spent in that work, and as he attained his majority—twenty-one—next year, he felt the time had arrived when he could fitly be succeeded in that task by a younger man. The inmates had, he stated every reason to be proud of their master and matron, who had their interests so much at heart, and did everything, as far as they could consistently with their official positions, to make them happy and comfortable. They were ably assisted by the subordinate officers, and the cook deserved special praise for the excellent manner in which he had served up the good things. He (Mr. Gedney) asked the inmates to give three hearty cheers for the officers, and the response was quick and hearty.—Gifts were sent by the Chislehurst Mineral Water Company, Mr. H. Cooper, Dr. Scott, Mr. Hopton and others

HAYES.

HAYES COMMON GRAVEL QUESTION. — In the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court, on Dec. 17th, before Mr. Justice Wills and Mr. Justice Wright, the appeal by the Conservators of Hayes Common against a decision of the Justices of Bromley, who had made an order authorising the District Council to dig for and take gravel from Hayes Common upon certain conditions, was heard. Under the Highway Act of 1835, parish surveyors, whose powers had passed to District Councils, were entitled to search for, dig, get, and carry away gravel, &c., on waste lands within the parish; but Section 20 of the Commons Act of 1876 provided that in the case of any common regulated by a scheme framed under the authority of Parliament no surveyor of highways, or highway board, should search for, dig, get, or take away gravel, &c., without the consent of the person or persons having the regulation or management of the common; or, in default of such consent, without an order of the Justices assembled in petty sessions, who should have the power to make such conditions as they thought fit, as to the place and mode of working, &c. The Justices had held that under the Act of Parliament they had no power to refuse to grant an order, and that their jurisdiction was limited to imposing conditions. Against this decision the Conservators appealed, contending that the Justices could refuse to make an order; but, on the other hand, it was said that under the Act of 1876 they could not, and it was pointed out that under the Commons Act of 1866 the right of surveyors to take gravel was expressly reserved.—Mr. Rawlinson appeared for the Appellants, and Mr. Macmorran, Q.C., and Mr. A. Clarke Williams for the Respondents.—The Court held that the Justices had jurisdiction to refuse an order, and sent the case back to them in order that they might consider the whole of the circumstances of the case, and say whether gravel should be taken at all, or under conditions. The Appellants were awarded the costs.

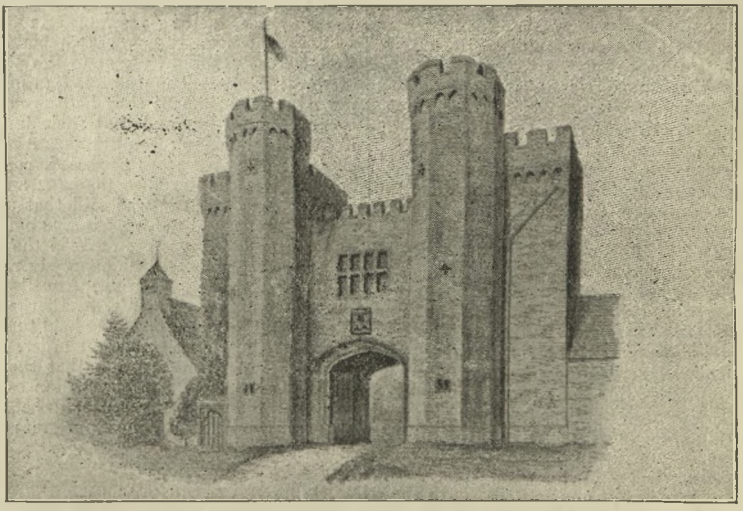
BECKENHAM SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND ART. —The studies of the pupils at the School of Art, 10 and 11, The Parade, were brought to a close for the term on Dec. 11th, when an exhibition was made of their work, and Mr. John Brett, A.R.A., director of studies and visiting master to the school, gave a short address. There was a good attendance of students and friends, although probably there would have been a greater number present, but for the inclemency of the weather. Several of the works of the students which were on view were worthy of great praise and showed very careful training. A free scholarship in drawing and painting was awarded by Mr. Brett to Miss Bluett, of Elm-road, one of the most promising of the pupils at the school. At the close Mr. Yearsley, the secretary to the school, proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer, and Mr. Brett, in reply, remarked that he had never seen a school which started under more favourable conditions than theirs, because the first few students were of extraordinary ability.— The distribution of prizes in connection with the School of Music took place on Saturday, Dec. 18th, at the Public Hall. The presentation was made by Mr. John Thomas, of the Royal Academy, who is also "Pencerrd Gwalia" (a Welsh bard) and harpist to the Queen.

KENTISH CASTLES.

LEYBOURNE.

Between Snodland and West Malling there still exist considerable remains of Leybourne Castle. Probably there was a building here as early as the date of the Norman Conquest, at any rate the lands were given by William to his half-brother, Odo, the Bishop. The masonry of some parts of the building has been pronounced to be of Norman workmanship, but the Castle was chiefly built during the reign of Henry III.

The ruined gateway, which was once machicolated, belongs to the period of Edward III. The portcullis-grooves and the pivot-holes of the drawbridge belonging to this gateway still remain, and above the entrance arch is a curious opening in the masonry, the object of which was to allow a plentiful supply of water to be poured out over the gate in case the besiegers should attempt to set fire to its timbers. Provision for a supply of water for this purpose was made by a water conduit communicating with the moat and passing over the west turret to the foot of a shaft, up which buckets could be drawn.



ANCIENT GATEWAY, LULLINGSTONE CASTLE, KENT.

A wooden gallery was provided for the defence of the gatehouse in front, supported by wooden cantilevers, the sockets of which are still in existence.

In the time of Richard I., Leybourne Castle was in the possession of a family who probably took their name—Leybourne—from it. The estate remained in their possession until the death of Juliana, daughter of Thomas Leybourne, and heiress who had brought the castle and manor to four husbands, whom she survived without issue. In the 41st year of Edward III. the whole property was escheated to the crown, and conferred on the Abbey of St. Mary Graces, near the Tower of London, with whom the property remained until the dissolution of the monasteries. Leybourne subsequently passed through the hands of Archbishop Cranmer, Sir Edward North, and the Whitworth and Hawley families.

LULLINGSTONE CASTLE.

The residence of Sir William Hart Dyke, at Lullingstone is usually called Lullingstone Castle, although the name, as applied to this building, is of no greater antiquity than the earlier half of the last century, when the estate was carried in marriage to Sir Thomas Dyke, Bart., of Sussex. The building, which has a legitimate claim to the title of Lullingstone Castle, however, is that, the ruins of which are now known as Shoreham Castle, and it will therefore be convenient to deal with this earlier building before treating of the more modern mansion.

Shoreham Castle, or more properly, Lullingstone Castle, is situated close to the river Darent, and nearly adjoining the boundary of Lullingstone Park. Records show that to this castle there was a manor appendant, called the manor of Lullingstone Castle, and of this manor Hugo de Poyntz died possessed in the first year of the reign of Edward II. In the 20th of Edward III., Sir Roger de Chaundois paid aid for the manor of Lullingstone Castle, as one knight's fee, which Hugo de Poyntz had before held of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

In the time of Queen Mary, Roger Newborough had possession granted of this manor or castle of Lullingstone, holding it of the sovereign "in capite," by knight's service, of the honour of Otford. In the reign of Elizabeth, John Newborough levied a fine of these premises, and passed them by sale to Thomas Polhill, of Preston, whose descendant, John, sold this estate to Paul D'Aranda, Esq., whose eldest son conveyed both castle and manor, in 1715, to John Barrett, Esq., in whose son they became vested.

At what date this castle became a ruin is uncertain. From Leland's account, however, we find that it was a ruin in the time of Henry VIII. It is supposed that the present farm-house was largely constructed of the remains of the castle.

Lullingstone House, or Castle, the residence of the Hart Dykes, stands in the valley at the eastern boundary of the park, on the western bank of the River Darent. A public road runs through the park, close by the ancient gateway to Lullingstone House, which is shown in the accompanying illustration.

From the Domesday Survey it appears that this place was one of the possessions of Odo, Bishop of Bayeux. It was afterwards held by the family of De Ros and was called in consequence, Lullingstone Ros. In the reign of Edward I. it was possessed by the Rokesle family, and so it descended until it was conveyed to Sir John Peche. This estate then continued in a long line of succession to Sir John Peche, who died possessed of Lullingstone manor, under Henry VIII., leaving his wife sur-

viving, to whom that monarch, in his especial favour, granted an annuity of ten marks a year, for life. The estate passed into the possession of the Hart family through Elizabeth, the sister of Sir John Hart. and in 1738, it came into the possession of Sir Thomas Dyke, Bart.

Lullingstone Church, close by the house, contains some very beautiful and interesting memorials to different lords of the manor of Lullingstone. including that to Sir John Peche, which is a magnificent and important monument.

LYMPNE.

The name Lympne Castle, or Stutfall Castle, is applied to some old buildings occupying the site of the Roman castrum of Lymne. The walls of the ancient castrum have been greatly damaged by landslips, but a structure supposed to be a Norman watch-tower, and a castellated house of the time of Henry V. still remain. The tower is square and roomy, but the west face is semi-circular. somewhat like the gate-house towers of Saltwood Castle. The windows in some cases are original.

The castellated house, or "Archdeacon's House," remains, as far as its outer walls are concerned, much in the same condition as that in which it was built. Internally, however, considerable alterations have been made in order to fit it for the residence of a farmer. The hall (once open from the floor to the roof), has been divided into stories of rooms. Its four tall arched windows with their transoms, which divided the two lights of each into four arched lights, and the tracery in their heads, have been transformed into the plainest possible windows for bedrooms above, and sitting-rooms below. The entrance porch, upon the north side, with its handsome outer archway, and the room above it, fortunately still remain.

BECKENHAM.

RAILWAY IMPROVEMENTS AT NEW BECKENHAM.

At a meeting of the Beckenham Urban Council last month, the Railway Accommodation Committee reported that the heads of agreement proposed by the South Eastern Railway Company between that Company, the Council, and Mr. Albemarle Cator, with reference to the three-way bridge, &c., at New Beckenham, were submitted. Briefly they were as follows: (1) The Company to construct a three-way bridge and roads 45ft. wide and with gradients not to exceed 1 in 17, connecting Copers Cope, Kingshall and Blakeney roads. (2) The Company to construct at their own cost a subway, 8ft. wide, 7ft. in height, and lined with white glazed bricks, under the railway at Park-road. (3) The question of a goods station to stand over for the present, the Directors pledging themselves to consider the matter later on. (4) The Company to construct a new passenger station at New Beckenham. No buildings other than station buildings proper to be erected on the Company's land at New Beckenham except according to designs which shall be submitted for the reasonable approval of the District Council. (5) The Company within a period of five years to extend the Lower Sydenham Station or to construct a new station in place thereof on the Beckenham side of the existing station. Mr. Cator to give any land required for the extended or new station. (6) The Company if so required by Mr. Cator within five years to contruct at his expense a bridge over the Mid Kent Railway north of Beckenham Station. (7) The whole of the above works with the exception of Lower Sydenham Station and the bridge north of the New Beckenham Station to be completed within a period of two years from the signing of the agreement. (8) Mr. Cator to convey to the Company for a nominal consideration so much of the land belonging to him as is required for the construction :—(a) Of the three-way bridge with approaches and embankments ; (b) The enlarged New Beckenham Station platforms and subway and road approaches ; (c) The new bridge north of New Beckenham Station ; and (d) The new or extended Lower Sydenham Station. (9) Mr. Cator to make approach roads to New Beckenham and Lower Sydenham Stations and to the bridge north of New Beckenham Station at his own expense and to dedicate them to the public use. (10) Mr. Cator to be entitled to the whole of the frontages of the roads, bridges, and approaches. (11) Mr. Cator to consent to a stay of the pending action between himself and the South Eastern Railway Company, and to rescind the restriction with regard to Sunday trains in the agreements of the 18th September, 1855, and 13th June, 1862, and any other agreement between himself and his predecessors in title and the Mid Kent Railway Company or the South Eastern Railway Company and to release the Company from any liabilities or obligations thereunder. (12) Mr. Cator to contribute £1,000 towards the three-way bridge and £400 towards the subway at New Beckenham Station. (13) The District Council to contribute like amounts. (14) The existing level crossings over the railway at New Beckenham, Blakeney-road, and Clock House to be closed. (15) A formal agreement embodying these heads of agreement to be entered into by the three parties, any difference thereunder to be referred to arbitration.

The Company, the Committee further stated in their report, suggested the consideration of an over-bridge in place of the Lennard-road level crossing, and offered the estimated cost of the subway towards it. Mr. T. H. Burroughes and the Committee both thought this overbridge unnecessary, and on account of cost impracticable. The above heads of agreement had been submitted to and approved by Mr. T. H. Burroughes, of the Cator Estate, subject to the following alterations :—The three-way bridge to be fenced with oak cleft or angular fencing ; an entrance to the Station to be provided from Park-road at or near the present hand gate : Mr. Cator to approve plans of all buildings on the new land to be conveyed to the Company and only railway buildings to be allowed thereon : the new Lower Sydenham Station to be mainly within the parish of Beckenham and to be a new station and not an extension, Mr. Cator to give the land and not contribute; the new bridge in paragraph 6 to be 720 feet north of Lennard-road. Mr. Cator to convey land under clause 8 subject to the lessee's interest, road approaches not to be conveyed, the Company for a nominal consideration to convey to Mr. Cator a plot of land fronting to and on the south side of Lennard-road. Mr. Cator to have power to plant trees in roads ; and the banks, fences, and trees to be vested in him. The Sunday traffic clauses in Mr. A. Cator's agreement to be transferred to the District Council. Mr. P. Cator's agreement of the 23rd February, 1856, if possible, to be rescinded. The Company to pay the costs of the action and of the agreement.

The Committee approved of the agreement as altered by Mr. Burroughes, and themselves suggested one alteration, namely, that the subway in Lennard-road should be seven feet six inches in height instead of seven feet. The Council was recommended to complete the matter on the terms of this agreement as altered by Mr. T. H. Burroughes and the Committee respectively.

Births.

Boas.—On the 9th Dec., at Fairlie, Bickley, Kent, the wife of Frederick S. Boas, of a son.

Dolman.—On the 23rd Nov., at 10, Oakwood-avenue Beckenham, the wife of F. W. Dolman, of a daughter.

Hicks.—On the 4th Dec., at The Leys, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Alfred Hicks, of a son.

Kerr.—On the 30th Nov. at Edelstowe, Bromley-park, Kent, the wife of James M. Kerr, of a son.

Mills.—On 21st Dec., at Hawkhurst, King's Hall-road, Beckenham, the wife of William F. Mills, of a son.

Philpott.—On the 2nd Dec., at 54, Croydon-road, Beckenham, Kent, the wife of Richard William Philpott, of a son.

Sharland.—On the 9th Dec., at Bonithon, Beckenham, Kent, the wife of Charles Sharland, of a daughter.

Straker.—Nov. 30th, at Marazion, Bromley, the wife of Sidney Straker, of a son.

Whitehead.—On the 9th Dec., at The Homestead, Orpington, the wife of Jeffery Whitehead, jun., of a son.

Williams.—On the 22nd Nov., at Bickley, Kent, the wife of Howard Williams, of a daughter.

Marriage.

Garne—Sier.—Dec. 16th, at St. Mary's, Shortlands, by the Rev. H. F. Wolley, M.A., vicar, John Garne, of Great Rissington, Gloucestershire, to Jane, younger daughter of the late William Sier and Mrs. Sier, of Highgate.

Deaths.

Barraud.—On the 24th Nov., at Derrydownes, St. Mary Cray, Kent, Herbert Rose Barraud, age 51.

Chalmers.—On the 25th Dec., at Nonnington Lodge, Bromley, Kent, Matilda Harriet Chalmers, widow of the Rev. Frederick Chalmers, B.D., formerly vicar of Nonnington, Kent, within a month of completing her 86th year.

Dunstall.—On December 24th, John Dunstall, of Widmore-road, Bromley, aged 55 years.

Fielder.—On the 23rd Nov., at Carltonville, Beckenham, Rose, last surviving daughter of the late Thomas Fielder, of Maida-vale, W., aged 80 years.

Johnson.—On the 13th instant, at 4, Denmark Villas, Bromley, Kent, Mary, widow of the late Goswell Johnson, Esquire, aged 91.

May.—On the 19th December, at 12, Freelands-road, Bromley, Henry May, aged 82 years.

Platt.—On Advent Sunday, at 2, Wickham-road, Beckenham, Kent, Elizabeth, wife of George Platt, aged 55 years.

Quincey.—On the 30th Nov., suddenly at Oakwood, Chislehurst, Elizabeth Fanny, the dearly-loved wife of Roger de Q. Quincy.

Woods.—On the 11th Dec., at Clarecroft, Bromley, Emma, widow of the late Samuel Woods, aged 90.

In Memoriam.

In ever loving memory of my dear husband, William Edward Pamflett, who passed away at Broadstairs, December 6th, 1894, aged 26 years.—"Absent, but not forgotten."

FUNERALS.—J. HUMERSTON, Undertaker and Appraiser, 17, East Street, Bromley; Upholsterer and Cabinet Maker. rc132

MONUMENTS, HEADSTONES, CROSSES, in Stone, Marble, or Granite. Imperishable Lead Letters, &c.—W. HINCHLIFFE, Mason, London Road, Bromley, Kent.

MONUMENTAL.—Before purchasing a MONUMENT, T. CANDY would earnestly invite parties requiring the same to visit his extensive Works (Elmers End Road, Beckenham), where the largest Stock in the Trade may be seen. Ten minutes from Kent House Station.

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MORNING ENGAGEMENT desired by Certificated Governess. Good references. H.M., 1, Elmfield Park, Bromley. rp383

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WANTED.—*BROMLEY RECORD* for years 1858 and 1859, and other numbers. S., *Bromley Record* Office, 14, Market Square, Bromley, Kent.

WANTED.—OLD HISTORIES OF BROMLEY.—Apply E., *Bromley Record* Office, 14, Market Square, Bromley, Kent.

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MISS ROBINSON, Dressmaker, 27, Palace Road. By the day or week: at home or ladies' houses. terms moderate. rp93

MRS. WALE, Upholstress, The Ferns, 66, Park End, Bromley.

TAKE CHARGE of a house or any position of trust; Cook (good), fill the place till suited, day, week, or month, and where assistance is required.—Mrs. Rose, 32, Park Road, Bromley, Kent. rp403

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BROMLEY, KENT.

TESTIMONIAL.

December, 1896

Messrs. Harradine and Ayling, Phœnix Fire Office, Bromley, Kent.

Gentlemen,—In respect to the fire which occurred in my Fancy Goods Department, No. 46, high-street, on Friday, Nov. 27th, it gives me very great pleasure to inform you that I came to a very amicable settlement with your Company for the damage caused thereby, on the following day (Saturday afternoon). I beg to tender you my best thanks for your kind and very prompt attention given to this matter, which was the means of saving me a vast amount of inconvenience, and I am happy to say, enabled me to resume my business on Monday morning following. I consider Mr. Hopton and his staff are deserving of very great praise for stopping the fire as they did, otherwise it might have been very serious. Again thanking you for your prompt attention.

Yours faithfully,
F. MEDHURST.

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OF

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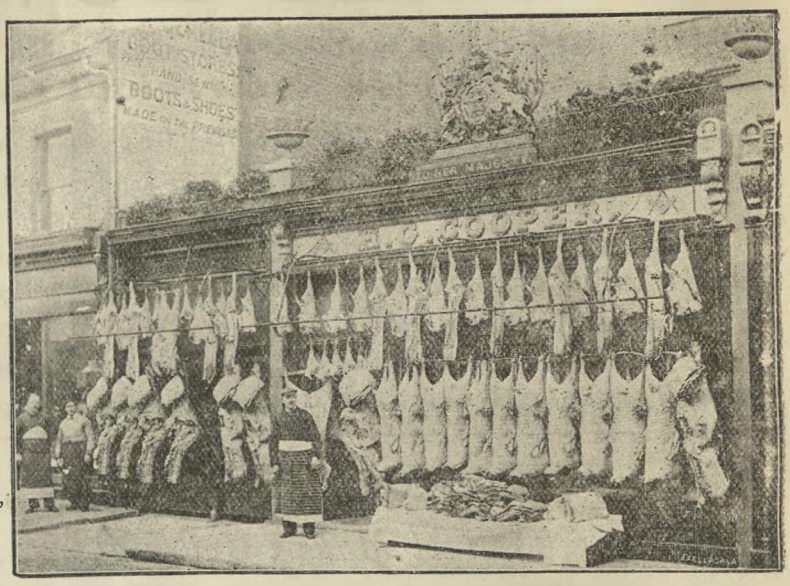

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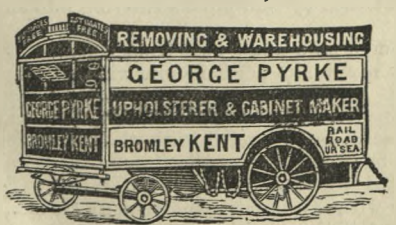

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The Company have opened a large number of Call Rooms in various Districts where the Public may speak to Subscribers connected with the Metropolitan Exchange System. A list of these Call Rooms will be supplied on application at the Local Offices.

Specially low rates quoted for Private or Direct Wires. Street Fire Alarms erected and maintained in connection with Fire Stations, Firemen's Houses, &c., &c.

Telephone and internal installations, with apparatus of the most approved patterns, erected and sold outright or maintained at a small annual charge.

Further particulars and information can be obtained upon application to the District Manager, 71, CHURCH STREET, CROYDON.

WM. E. L. GAINE, General Manager.

Head Offices: OXFORD COURT, CANON STREET, E.C.
February, 1896

NEW CARPETS.

BATCHELAR & SON,

LIMITED,

UPHOLSTERERS,

6, WIDMORE ROAD, BROMLEY.

ARE NOW SHOWING THEIR

NEW CARPETS.

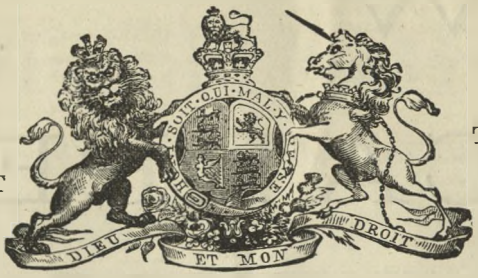
BATCHELAR & SON

LIMITED,

6, Widmore Road, Bromley.

Head Office, Show Rooms and Depository, CROYDON.

APPOINTED BY SPECIAL ROYAL WARRANT



SOAP MAKERS TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

SUNLIGHT & LIFEBUOY SOAP COMPETITIONS.

£66,156 in PRIZES OF CASH BICYCLES* WATCHES† BOOKS GIVEN FREE during 1897.

RULES.

1. Competitors may enter EACH or EVERY MONTH for EITHER or BOTH "Sunlight" or "Lifebuoy" Competitions, but must SEND IN the "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY" Coupons in SEPARATE PACKETS carefully marked on the outside of the postal wrapper "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY."

2. For this Competition the United Kingdom will be divided into 7 Districts, and the prizes will be awarded every month during 1897 in each of the 7 districts as stated below.

3. Competitors to save as many "SUNLIGHT SOAP" or "LIFEBUOY SOAP" Wrappers as they can collect. Cut off the top portion of each wrapper—that portion containing the heading "SUNLIGHT SOAP" or "LIFEBUOY SOAP" Enclose with these (called "Coupons") a sheet of paper stating Competitor's full name and address, and the number of coupons sent in, and forward same (see Rule 1.) postage paid to Lever Brothers, Limited, Port Sunlight, near Birkenhead, marked on the Postal Wrapper (top left-hand corner) with the NUMBER of the DISTRICT Competitor lives in, and the word "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY," whichever coupons the packet contains.

4. The competition will CLOSE the LAST DAY of EACH MONTH. Coupons received too late for one month's competition will be put into the next.
All parcels on which Postage has not been fully paid WILL BE REFUSED.

5. Competitors who obtain wrappers from unsold soap in dealers' stock will be disqualified. Employees of Lever Brothers, Limited, and their families are debarred from competing.

6. A printed list of winners in competitor's district will be forwarded to competitors in about 3 weeks after each monthly competition closes.

7. Lever Bros., Ltd., will endeavour to award the prizes fairly to the best of their ability and judgment, but it is understood that ALL WHO COMPETE AGREE TO ACCEPT THE AWARD of Lever Bros., Ltd., as final. LEVER BROS., Ltd., Port Sunlight, nr. Birkenhead.

No. of district.	NAME OF DISTRICT.
1	IRELAND.
2	SCOTLAND.
3	LONDON, MIDDLESEX, KENT, SURREY.
4	WALES, LANCASHIRE, CHESHIRE.
5	NORTHUMBERLAND, DURHAM, WESTMORLAND, CUMBERLAND, YORKSHIRE, ISLE OF MAN.
6	SHROPSHIRE, HEREFORDSHIRE, MONMOUTHSHIRE, STAFFORDSHIRE, WORCESTERSHIRE, WARWICKSHIRE, DERBYSHIRE, LEICESTERSHIRE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, OXFORDSHIRE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, BERKSHIRE, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, RUTLANDSHIRE, LINCOLNSHIRE, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.
7	NORFOLK SUFFOLK, ESSEX, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, BEDFORDSHIRE, HERTFORDSHIRE, SUSSEX, HAMPSHIRE, ISLE OF WIGHT, CHANNEL ISLANDS, WILTSHIRE, DORSETSHIRE, SOMERSETSHIRE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, DEVONSHIRE, CORNWALL.

PRIZES FOR SUNLIGHT COUPONS.

	Total Prizes in all Districts during 1897.
The **1** Competitor in each District who sends in the **largest number** of **Sunlight** coupons from the District in which he or she resides, will receive **£21 cash**	£1,764 0 0
The **10** Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number** will **each** receive, carriage paid, at **winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Helical **Premier** Bicycle,* with Fleuss pneumatic tyres, **price £21**	17,640 0 0
The **40** Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number** will **each** receive, **at winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Rolled Gold Watch,† **price £4 4s.**	14,112 0 0
The remaining **Sunlight** Competitors will **each** receive **Cloth-bound Books**, by Popular Authors, in the proportion of **1 Book** for **every 50 Sunlight** Coupons sent in	10,000 0 0
Total Prizes for Sunlight Coupons during 1897	£43 516 0 0

PRIZES FOR LIFEBUOY COUPONS.

The **1** Competitor in each District who sends in the **largest number** of **Lifebuoy** Coupons from the District in which he or she resides, will receive **£21 cash**	1,764 0 0
The **5** Competitors in each District who send in the next **largest number** will **each** receive, carriage paid, at **winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Helical **Premier** Bicycle,* with Fleuss pneumatic tyres, **price £21**	8,820 0 0
The **20** Competitors in each District who send in the next **largest number** will **each** receive, **at winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Rolled Gold Watch,† **price £4 4s.**	7,056 0 0
The remaining **Lifebuoy** Competitors will **each** receive **Cloth-bound Books**, by Popular Authors, in the proportion of **1 Book** for **every 50 Lifebuoy** Coupons sent in	5,000 0 0
Total Prizes for Lifebuoy Coupons during 1897	22,6 0 0
GRAND TOTAL of all Prizes given for Sunlight and Lifebuoy Coupons, 1897	£66,156 0 0

* These Bicycles are the celebrated Helical (Spiral) Tube **"Premier"** Cycles, 1897 Pattern, manufactured by the New "Premier Cycle Co., Ltd., of Coventry and 19 & 20, Holborn Viaduct, London, fitted with the Fleuss Tubeless Pneumatic Tyres, Lambeth Saddles and Accessories.

† These are 14-carat Half-Hunter Rolled Gold Watches, Jewelled, 4-plate.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The *Bromley Record* will be forwarded monthly, post paid, on payment of the annual subscription of Eighteenpence.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.—POSTAGE.—The *Bromley Record* (except when it contains a special supplement) can now be sent to any part of the world for one half-penny postage.

COPIES FOR BINDING.—Subscribers desirous of binding the *Record* can obtain uncut and unstitched copies.

BACK NUMBERS.—Back Numbers of a few issues can still be had on application at the office of the *Bromley Record* 14, Market Square.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISEMENTS. Page 30s
Half do. 16s. Quarter do. 8s.
Column: 1s. 6d. three lines, and 6d. per line after.
First Page: 2s. 6d. for three lines, 9d. per line after.
Servants wanting situations: under 20 words 1s.
Births, Marriages, and Deaths, 1s. each.

MOON'S CHANGES.—FEBRUARY.

New Moon, 1st, 8.13 p.m. | Full Moon, 17th, 10.11 a.m.
First Quarter, 9th, 7.25 p.m. | Last Quarter, 24th, 3.44 a.m.

The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

FEBRUARY, 1897.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30 a.m.
1st—M. Tivadar Nachez, violinist, at the Grand Hall, Bromley.
2nd—Meeting of Bromley Urban District Council, at Council Offices, 7.30 p.m.
2nd—Pianoforte Recital by Mr. Leonard Borwick, at Camden House, Chislehurst.
2nd—Convention of Workers at Bromley Wesleyan Church.
2nd—Miss Alice Borton's Concert at Queen's Hall, London.
3rd—Volunteer Ball at Bromley Drill Hall.
5th—Entertainment by the Black Hawk Minstrels at the Keston National Schools.
5th—Annual Meeting of Bromley Literary Institute, 8 p.m.
5th—Lecture by Lieut.-Col. H. Kilgour, at Bromley Drill Hall, on the "Advantages of the Army."
6th—South of Thames Junior Cross Country Championship Meeting at Oakley Park, Bromley Common.
6th—Meeting of the Inhabitants of Beckenham to start Local Relief Fund for Sufferers from the Indian Famine.
7th—*Fifth Sunday after Epiphany.*
8th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30.
8th—Bromley School Board meeting, Council Offices, Bromley, 8.0 p.m.
8th—Annual Meeting of Bromley Drill Hall Company.
9th—Scotch Concert, under the auspices of the Bromley Temperance Society at the Congregational School-room, Bromley.
10th—Madame Amy Beresford's concert, at the Bromley Grand Hall.
10th—Lantern Lecture, entitled "Bromley to North Wales," in connection with the Bromley Philharmonic Association, at the Drill Hall.
11th—Annual General Meeting of the Bromley Cottage Hospital, at the Parish-room, West-street, Bromley.
12th—Bromley Camera Club meeting, Science and Art Schools, Bromley.
12th—Addresses by Rev. Mark Guy Pearse at the Farwig Wesleyan Mission, Bromley.
12th—Bromley County Court, Court House, Bromley.
13th—Performance of "Married Life" by the Alexander Dramatic Club, in connection with the Bromley Centre of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, at St. Luke's Institute.
14th—*Septuagesima Sunday.*
14th—Bethesda Choir at the Farwig Wesleyan Mission, in aid of the Welsh Quarrymen.
15th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley 10.30.
15th—Morton's Pantomime "The Forty Thieves" at the Grand Hall, Bromley.
15th—Sale of plots of Freehold Building Land at Southborough, at "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, 7 p.m.
16th—Meeting of Bromley Urban District Council, at Council Offices, 7.30 p.m.
21st—*Sexagesima Sunday.*
22nd—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30 a.m.
22nd—Bromley School Board Meeting, Council Offices, Bromley, 8 p.m.
25th—Lecture on "An Evening with the Telescope," by Sir Robert Ball, at the Bromley Grand Hall.
26th—Bromley Camera Club Meeting, Science and Art School, Bromley.
28th—*Quinquagesima Sunday.*

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

The above authority met on January 5th and 19th. At the first meeting Mr. H. C. Bond took his seat for the Sundridge Ward, having been elected without a contest in the place of Mr. Hugh Tweedy, resigned.

LIGHT FOR BURGLARS.

Mr. John F. Pickering, of Camden Ridge, Southill-road, Chislehurst, wrote under date of 20th Dec., stating that as his house, situate at the junction of Southill and Cranmore-roads, was on the previous night attempted by burglars, and also recently on a former occasion, he was constrained most seriously to complain of there being only one lamp to light the two roads. There seemed no reasonable ground on the score of economy (considering the rating value of the above property) for neglecting the proper lighting of the locality. He therefore called upon the Board to so light the roads in question, or failing that to remove the solitary lamp, as it only acted as cover to burglars, who were able by its aid to watch the movements of the police, and it but served as a guide to them to the roads in question, which otherwise would not probably be found by them, if unacquainted with the immediate neighbourhood.

The letter was referred to the Highways Committee.

SUPERANNUATION OF OFFICERS.

At the same meeting of the Council a letter was read from Messrs. Baker, Lees and Postlethwaite, Secretaries to the Urban District Councils' Association, stating that a movement was on foot to secure an extension of the provisions of the Act, providing for the superannuation of Poor Law officers, to the officers of local authorities. The President of the Local Government Board had received a deputation on the subject, and expressed his sympathy with the proposal, but had suggested that the views of the local authorities should be ascertained.

At the meeting of the Council on January 19th the General Purposes Committee reported in favour of the Bill for carrying out such a superannuation scheme.

MR. BOSANQUET AND THE COUNCIL.

At the first meeting of the Council Mr. W. H. Bosanquet wrote as follows:—

"I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 23rd inst., enclosing a copy of a letter from the Art Master, and also accompanying 20 engravings which I purchased as a gift to Bromley. I am glad to find that everyone who has spoken to me

about this matter has expressed surprise at the action of the Council. We will only hope that it will not be long before we have an Art Master capable of seeing that there may be some beauty and value in a work of art, even although it may not be of any use in the Art School. I am not sorry, however, to have brought out the fact that the Art Master is paramount in matters of this kind, and that the Council are unable to form any opinion of their own as to whether they should accept or refuse a gift to the town of considerable value."

Mr. Davis remarked that it was a curious letter, but it was like others which came from the same quarter. The engravings were offered to the Council with a very strong expression from Mr. Bosanquet that if they were of no use to the School he would be quite willing to receive them back, and they acted on what they thought was a very kind option given them by Mr. Bosanquet. It was quite right that the Art Master should be supreme in matters of art; it would be an absurd thing for members of that Council or other people, who had no special knowledge, to set up their own opinions against that of the Art Master. The question was not whether those engravings were valuable or not —they might be valuable to some people—but whether they were of use to the students in the Science and Art School. He had had pretty good experience in art matters, and was very much disposed to agree with the Art Master. He very much doubted whether engravings of any kind were of any use to the students: they might be ornamental for walls, and of use to those who had money to spend on frames, which the Committee had not got.

A New Fire Brigade.

At the next meeting the Fire Brigade Committee reported:

They have received from the Surveyor a report and estimate of cost of two schemes for the constitution of a Fire Brigade for the district of Bromley.

The first scheme provides for the headquarters of the Brigade remaining at the "White Hart" Hotel, as at present, and the second scheme provides for the headquarters being in the yard at the rear of the Council's Offices, West-street.

Each scheme provided for four different types of engines, varying from a 100 gallons manual fire-engine to a 360 gallons double cylinder steam fire-engine, and after the most careful consideration your Committee have resolved to recommend the Council to adopt the scheme numbered 2b in the Surveyor's report.

By this scheme it is proposed to provide a 260 gallon double-cylinder steam fire-engine, and to erect a building 18 feet by 18 feet with hose-drying tower, together with a living-room and kitchen for the accommodation of the Engineer, in the yard at the rear of the Council's Offices in West-street.

It is also proposed to erect a stable for the accommodation of two horses at night time, as arrangements could be made for the employment of two of Messrs. Tuff's light horses, suitable for fire-engine work.

The money required for the purchase of the engine could be obtained by loan spread over a period of ten years, and for the erection of the buildings a loan could be obtained for a period of thirty years, while the necessary hose and uniforms would, of course, have to be provided for out of the current rate.

It may be pointed out that in dealing with the annual expenditure the Surveyor has based the cost on the assumption that the Brigade would be manned by volunteers, and it appears that there would be no practical difficulty in obtaining the services of an efficient volunteer brigade if the whole of the internal administration of the Brigade be left to the control of the Captain, who would be responsible to the Council for its efficiency, and it is suggested that the Brigade should be composed of one captain, or superintendent and twelve firemen.

Eventually a recommendation to adopt the scheme, subject to the details being further considered by the Fire Brigade Committee, was adopted.

The Water Purchase Bill.

At the same meeting of the Council Messrs. Baker, Lees and Postlethwaite wrote, forwarding copies of the Kent Water Board Bill, and the Kent Water Works Purchase Bill, drawing particular attention to clauses 24 and 27.

Mr. Davis enquired the character of those clauses.

The Clerk said the clauses dealt with the supply in districts without London, and gave power to the London County Council, on the one hand, and the Kent County Council, on the other, to agree to various matters, including the sale or transfer of so much of the main water-pipes to local authorities as were exclusively appropriated to the distribution of water in their particular districts, together with the rights and powers to supply water and make charges; and the sale of any other part of the undertaking, or the lease of any part and the supply of water in bulk to a local authority. The Clerk also pointed out in connection with the Kent Water Board Bill that the constitution of the Kent Water Board, under section 6 of the Bill, provided that it should consist of 4 representatives for Beckenham, 4 from the Bromley Urban District Council, &c.

No further action was taken in the matter.

Telephone Wires.

Mr. O. W. Stevens, District Manager of the National Telephone Company, wrote, stating that as it would be necessary for his Company, at an early date, to erect several cables and wires within the jurisdiction of the Council, he wrote to inform them, should the Council prefer to have these wires placed underground, that he would be glad, as far as possible, to meet their wishes in the matter. These wires were, of course, for the accommodation of the inhabitants of the district, and to give communication with the various exchanges in and around London. In order that the matter might come formally before the Council he applied for permission to lay pipes from the Company's Office, 13, East-street, to a point at the corner of the Town Hall, in the Market-square. From the Town Hall, along High-street, crossing the overline bridge at Bromley-station, and thence to Westmoreland-road, as far as the jurisdiction of the Council extended. From the Town Hall to Church-road, crossing the Recreation Ground, and following paths by the side of the Ravensbourne river to Beckenham-lane, and from thence passing under Beckenham-bridge.

Mr. Mallett remarked that it seemed to be a rather important matter, and it was certainly desirable that they should get as many of the wires underground as possible.

At the meeting of the Council on Jan. 19th, the Highways Committee reported they had read the above-mentioned letter from the National Telephone Company, and recommended the Council to give their consent to laying such underground pipes, &c., on the following conditions, viz.:—

That no manholes be allowed in carriage drives or roadways.

That a rental of one guinea per annum be charged for the pipes crossing the Recreation Ground.

That the Council be relieved from all responsibility in respect of any damage which may be occasioned to the pipes from steam-rollers or any heavy traffic of the Council.

That the whole of the work be carried out under

the supervision and to the satisfaction of the Surveyor.

After some discussion the reception of the report was postponed.

A PROTEST.

Mr. W. A. Dickinson, of 34, Aylesbury-road, wrote:—"I enclose a memorial to the Council containing 205 signatures, against the proposal to erect a public urinal, above ground, immediately opposite the new Post-office, at the junction of East-street. The Rev. A. G. Hellicar, of Bromley, T. C. Dewey, Esq., four medical men, the Postmaster, and the overwhelming majority of the tradesmen in the heart of the town, have signed the memorial, and if time would have permitted hundreds more signatures could easily have been obtained.

Copy of Memorial.

"The respectful memorial of the undersigned ratepayers and inhabitants of the town of Bromley, in the County of Kent, sheweth.—1. That your memoralists have observed with regret that it is the intention of the Bromley Urban District Council to erect an unsightly urinal immediately opposite the handsome new Post-office, now nearing completion in West-street. 2. That your memorialists think that a far better and more central position for such a public convenience would be in the Market-square, where there is far more space than at the junction of East-street and West-street. 3. That in any case the structure should be erected underground, on the pattern of the urinals now in use in the City of London, both on account of occupying a less conspicuous position and of greater public decency. 4. That your memorialists trust that for these reasons your honourable Council will see fit to alter their plans to meet these reasonable views."

The Chairman said it was a very important memorial, and he suggested that the consideration of it should be adjourned until the Council received the report from the Local Government Board. As soon as they got that they could consider the matter.

Mr. Mallett remarked that an underground convenience would be very costly.

It was decided to defer consideration of the memorial until the Local Government Board's report is received.

At the next meeting the following letter was received from the Secretary to the Postmaster-General:—

Sir,—It has been reported to the Postmaster-General that the Urban District Council at Bromley have it in contemplation to construct a public urinal in front of the new Post-office building, which is now approaching completion, and if that is true, I am directed by His Grace to ask the Council to be good enough to reconsider the matter with the view of placing the convenience in some other position. I am to point out that a considerable amount of public money has been expended upon the new Post-office, which will be used by a large number of the inhabitants, including women and children, who would have to pass the convenience, which also would be overlooked by the windows of the Post-office, where women are employed. And further, East-street, which runs from the new Post-office to the South-Eastern Railway Station, is a narrow and busy thoroughfare, and there will be some interference with the punctual transfer of mails. Under these circumstances, I am to express His Grace's hope that the Council will be able to find a more suitable place for the urinal.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, A. M. MACKINTOSH, Secretary.

WHITEHALL RECREATION GROUND.

At the meeting on Jan. 5th, Mr. Tom Gascoyne wrote, asking when the Council would renovate the Recreation Ground, situate in Bloomfield-road, which, he said, was in a most disgraceful state.

At the next meeting the Recreation Ground Committee reported that it appears that a sum is provided in the estimates for the current half-year for carrying out certain works of levelling, &c., and your Committee recommend that the Surveyor be now instructed to put the work in hand, and that Mr. Gascoyne be informed accordingly.

Upon the proposition of Mr. Lawrence, seconded by Mr. Gilbert, the report was adopted.

THE QUEEN'S REIGN.

At the meeting of the Council on Jan. 19th, the Chairman (Mr. Grinsted) said he wished to say a few words in asking the members to consider what steps, if any, that Council should take in celebrating the diamond jubilee reign of Her Majesty the Queen. He had not had an opportunity of discussing the matter with any of the members, so that he did not know their views on the subject. He thought, however, some effort should be made on their part, and various things were suggested to his mind. Ten years ago, they would remember, the Queen's Mead was opened, though he did not suppose they would this year be able to do anything to such an extent as that, but he would like to see something done to commemorate the auspicious event, and it would, he added, be as well if he mentioned several things which he had thought of, in order that the members might bear them in mind. With regard to a recreation ground at Bromley Common he had always felt that if they could do anything in that large and increasing area to provide a recreation ground it would be a most desirable thing, as it seemed somewhat unfair for the ratepayers in that district to have to contribute, as they did, towards maintaining the present recreation grounds from which they received no advantage. If that scheme would not commend itself to the members, or was not thought desirable, there were other things, and he felt bound to say that the matter he had mentioned would require very grave consideration, considering the expense they had already incurred, as their recreation ground involved a good deal more expense than was anticipated. Among other proposals there was the provision of a house or home for the fossils presented to the Council by the late Mr. Ilott, in order that they might form the nucleus of a museum for Bromley. Then, some years ago, the old Local Board very seriously considered the erection of public baths and washhouses, but it fell through. It might be thought desirable that some effort should be made to build them. There was another thing which he also viewed with a certain amount of favour, and that was the erection of a clock and drinking fountain, but that, of course, was a smaller matter. and they might erect a clock in the Public Library. Those few matters suggested themselves to him, but he had a pet scheme of his own which he was afraid he could not ask the Council to consider; it was that he would like to see the old Norman tower of their Parish Church provided with a peal of chimes. That would be a most happy way of commemorating the event, but it was not a matter for the Council to entertain; it would have to be done entirely outside. They might, however, appoint a sub-committee to consider what steps should be taken to provide some scheme, if it was thought desirable, and, if not, to consider the provision of illuminations or any other temporary arrangements to celebrate the day. He hoped that in any case they would do that. and that they would give a dinner to the workmen and something possibly to the school children, but that could very well stand over for some few months. If anything permanent was to be done, however, no time should be lost in setting about it.

At the close of the Council, the matter was again brought up, and it was then agreed to hold a special meeting of the Council in Committee to consider the subject.

THE PRICE OF WATER.

The Highways Committee reported as follows:—Your Committee have had under consideration the letter received from the Secretary of the Kent Water Works Company, in reply to the application of the Council for a reduction of the charge for water supplied for road watering and sewer flushing under the agreement of the 28th August, 1878, together with the Return prepared by the Clerk of the charges paid by various local authorities around London, and think it right to call the attention of the Council to the fact that when such agreement was entered into between the late Local Board and the Company, the water was only required for road-watering, inasmuch as at that time there was no proper system of sewerage, consequently the whole of the water would be required during the summer months.

Now, however, a large quantity is used principally for sewer flushing between the 29th of September and the 25th of March, for which is annually paid about £160, and your Committee therefore recommend that the Company be again approached with a view to a reduced charge being made for the water supplied during the winter months which supply may then be taken to be in its normal condition.

Mr. Dickins urged as a reason for leaving the matter alone for the present, that the Surveyor had had an instruction to report as to whether they could not provide their own water for those special purposes, at least some of it. The scheme might be thought a wild goose one, but the more it was considered the more generally it seemed to be thought that there was something in it. If they found it practicable to supply water at a reasonable cost then they could go to the Water Company with that proposal before them.

GAS-TESTING APPARATUS.

The Highways Committee reported as follows:—In accordance with the authority of the Council, your Committee appointed a Sub-Committee to meet the Directors of the Bromley Gas Consumers Company at their works in order to discuss the question raised by Dr. Rideal in connection with the testing apparatus; and for the information of the Council the report of such Sub-Committee is submitted:—

Gentlemen,—We have to report that on the 11th instant, we attended at the works of the Bromley Gas Consumers Co., accompanied by Dr. Rideal, the Gas Examiner, together with the Clerk and Surveyor, to meet the Directors of the Company in order to discuss the question raised by Dr. Rideal as to the condition of the Statutory Testing apparatus.

We were shown the apparatus and had all the parts thereof thoroughly explained.

With regard to the complaint made by Dr. Rideal on the 1st ulto., as to his inability to make a test owing to the candle balance being out of order, this it appears was due to the dirty condition of the balance, but from the assurances we received, we do not think there will be any cause of complaint in that respect in the future.

Coming to the apparatus used and its general condition, we find that it is what is known as an "Evans' enclosed 100-inch Photometer," and, although not the most modern apparatus, is allowed by the Gasworks Clauses Act, 1871. This Photometer should be accompanied by a *proper* meter, minute clock, governor, pressure gauge, and balance.

Dr. Rideal admitted that he could get a test with the above apparatus, but could not be satisfied as to its accuracy, inasmuch as he did not consider the meter, clock, and balance to be "proper" within the meaning of the Act, as the meter and balance should be standardized, and a second clock should be added as a check on the minute clock.

After discussion the Directors undertook to meet these objections by having the meter and balance standardized, and supplying a second clock, which we recommend the Committee to agree to.

(Signed) DANIEL GRINSTED
ARTHUR A. WORLEY
SAMUEL H. GILBERT
EDWIN PEILL.

Your Committee recommend that the proposals contained in such report be agreed to.

The Clerk then read a letter from the Secretary to the Bromley Gas Company, stating that while they were not obliged to provide any other apparatus for testing purposes, they had, after consideration, decided in order to remove any possible source of contention between the Council and the Company, to order a new photometer, and so avoid the question being raised as to the proper testing of the gas in the future.

Mr. Mallett thought the letter was very satisfactory.

LOVE LANE.

In reference to the above subject the Highways Committee recommended that the Surveyor be instructed to make up the path from Holwood-road to the railway-bridge, and that the whole length of such path from Widmore-road to the railway-bridge be tar-washed at the proper time.

Mr. Davis enquired if the whole length of Love-lane was in proper condition to be tar-washed, or would it be necessary to execute any extensive repairs?

Mr. Mallett said the footpath from Widmore-road to Holwood-road was in fair condition, and could be tar-washed, but the other length of the path required considerable making-up. The cost altogether was estimated at £50.

In answer to Mr. Lawrence,

Mr. Worley said the total length was 700 feet.

Mr. Lawrence remarked that the proposal to tar the paths at Bromley Common had been rejected on account of the expense, and he did not think it right that they should spend that money on Love-lane, until the whole footpaths in the parish were considered.

SCARLET-FEVER PREVALENT.

Mr. R. G. Mullen, Clerk to the Joint Hospital Board, wrote, stating that owing to the number of scarlet-fever cases at the Hospital they had to temporarily suspend the admission of typhoid and diphtheria cases.

Dr. Codd also reported on this matter as follows:

Gentlemen,—For the last two or three weeks there has been an undue prevalence of scarlet fever in our district and, so far as I can learn, also in the Bromley Rural District. The total number has been increased by the occurrence of several cases in the same family, due to the first case having been overlooked, owing to its having been of a mild character. I have obtained from Mr. Bates a list of the milk vendors and their sources of supply, and I have by personal enquiry ascertained that there is no reason to suspect that there is any danger of an epidemic through contaminated milk or special infection in any of the schools in the district. The cases are scattered widely, and so far have occurred almost entirely among the poorer classes.

Mr. Davis said it was satisfactory to know that the cases were of a mild character, but there was a very large number of them in the district, and he wished to ascertain from the Clerk what

would take place supposing the Hospital should be quite full of scarlet-fever cases. What would become of those cases they wanted isolated?

Mr. Lawrence said, up to Friday last there were 84 scarlet-fever cases in the Hospital, but it was only a temporary arrangement that was made to send the diphtheria cases elsewhere. A temporary building had been completed, which would take 14 or perhaps 20 more cases, and it was hoped as the fever was of a mild type, that the patients might be soon transferred to the convalescent ward, so that there would be ample room for anything that might arise.

PROPOSED OPENING UP OF SHERMAN-ROAD.

A letter from Mr. J. Howard Moore and Mr. T. Bennett was read, asking the Council to again consider the question of opening up Sherman-road and Palace-road, and calling the Council's attention to the numerously signed memorial addressed to the Council on the subject in 1893. Anyone using the roads would, they believed, be impressed with the advantage to be gained by opening up the way in question and providing a short means of vehicular communication in the place of the present lengthy and roundabout one.

Mr. Bond said he had been in touch lately with the people living in that district, and it was a burning question with them. They were urgently in need of the improvement.

Mr. Mallett said, personally, he was in favour of it, but the difficulty was that it was so costly. There was a large number of houses built on the proposed site of the road, which would have to come down, and for that they would have to get a special order, and then have a Government inquiry, arbitration, and so on, involving such trouble and expense, that it was thought hardly worth while, considering the benefit to be derived. It was, however, quite worth referring to the Highways Committee again, and perhaps, as that Committee had been enlarged and improved, they might arrive at another conclusion.

This course was agreed upon.

THE WIDENING OF PLOUGH-HILL.

Mr. W. B. Prosser, Clerk to the Kent County Council, wrote, stating that the Sub-Committee could not recommend the County Council to repay to the District Council any part of the cost of acquiring the land for the widening of the main road at Plough-hill, or any part of the cost of carrying out the work, but could only recommend the Council to defray the cost of making-up the roadway when the piece of land had been acquired and thrown into the road.

The Chairman said they must be thankful for small mercies. It was quite as much as they expected, and their estimates were framed accordingly.

BROMLEY PALACE ESTATE.

The Clerk announced the receipt of a letter from Messrs. Radcliffe, Cator and Hood, solicitors to Mr. Coles Child. He explained that considerable correspondence had passed between them and Mr. Willett with reference to the conveyance of land for widening Homesdale-road, and Mr. Child's solicitors suggested in the letter that a fixed term of five years should be inserted in the conveyance as the period within which the Council would carry out the proposed work.

Mr. Dickins thought the proposed clause was a very reasonable one.

Mr. Gilbert said he hoped they would not be 5 years before carrying out the work.

The Surveyor remarked that the plans before the Council showed a large number of roads to be constructed for Mr. Coles Child, and one of those abutted on the piece of land referred to.

The Council agreed to the suggested limit being inserted in the conveyance.

THE INDIAN FAMINE.

Mr. Davis asked whether the Council proposed to take any steps towards forming a committee in the neighbourhood for the purpose of collecting subscriptions towards the Indian Famine Relief Fund. He did not know whether the Chairman had received any communication on the subject. He believed the Chairman of most public bodies had done so, and it seemed extremely desirable that there should be some central body in that district to whom people could send their subscriptions. If there was, he believed the money would soon flow in.

The Chairman said at present he had received no communication whatever.

Mr. Davis: Would you propose to take any steps to start it?

The Chairman: In that I should be guided by the Council.

Mr. Worley thought most of the churches would do something in the matter and people could give in that way.

Mr. Davis remarked that everybody did not go to church.

The Chairman said they might consider the matter in Committee.

THE WHITE HART CROSSING.

The Chairman drew attention to the state of the path in front of the "White Hart," mentioning that the letter to the proprietor had not been replied to and the position of matters was worse than before. It really was disgraceful and ought not to be allowed. He moved that a letter be sent to the solicitors to the Trustees of the property, asking them to take steps to remedy the defect.

Mr. Davis thought it would be a rather curious procedure for them to approach a firm of solicitors except through their solicitors, and then they ought first to make sure of their ground.

Mr. Dickins said they ought to find out their rights with regard to that unfortunate piece of land. He proposed that it be referred to the Highways Committee to find out the owner. He was sure the public at any rate had a right of user.

Mr. Mallett suggested that the Committee should be empowered to take counsel's opinion on the subject. The Committee could not determine a question of ownership of that kind.

Mr. Lawrence seconded Mr. Dickins' proposition —referring the matter to the Highways Committee —and this was carried.

CUSTODY OF OLD DOCUMENTS.

The Chairman brought forward the question of the custody of the Bromley Enclosure Act of 1821, and a map and award made in 1825, which had hitherto been vested in the Vicar and Churchwardens. He thought their custody should be transferred to the Council, as in consequence of the Parish Church being open every day there was now no secure place for keeping them. They were very valuable old documents, and it would also be more convenient for them to be in the Council's hands, as they were being constantly referred to. The Clerk had informed him that there was some little difficulty in the matter; if it was a Parish Council the Act was quite clear but it was not so clear respecting an Urban District Council, and he suggested that the matter should be referred to the General Purposes Committee. He, as a churchwarden, did not wish to shirk any responsibility, but he thought the time had arrived when the Council should keep such documents in a proper fire-proof safe. The little map and tithe apportionment might also be kept in some more secure place.

Mr. Mallett said there were many documents of great interest and value in their possession, and he suggested, in seconding the Chairman's motion,

that the Committee should also take into consideration the question of providing sufficient fire-proof accommodation.

The proposition was carried.

THE STATE OF THE ROADS.

At the first meeting a letter was read from Mr. W. Green complaining of the disgraceful condition of Southlands-road, particularly the Bickley-end. He had, he said, repeatedly called attention to the matter, but nothing had been done; and the lighting of the road was also very bad.

Mr. Wheeler Bennett said the road was in a horrible condition, but he understood that it was upon the schedule for being made up in its turn.

Mr. Gilbert said it was to be done in three sections.

The Clerk explained that it was one of the roads included in the loan applied for for private street improvements. Several of the owners wished to extend their payments over 5 years, which necessitated the raising of a loan, and the Council were now awaiting the sanction of the Local Government Board.

Upon the proposition of Mr. Dickins, the Clerk was instructed to send a reply to Mr. Green in accordance with the facts.

At the meeting on January 19th, Mr. V. B. Lennard wrote, calling the Council's attention to the condition of Sandford-road, and asking that the gullies might be cleared, as they at present constituted a sanitary nuisance.

A letter was also received on the same subject from Dr. Codd, who said he had visited the road and found large pools of liquid mud, chiefly due to the uneven surface, and its condition was distinctly insanitary.

The Clerk pointed out that this was a road in which the various owners had been written to, calling their attention to its condition. He did not know whether they proposed to do anything, and suggested that he should ask for a definite reply to his letter.

Mr. Davis moved that notices be served, calling upon the owners to make up the road to the satisfaction of the Surveyor.

Mr. Lawrence seconded.

Mr. Dickins moved, as an amendment, that the owners be sent a copy of Dr. Codd's letter and informed that unless the road was put into proper repair in a month, the notices—referred to by Mr. Davis—would be served.

After some discussion Mr. Davis's proposition was carried.

Mr. C. W. Gedney wrote, complaining of the condition of the approach roads to the Wharton-road Board Schools, which were, he said, in a scandalous state. The Council had for the past two years been making repeated promises to carry out the work, and from the date of their first promise the ratepayers living in the roads had been paying 6d. per week each towards the cost of the work. Were, Mr. Gedney asked, the Council waiting for that increased rent to accumulate before carrying out the work? The roads were, he concluded, alike a disgrace to the town and a scandal and reproach to the Urban District Council.

Mr. Mallett said Wharton-road had been under notice for repair for some time and was included in the list of roads about which an inquiry was held, respecting a loan, some five or six weeks ago. They were now awaiting the report from the Local Government Board.

Mr. Hutchings suggested that they should send a copy of Mr. Gedney's letter to the Local Government Board, marking it as a specimen of the letters the Council received in consequence of the delay.

A memorial, signed by 75 owners of property and ratepayers at Park End, was presented drawing the Council's attention to the condition of the roads in that locality, and requesting the Council to take into consideration the urgent need of adopting the roads under the Public Health Act of 1875. They pointed out that the owners were called upon to make up the roads in 1887 and in 1893 the Clerk reported that nearly all the apportionments were paid. Many other roads had during that period been adopted by the Council, and as the roads in question were now gradually getting into a bad condition, the memorialists asked the Council to take the matter in hand.

On the proposition of Mr. Davis, the memorial was referred to the Highways Committee.

THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

The Clerk read a letter from the Local Government Board, in reply to the Council's letter of November 13th, respecting the proposed re-appointment of Mr. M. Bates as inspector of nuisances The Board had given his case their careful consideration, the circumstances clearly being unsatisfactory, but had decided not to object to his present appointment, and accordingly approved of his appointment for another year, at a salary of £220 per annum. They asked, however, that prior to the expiration of that period they should be furnished with a copy of the resolution of the Council making further arrangements for the discharge of the duties.

THE GRAND HALL.

On this building the following report was received from the Highways Committee:—

Your Committee have considered the Surveyor's report in reference to the condition of the Grand Hall and a Sub-Committee has inspected such building.

It was found that a considerable leakage was taking place in the bath under the Grand Hall, which it would be desirable to remedy at once, so that the effect of the stoppage of the leakage of water might be noted during the ensuing summer and autumn.

It was also found that the fire-proof curtain worked with very great difficulty, and it is necessary that the counterpoise weights be better adjusted and the tackle, &c., be made to work easily, so that the curtain could be dropped readily in case of accidents, &c.

Your Committee think it right to point out that the result of the inspection confirms the report of the Surveyor that the building is for the time being, practically secure against public danger.

Under the circumstances your Committee, therefore, recommend that subject to the necessary works being carried out to the satisfaction of the Surveyor, a further license for nine months be granted by the Council, at the expiration of the existing license.

The last evening in the old year was commemorated at the Bromley Cottage Hospital, by a concert which was given by several local ladies. Among those who contributed to the enjoyment of the evening were Mrs. Chatterton, Miss Ilott, Miss Dewey, and Miss F. Burridge, who each contributed songs. Miss Burridge presided at the pianoforte, and Mrs. and Miss Reynolds gave several selections on the violin.

Mr. Thomas Narrien Crafer, of Bromley, one of the assistant secretaries to the Board of Inland Revenue, has been appointed secretary (Stamps and Taxes), in the place of Mr. W. H. Cousins, C.B., who has retired.

The Rev. N. Radcliffe, formerly curate of St. Luke's, Bromley, has been appointed to the living of Shoreham, Kent.

PLAISTOW VESTRY MEETING.

The annual vestry meeting of Plaistow for Burial Board purposes, took place at the St. Mary's National Schools, on Tuesday, Jan. 19th.

Mr. W. H. Bosanquet was appointed chairman, and among others present were Messrs. T. Lamb, H. W. Amos, Deacon, Webb, Ritherdon, Jones, Seaman, &c., and Mr. Carlyon (clerk).

The statement of accounts was read by the Clerk and showed that the year was started with a balance in hand of £27 18s. 4d., and the total receipts had amounted to £617 13s. 1d., while the total expenditure was £544 16s. 2d., thus leaving a balance in the Treasurer's hands of £72 16s. 11d.

Mr. Lamb, referring to the accounts, said the most important item was that of £395, received from the Overseers of Bromley, but in future, owing to the Agricultural Rates Act, which was passed in 1896, they would not receive so large a sum. The Act relieved agricultural land owners of half their rates, and though provision had been made by the Treasury to compensate other spending authorities for whatever loss they sustained in that way, Burial Boards had been omitted. Their Clerk had written to the Local Government Board on the subject, asking if he should make a return showing the amount lost to them, and had received an answer to the effect that there was no provision in the Act to make up the balance to Burial Boards. As the Act stood at present they would spend just as much as hitherto, but would not receive so much from the rates, and the consequence would be that they would have to make a higher rate. He thought the only way out of the difficulty was to approach their Member, pointing out the mistake, and asking him to bring the matter before Parliament.

Mr. Bosanquet asked if the Bromley Urban Council would lose by the Act?

Mr. Lamb: No, sir.

Mr. Bosanquet: I think we should certainly adopt the course of passing a resolution drawing the attention of our Member to this obvious mistake, and asking him to use his best endeavours to get the matter set right. I don't think, however, that we should stop there, but go to other authorities that are omitted, and ask them to kindly adopt the same course.

It was afterwards proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. H. W. Amos, and agreed, to write to Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P., drawing his attention to the mistake, and requesting him to use his best endeavours to get the matter remedied.

Another resolution to the effect that the Burial Board be requested to place itself in communication with other spending authorities affected in the same way, and asking them to join together in bringing this matter before Parliament, was also carried.

Messrs. Critchett and Bumstead were unanimously re-elected auditors, and it was resolved that the audit should take place in March.

Mr. H. W. Amos proposed a vote of thanks to the Auditors for their work in the past, and the proposition was carried by acclamation.

The next business was to elect two members in the place of Messrs. Ritherdon and Bond, who retired by rotation.

Mr. Webb proposed that Mr. Bond be re-elected.

Mr. Amos seconded, saying that it would be useful to have a Councillor on the Burial Board.

It was proposed and seconded that Mr. Seaman be elected a member.

Mr. Deacon then proposed and Mr. Lamb seconded the re-election of Mr. Ritherdon, and the proposition was supported by Mr. Webb.

Mr. Ritherdon said he was one of the originators of the scheme for the reduction of the burial fees in that parish, and he thought the matter was now reaching a climax, all the correspondence having been forwarded to the Archbishop. They thought it very unfair that the poorer members of the parish should have to pay such exorbitant fees for burial, and he thought they should see the matter through together as they had commenced it. That was the only reason he was anxious to be re-elected,

On the names being put to the meeting the voting was as follows:—

Mr. Ritherdon	22
Mr. Seaman	13
Mr. Bond...	11

The Chairman therefore declared Messrs. Ritherdon and Seaman duly elected.

The Chairman said he thought it only right, as Mr. Bond had not been re-elected, to thank him for his services, and he moved a resolution to that effect.

This was seconded by Mr. Seaman, and carried unanimously.

On the proposition of Mr. Amos, seconded by Mr. Lamb, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Bosanquet for presiding, allusion being made to the handsome gifts of bulbs which Mr. Bosanquet had forwarded for use in the Cemetery.

The services of the members of the Board were also similarly acknowledged, and this concluded the business.

BROMLEY SCIENCE AND ART SCHOOL.—The annual distribution of prizes and certificates to the successful students of the Bromley School of Science and Art, at the examinations held in April and May of last year, took place in the new Art Room, on Thursday, January 21st. The chair was occupied by Mr. T. Davis (Chairman of the Science and Art and Technical Education Committee upon the Urban District Council) and the presentation of the prizes was made by Mrs. Wheeler Bennett, while there were also present Messrs. H. J. Helm, G. Loly, W. R. Mallett, S. H. Gilbert, D. Randall (Art Master), T. F. Harris (Science Master), E. T. Godward (Clerk to the Committee), and others. The annual report showed that the number of students attending the Art School was 153, Science School 95, Technical Classes 235, and St. Luke's Art Classes 35. The actual passes in elementary subjects was smaller than in previous years, but the number in advanced subjects was greater. Mr. Davis addressed a few words to the students, and at the conclusion votes of thanks were accorded respectively to the masters and teachers, Mrs. Wheeler Bennett and Mr. T. Davis.

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE WORKHOUSE.—A pleasing entertainment to the old people and children of Bromley Workhouse was given on Wednesday, January 6th, and much appreciated by all. It was preceded by a good tea, served in the gaily decorated hall, at which many ladies and gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood assisted the Master and Matron, Mr. Gregory and Mrs. Grimsey, and the Officers, to make it a record party. Songs, &c., were afterwards given by Mr. W. Hole, Mr. S. Houlding, Mr. Nelson, and others, accompanied by Mr. Haylings. Signor Federico contributed some very clever conjuring tricks, and Mr. Filby greatly amused the audience with his clever ventriloquism. Dancing was also indulged in by old and young Miss Grimsey supplying the pianoforte accompaniments. Tobacco, beer, mineral waters, apples, oranges, sweets and biscuits were afterwards distributed, and at close three hearty cheers were given by mates to all who had so earnestly ad their enjoyment.

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RECORD PORTRAITS.

XVI.—MR. WILLIAM DIGBY, C.I.E.

A CHAT ON THE INDIAN FAMINE AND OTHER TOPICS.

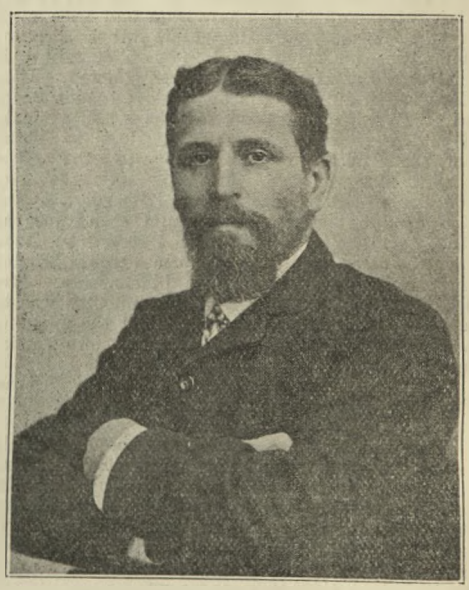
The presentation, as our "portrait" this month, of a sketch of the interesting career of Mr. William Digby, C.I.E., is peculiarly opportune by reason of the fact that the subject of it is very justly regarded as one of the best authorities on the Indian Famine question, which is to-day arousing world-wide attention and sympathy. Mr. Digby, we may here remark, has for the past seven years resided in this district, first at Beckenham and now in Bromley, but few are probably acquainted with the details of his life, which we have the pleasure of briefly recalling.

Born at Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, on May-Day, 1849, Mr. William Digby began life as a journalist on various country papers in the eastern counties, and eventually went southward as chief reporter of the "Sussex Advertiser," published at Lewes. In 1871 he accepted the post of sub-editor of the "Ceylon Observer," Colombo, where his ability and energetic nature were soon manifested in his close association with various efforts for the public weal. As the originator of a monster petition, bearing 33,000 signatures, in favour of curtailing the facilities for the sale of intoxicating liquors, Mr. Digby gained some prominence, and this effort resulted in an ordinance restricting the use of such liquors. He afterwards initiated an agitation which succeeded in bringing about the abolition of the revenue farming system, and, later, was the means of introducing science and art instruction into Government education in Ceylon. Simultaneously with these activities, Mr. Digby rendered valuable service with the pen, and for his able preparation of a pamphlet on "The Food Taxes of Ceylon," he was—in 1870—elected an honorary member of the Cobden Club About this time he was offered the editorial chair of the "Calcutta Review," over which many eminent men in India had presided, but he remained at his old post until the following year, when he was appointed to the editorship of the "Madras Times." He had not long set foot in that city before his kindly interest in all around him—so marked a characteristic throughout his whole career—led him to bring about the formation of a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

These efforts, however, beneficial though they were, sink almost into insignificance in comparison with the great work which Mr. Digby was able, a few months later, to perform. In July, 1877, the terrible famine in Southern India had reached an acute stage. when, through the instrumentality of Mr. Digby, a movement for the relief of the starving population was started in England, by a long letter, describing the awful sufferings of the people, which he addressed to the "Times."

The Government was then—as now, added Mr. Digby in conversation upon the subject—opposed to the interposition of private charity, but the appeal to England met with a magnificent response, a sum of about £800,000 being subscribed in all parts of the British Empire. Mr. Digby was appointed honorary secretary of this Famine Fund, and in this position did splendid service, his business capacity and untiring energy being invaluable in the discharge of the exceedingly onerous duties attaching to that office.

Of the fearful suffering and distress of the people Mr. Digby has, naturally, a very vivid recollection, and, indeed, the results of that visitation are still, in black and white, shocking in their magnitude. No less than five million persons in Southern India alone died from starvation, while, observed



Mr. Digby, the English private charitable aid saved about one million from the same sad fate, and, in addition, gave material help to a million more. As Mr. Digby has recently re-told to the public, through the medium of the daily press, the story of that grievous calamity, it is unnecessary for us to recapitulate more of the facts in this brief notice. Nor is it easy to get him talking on the subject. The horrors of the visitation he says gives him too much pain.

One or two remarks which Mr. Digby made, in alluding to the present calamity in India, are, however, of interest, coming, as they do, from one so well acquainted with the question. He is doubtful whether even now the people of this country adequately realise the intensity of the need, and pointed out that assistance in relieving the distressed and starving was, at the present hour, and, for several months, will continue to be, of far more moment than an inquiry into the economic causes of the famine. This could and should come later, and a searching investigation was needed. Possibly, Mr. Digby—and this is but a conjecture of our own—agrees to some extent with Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, the late "Member for India," in describing the existing economic drain as the principal cause of this disaster, and in feeling that the frequent famines of this century are a consequence of British rule.

Concerning the ultimate dimensions of the famine, Mr. Digby seemed somewhat hopeful, stating that though it extended over a larger area than was the case in 1877-78, he did not think it would cause so many deaths, inasmuch as the Indian Government had now a Famine Fund, and the appeal to the British people for private aid had also been made much earlier. He was, however, rather disappointed with the response, made up to the date of the interview, and did not consider the estimated contributions would be reached.

On the previous occasion, however, the deaths had reached three millions before the Mansion House Fund was opened. Referring to the special steps taken at that time to arouse public feeling, Mr. Digby pointed out that the Committee telegraphed accounts of the condition of things and what was being done home twice and afterwards once weekly, and he suggested this as a suitable course to be followed by those managing the present fund. One of the telegrams cost £60, and was thought by a member of the Committee to be a great waste of money, but time proved that it was not so, and it was afterwards calculated that each of the messages was worth something like £12,000 to the fund.

Concerning the distribution of the money, at first the Madras Committee made grants in response to appeals, but this was soon found to be insufficient, and money was afterwards allotted to the districts known to be suffering, and left to local committees to administer. Agriculturists received about two-thirds of the money, being thus enabled to retain their holdings, instead of having to go on relief works, and it was, he observed, surprising to find how little sufficed to save families from ruin.

Before returning again to the personal career of Mr. Digby, mention must be made of the public recognition he received when his arduous labours in connection with the Madras Famine Fund were at an end. Refusing, as he did, to receive any honorarium from the Fund, proffered him by the Indian Committee, his colleagues determined not to let the occasion pass without doing honour to one—to quote the words of Sir W. Robinson, K.C.S.I—whose "persistent and generous labours in behalf of a charity of untold benefit to the famine-stricken and distressed people of South India . . . . and whose earnest and faithful work and judicious advice and tact" had won the affection of all with whom he was brought in contact. Accordingly, as a small mark of their admiration and esteem, they presented Mr. Digby with a purse of 2,745 rupees; and shortly afterwards, on the suggestion of the Viceroy, Lord Lytton, Her Majesty the Queen conferred upon Mr. Digby the rank of Companion of the Order of the Indian Empire

In municipal affairs also Mr. Digby rendered good service, and just before his departure from India a movement was set on foot to secure for him the position of President of the Municipal Council of Madras. He was a Guardian of the Poor and in this department, too, his efforts gained gratifying recognition.

As an author and editor much might be written of the subject of our sketch, for some of his writings on social and politico-economic questions concerning India, are pieces of solid work, notably his two large volumes entitled, "The Famine Campaign in Southern India," and "Forty years of official and unofficial life in a Crown Colony," being the life of Sir Richard F. Morgan, Chief Justice of Ceylon. In the autumn of 1879 Mr. Digby accepted the appointment of editor and manager of the "Liverpool and Southport Daily News," and when, a year later, he transferred his energies to the editorial chair of the "Western Daily Mercury"—the leading Liberal paper in the West of England—he was presented with an illuminated address as a mark of the high esteem in which he was held by the Liberals and their appreciation of his able editorial work in connection with that journal. After two years Mr. Digby resigned his editorial charge of the "Western Daily Mercury" to become Secretary of the National Liberal Club in London, which post he held until 1888. He also acted as English representative for several Indian papers, and edited "India," the organ of the Indian National Congress. Mr. Digby, who, by-the-way, was for thirty-eight years a staunch teetotaler, has always been ready to aid by his pen or purse those suffering under grievances.

Respecting his political career there is much, if we judge rightly, yet to be fulfilled. Mr. Digby has twice stood as a Liberal candidate, at North Paddington in 1885, and at South Islington five years ago, but without success up to the present. In 1888 he founded the Indian Political Agency, and was, a year later, appointed Secretary to the British Committee of the Indian National Congress.

The above particulars will indicate what a wide and useful experience of life Mr. Digby has enjoyed and how well the opportunities afforded by it have been utilised. The present day finds him engaged in commercial pursuits, he being the senior partner in the firm of Messrs. W. Hutchinson and Co., East India merchants, agents and bankers. Mr. Digby makes no secret of the probability of his remaining in Bromley for some time to come. "I find," he says, "the education my boys are getting at Quernmore to be so good that I should be sorry for their sakes, to make a change."

NEW MUSIC.

We have received for review several songs, written by Miss Alice Borton, a local composer, whose publications, while both interesting and effective, are far above the average degree of merit. "Honey Sweet" and "White Sails," two songs published in Robert Cocks & Co.'s A.B. Series of Artistic Songs, and both well worthy of a place in the series. They are suitable for a soprano of moderate compass. "Red, White and Blue," words by A. Rossiter (Edwin Ashdown), a robust patriotic song for a bass or baritone, that should become very popular. "She loves me" (Edwin Ashdown), a very effective tenor song, which, although written in three-four time throughout, never becomes monotonous or common-place. "Thy Gift to me," also published by Edwin Ashdown, a musicianly setting for a baritone, of some words by G. Hubi Newcombe. All these songs afford good examples of the degree of art attained in ballad composition at the present time.—

FORTISSIMO.

BROMLEY CONSERVATIVE CLUB BALL. — The annual ball, under the auspices of the Bromley Conservative Club, took place on Wednesday night, 20th ult., and passed off successfully. Over one hundred and fifty guests, including many of the principal supporters of the Conservative cause in this district, were present, and the arrangements worked very satisfactorily. The hall had been elaborately and tastefully decorated and arranged as a ball-room, and the floor was in excellent condition for the dancing, which was kept up with great spirit until the early hours of Thursday. The decorations were undertaken by Mr. Pyrke, and the appearance of the entrance to the hall was greatly improved by a covering of Indian matting, which the lessee, Mr. Morton, has had placed for the comfort of those who take part in gatherings at this hall. Mr. Thomas, proprietor of the "Duke's Head," supplied the refreshments.

DIARY OF JANUARY.

1st—Illustrated lecture, entitled "Through Shakespeare's Country," given by Mr. H. Snowdon Ward, at Bromley School of Science and Art, in connection with the Camera Club.

4th—Social gathering at St. Luke's Institute under the auspices of the Bromley Division, St. John Ambulance Brigade.

5th—Funeral of Mr. H. Draper, a well-known cricketer and umpire, of Bromley, at Bromley Cemetery.—Beckenham Choral Society's first concert of its twentieth season, at the Public Hall.

6th—Lecture at the Chislehurst Liberal Club, on "Nelson's Message to Modern England."—Conversazione of the Beckenham Abstainers' Union, at the Public Hall.—Fire at Stone Farm, Wickham-road, Beckenham.

7th—A horse-stealer, named Christopher Faithfull, sentenced to five years' penal servitude, at the West Kent Sessions, for horse-stealing at Bromley and elsewhere.

9th—Dramatic performance at St. Luke's Institute, in aid of the Day Schools.

11th—Annual meeting of the Bromley Chrysanthemum Society, at the Parish Room, West-street, when a very satisfactory report was presented.—The question of forming Chislehurst into an urban district was considered by the Parish Council, lengthy reports against and in favour of the proposal being submitted.—First business meeting of the Bromley and District Free Church Council held, when the Rev. T. Nicholson was appointed president for the year.

12th—Entertainment at the Village Hall, Bromley Common, in aid of the flower show sports fund.

13th—Mr. Justice Bruce presided over the annual meeting of the Bromley Naturalists' Society, held at the Literary Institute, when he was re-elected as President, and gave an interesting address on the astronomical events of 1896.—Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P., presided at a supper at the Bromley Conservative Club.

15th—Meeting of the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board, when it was reported that the Hospital was full of patients suffering from infectious disease, chiefly scarlet-fever.—Illustrated lecture on "The Application of the X Rays to Surgery," by Dr. Codd and Mr. Stanley Hawkings, at the Bromley School of Science and Art.

18th—Recognition service of the Rev. T. Eynon Davies, as pastor of the Congregational Church, Beckenham, at which a large number of leading Nonconformist ministers and laymen took part.

19th—Plaistow annual Vestry, when Mr. Seaman was elected on the Burial Board in the place of Mr. Bond.

20th—Bromley Conservative Club ball, at the Grand Hall.—Annual meeting of the Beckenham Y.M.C.A., at the Public Hall.—Concert at the Farnborough Board Schools, arranged by Mrs. R. G. Mullen.—Adjourned meeting of Chislehurst Parish Council, when the members decided, by the casting vote of the Chairman, not to entertain the proposal to form an Urban District.

21st—Mrs. Wheeler Bennett presented the prizes to the successful students in the various classes, at the Bromley School of Science and Art.—Orpington Cricket Club dinner.

22nd—Performance of "Judas Maccabeus," by the Bromley Philharmonic Association, at the Drill Hall.

23rd—Audit of the Bromley Rural District Council's and Board of Guardians accounts.—Annual meeting at the High School, Beckenham, of the Bromley Teachers' Association.

25th—Crystal Palace District Gas Company fined £5 and costs, at Bromley Police-court, for defective supply of gas at Beckenham.—Annual meeting of the Bromley Cycling Club, at the "Railway Hotel."

27th—Annual meeting of the Chislehurst Cycling Club.—Lecture on "Our Social Order, at the Chislehurst Liberal Club.

29th—Annual meetings of the Bromley Liberal Club, and of the Bromley Conservative Club.

BROMLEY CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY.

The fifteenth annual business meeting of members of the Bromley Chrysanthemum Society was held on Monday, Jan. 11th, at the Parish Room, West-street. Mr. P. C. Parr, the honorary treasurer, filled the chair until the arrival of the President, Mr. Coles Child, and among those also present were Mr. W. Weeks (the honorary secretary), Messrs. Amey, Blackburn, Eden, Filkins, Harvey, Heath, Jordon, Leadbetter, Legg, Lyne, Lees, Lyddiard, Marshall, Wheadon, Tapper, Stent, Payne, Pascoe (the members of the committee), and a number of ordinary members.

The Honorary Secretary read the annual report, which was as follows:—

The report which the Committee now lays before the subscribers shows that the Society has been exceptionally active during the past year. The income from all sources shows a decided advance upon that for 1895. A few subscribers drop off unavoidably from year to year, but their places have been filled, and the deficiency more than made good by fresh subscriptions. The unprecedentedly large amount taken at the doors of the show last year, has this year been exceeded by more than six pounds, and the receipts for advertisements in the schedule are well up to the average. At the same time it will be noticed that the expenditure of the Society has kept pace with the receipts. A revision of the schedule resulted in a substantial increase of the amount of money offered in prizes. The Committee see no reason to regret their liberality. Most of the subscribers, no doubt, have seen the show, which may therefore be left to speak for itself. But it may be put on record that the number of cut blooms exhibited was 50 per cent. greater than last year, and that the exhibition outgrew the limits of the Grand Hall, and overflowed into the anteroom. The opinion of the judges, men of wide experience in growing and judging chrysanthemums, was that the Bromley show was the best local show that they had seen. The Committee do not desire to accumulate a large balance; but they do wish to keep their reserve fund at a figure that will enable the Society to face a possibly unsuccessful season without apprehension. For the third time the Society competed for the National Society's trophy, and for the second time in succession failed to carry it off. They were beaten by the narrowest margin of points, and for the same reason as last year. The twenty-four Japanese blooms on the Society's board were pronounced by a competent authority to be the best exhibit, but when it came to the incurves it was obvious that the Portsmouth Society had an immense advantage. The Committee must therefore impress again upon members of the Society that, if the trophy is to be won under existing conditions, more attention must be paid to the cultivation of the less showy and less popular variety. This report would not be complete without an expression by the Committee, on behalf of the Society, of their grateful thanks to

Mr. A. G. Hubbuck, the tradesmen of Bromley, and Chislehurst, for the special prizes which they have offered for competition in this as in former years.

Mr. Parr submitted the treasurer's report, which he thought they would all agree with him, was satisfactory. They began the year with a balance in hand of £26 17s. 6d., and the receipts, including that balance amounted to £193 4s. 3d. They left off at the end of the year with a balance of £24 15s. 7d.

The election of officers followed, Mr. Coles Child, J.P., being re-elected president, while Mr. Edger was appointed joint hon. secretary with Mr. W. Weeks.

BROMLEY NATURALISTS' SOCIETY.—The annual general meeting of the Bromley Naturalists' Society was held at the Literary Institute, Widmore-road, Bromley, on January 13th. The Hon. Mr. Justice Gainsford Bruce (president) occupied the chair, and among those also present were:—The Rev. A. A. Scargill, Messrs. H. J. Tweedy, H. Wilson, A Rogers, G. M. Gunn-Ebbs, Rudolf Beer, C. J. Matcham, E. Baly, Parker Jeffreys, H. H. Mellon (honorary secretary), Yelverton, W. C. Bassett, and others. The eighth annual report was submitted and stated that nine new members had been elected during the year. The Special Committee continued to make steady progress in its work of compilation, and was this year publishing a list of the Macro-Lepidoptera. The Treasurer's statement of accounts was a very gratifying document, showing a credit balance of £10 19s. 2d. By donations, loans, and purchases some useful additions had been made to the Library, the total number of volumes being 133. The Committee would gladly receive any works of reference, either as gifts or on loan, from the members, and took the opportunity of tendering the Society's thanks to Messrs. E. Baly, R. Beer, E. Martin, A. Rogers, and H. Sandford for their kindness in this direction during the year. The attendance at the ordinary meetings continued to be such as to prove the great interest taken in the Society's proceedings, and in the papers contributed by the members. The conversazione which was held at the commencement of the year proved a most satisfactory, and evidently welcome, revival, and the Committee hoped to arrange another during the ensuing year. Various interesting excursions were made during the summer—Otford, Hayes and Keston Commons, and Maidstone being the districts selected. A new departure was instituted in having for guidance one of the members specially conversant with the branch of natural science to be studied, and the advantage was one which should be appreciated by the members, and the Committee felt confident that the best interests of the Society were served by such outings. Special mention was made of the visit to Maidstone, which being favoured with brilliant weather, was highly successful in every way. Thanks to the untiring efforts of Mr. Frederick James, F.S.A., the curator of the Natural History Museum of that Borough, the inspection of the numerous valuable and interesting objects deposited there was a source of great pleasure and profit to all who were present; as was also the subsequent visit to Leeds Castle, through the kind permission of C. Wykeham Martin, Esq. The Committee regretted to have to record the decease of Dr. J. J. Ilott, who, from the time of his election in 1888, until his death, ever took the liveliest interest in the Society's welfare, and was one of its most generous supporters. The Society's best thanks were again tendered to Sir Samuel Scott, Bart. and A. C. Norman, Esq., for their continued kind support. From the financial statement it appeared that the receipts amounted to £40 14s. 1d.; and a balance remained in hand of £10 19s. 2d. Mr. Justice Bruce was, in spite of his protest, re-elected president of the Society. The other officers were appointed as follows:—Vice-presidents: Mr. A. Rogers, the Rev. H. A. Soames, Mr. H. J. Tweedy, and Mr. H. Wilson: honorary treasurer, Mr. R. J. Webber; honorary secretary, Mr. H. H. Mellon; committee, Messrs. E. Baly, Beer, Crowhurst, Gunn, Kennard, Scargill, and W. C. Bassett (honorary reporter); and honorary auditors, Messrs. A. Hicks and — Ingall.

THE RONTGEN RAYS IN BROMLEY. — At the fortnightly meeting of the Bromley Camera Club held at the School of Science and Art on Friday, Jan. 15th, a very interesting and enjoyable lecture was delivered jointly by Dr. Codd and Mr. Stanley Hawkings on "The application of the 'X' Rays to Surgery." There was a large attendance.—Dr. Codd dealt with the progress of the rays from a surgical point of view from its discovery by Professor Rontgen in November, 1895, tracing in detail the various steps, and the work done by different experimenters. He quoted instances which had come under his own observation of time and pain saved through the application of the rays from radiographs which had been taken by Mr. Hawkings; and a number of lantern slides of these cases were shown on the screen. — Mr. Hawkings dealt more with the physical and practical aspect, demonstrated with the apparatus—the greater part of which was his own manufacture—and he made an interesting and successful experiment with the hand of the caretaker of the Science and Art School, the photograph clearly locating pieces of bullet embedded in the thumb and finger. Mr. Hawkings also made several other successful experiments, and at the close of the lecture showed his fluorescent screen, by means of which the company were enabled to have a passing view of their own bones.—Hearty votes of thanks were passed to the lecturers, on the motion of the Chairman, who referred to the good work the Camera Club was doing in the interests of science and photography.

ENTERTAINMENT AT BROMLEY COMMON.—On Tuesday January 12th, an entertainment was given at the Village Hall in aid of the Bromley Common flower show sports. There was a very large attendance and the room was prettily decorated for the occasion. A capital programme had been arranged and all the items were successfully rendered. They included in the first part a pianoforte solo by Mr. P. Ranson; song, "London Bridge" by Mr. T. H. Hills; humorous song, "The Cockney's Travels," Mr. Sam Houlding; song, "Jack's the boy," Mr. R. E. Veness; humorous song, "The argumentative man," Mr. C. E. West; mandoline solo, Mr. A. Day; humorous song, "The Piccadilly Johnnie," Mr. Will Hole; song, "The Wonders of the Deep," Mr. F. W. Morrison; and a humorous song, "The Unfortunate Man," by Mr. Sam Houlding The second part was equally enjoyable and consisted of the following pieces:—Pianoforte solo, Mr. P. Ranson; song, "The Deathless Army," Mr. R. E. Veness; humorous song, "Brown of Colorado," Mr. G. E. West; song, "Vanity," Mr. S. H. Hills; humorous song, "A thing he'd never done before," Mr. Will Hole; mandoline solo, Mr. A. Day; humorous song, "The same old story," Mr. T. W. Tyke; song, "The Old Soldier," Mr. F. W. Morrison; and a humorous song, "The Scientific Man," Mr. Sam Houlding. All the artistes were loudly applauded, and many encores were demanded, especially for the humorous songs. At the conclusion, Mr. Lyddiard expressed in a few

words his indebtedness to all who had taken part and said he hoped that the next flower show would be even more successful than last year.

OBITUARY.

DEATH OF MR. T. J. I. NETTLETON.—Death has removed a prominent figure from the Bromley Common district, in the person of Mr. Thomas James Ivery Nettleton, who passed away at his residence, No. 75, Bromley Common, on Friday, January 8th. The deceased gentleman, who was formerly engaged in a dry-salting business at Thames-street, came to Bromley Common in 1861, and soon manifested great interest in the spiritual welfare of the district. Subsequently the Bromley Common Mission Hall was opened adjoining Gravel-road, in consequence of the progress of the work, and with this place of worship Mr. Nettleton has ever since been closely and honourably connected, and invariably evinced the warmest interest in its welfare. The Sunday School was a department which claimed his special interest, and he was superintendent of the school for many years. The funeral took place at Bromley Common churchyard, when the coffin was of polished oak with brass fittings, and the breast-plate bore the following inscription:—

THOMAS JAMES IVERY NETTLETON,
Died 8th January, 1897,
Aged 60.

The chief mourners were Dr. and Mrs. F. B. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Plumbridge, Mr. and Mrs. William Plumbridge (daughters and sons-in-law), Miss Ida Nettleton, Mr. Herbert Plumbridge, Miss Conny Nettleton, Mr. H. Field, Mrs Allen, and Mr Samuel Nettleton The wreaths were very beautiful and included those sent from the following:—"From the Teachers and Scholars of the Bromley Common Baptist Sunday School," the members of the Bible Classes, Mr. and Mrs. Plumbridge and family, Miss Elsley, Messrs. Robert and Joseph Borwick, Messrs. H. and A. H. Davis, Mr. W. C. New, Mr. H. Harker, from "Ted and Minnie," the Misses Jones, Mr. and Miss Jones, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Bunen, Mrs. and the Misses Castleton, "from Lottie, Grace and Horace," Mr. and Mrs. Cooling, Mr. and Mrs. Brook, Mr. and Mrs. Whiteman, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Haines, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Plumbridge, Annie and Arthur Plumbridge, and Mr. and Mrs. West and others. Special memorial services were held at the Baptist Church, Bromley Common, the Sunday following the funeral. The funeral arrangements were in the hands of Messrs. W Smith and Sons.

DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN CRICKETER.—As briefly recorded in our last issue, on the last day of 1896, died Mr. Henry Draper, a cricketer well-known both as a player and as an umpire in the South of England. For the last ten years he had been proprietor of the "Star and Garter," High-street, Bromley, though he was much occupied as an umpire during the summer months. His remains were interred at Bromley Cemetery on Tuesday Jan. 5th, in the presence of a large company of the deceased's relatives and friends. The cortege, consisting of an open car and four carriages, left the residence at about two o'clock and tokens of regret and respect were manifested all along the entire route. At the Cemetery the last sad rites were performed by the Rev. J. M. Tamplin. The principal mourners were the widow, Messrs. William, Charles, and James Draper (brothers of the deceased), Mrs. Bertha Draper (sister-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. Bailey, and Mr. Harry H. Day; while among those also present at the grave-side were noticed Messrs. W. H. Bosanquet, J. Hopton, sen., W. Hopton, jun., W. T. Crossley, Garkins, C. Hewitt, and others (representing the Bromley Cricket Club), Mr. H. Wood (the well-known Surrey wicket-keeper), Mr. R. Abel (the celebrated batsman), Mr. S. Apted (the superintendent at Kennington Oval), Mr. J. Summerfield, Mr. J. Romary, Mr. Grubb, Mr. R. Fawsitt, Mr. M. Leavey, and others. The coffin, which was of polished oak, bore the following inscription —

HENRY DRAPER,
Died December 31st, 1896.
Aged 49.

Many beautiful floral tributes were sent, including a magnificent wreath from the Bromley Cricket Club, and one from the Surrey Cricketers, the Bromley Licensed Victuallers' Association, Mr. Albert Ferris, Mr. Arthur Eggleswood, Mr. Epps, Mrs. William Baxter, Mr. and Mrs. Ellis (Croydon), the Bromley Football Club, Mrs. Cook, Brother Jim and Cousin Harry, the Bromley Town Cricket Club, Mr. and Mrs. Archer, Mrs. W. J. Alston, Charles and Bertha Draper, Mr. Foxley (of Bickley), Mr. and Mrs. Hopton, Mr. C. P. Hewitt, and others. The funeral arrangements were satisfactorily carried out by Mr. Dunn, of Market-square, Bromley.

BECKENHAM.

BECKENHAM CONGREGATIONAL RECOGNITION SERVICES.—On the occasion of the recognition service of the Rev. T. Eynon Davies, the Pastor of the Beckenham Congregational Church held on Monday, January 18th, a large congregation assembled in the spacious chapel, whilst the platform was of a very strong and representative nature, a number of leading ministers and laymen, well known throughout the Union, being present. The chair was taken by Mr. Edwin Jones, J.P., of Chislehurst, in the absence of the Rev. J. Morlais Jones, ex-Chairman of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, who was too unwell to attend. There were also on the platform:—Revs. Alex. Cowie, M.A., J. Ossian Davies, J. Morgan Gibbon, T. Nicholson, A. J. Palmer, Elwyn Thomas, W. Pedr Williams, Alden Davies, M.A., J. Benson Evans, R. Fotheringham, M.A., R. S. Fleming, M.A., W. Lewis, C. Lankester, B.A., E. J. Penfold, G. Lyon Turner, M.A., R. T. Verrall, B.A., G. S. Walker, J. Wardle, Mr. Arnold Pye-Smith, J.P. (Croydon), Mr. F. H. Searle and Mr. Smith (Church Secretary). The Chairman having given his introductory speech, an interesting outline of the church's progress was presented by Mr. J. Smith (secretary), and many of the gentlemen upon the platform also addressed the meeting.

"THE YELLOW DOOR," STUDIOS. — The monthly exhibition of works sent in for competition (in connection with the "Spenlove" Sketching Club) was held at the "Yellow Door" Studios, Church Hill, Beckenham, on Monday, the 18th ult., and again a most interesting collection of works was shown. The subjects for the month were as follows: Figure, "Sad News"; landscape, "A southerly wind and a cloudy sky"; animal, "Out in the cold." Messrs. T. Faber, N. Smith Wilks, and Owtram came first in order of merit, each study showing distinct originality and cleverness of treatment. This sketching club was founded by Mr. Frank Spenlove-Spenlove, R.B.A., for the purpose of encouraging original composition and his endeavours have been attended with most satisfactory results. Each exhibition has shown the competitors more and more the true value of such a sketching club, especially to the professional student. The competitions are not confined to students studying at the "Spenlove" School of Art, but are open to all comers, who receive the

same opportunities for winning the prizes awarded annually by the "Yellow Door" School. A prospectus containing full particulars of the competitions and rules relating to this sketching club can be had upon application to the Principal, "Spenlove" School of Art, Beckenham.

Beckenham Ladies' Golf Club.—In the competition for the monthly medal of this club the following scores were obtained:—

First Class

	Score.	Handicap.	Nett.
*Mrs. Powell	89	6	83
Miss A. Stephenson	91	3	88
Miss Horn	97	9	88
Miss M. Radley	108	18	90
Miss Stenning	107	16	91
Mrs. Porter	108	15	93
Miss K. Clarke	107	13	94
Miss J. Randell	105	11	94
Miss N. Roberts	122	16	105

Second Class.

Miss E. Ridpath	109	30	79
Mrs. Knight	109	20	89
Mrs. C. A. Elgood	116	24	92
Miss E. G. Stenning	116	20	96
Miss A. Rush	129	24	105

* Winner of gold medal.

Disguysed Minstrels at Beckenham.—An entertainment given at the Public Hall, on Saturday Jan. 9th, by the Disguysed Minstrels students past and present of Guy's Hospital, in aid of the re-endowment fund of that beneficent institution, proved a great success, the profits realising the handsome total of £31 5s. The hall was well filled, and the audience seemed to appreciate the free and easy nature of the gathering, the seats not being ranged in rows, but affording easy access to all parts and to the refreshment buffet. The programme consisted of songs and choruses by the troupe, which were without exception capitally rendered, Messrs. A. Hay and W. R. Cazenove being especially good in their songs. The choruses went remarkably well, the choir being augmented by a number of boys from the Newcomen-street Schools. Sketches were also contributed, and a new and original tragedy entitled "Hamlet, or the Dress Rehearsal," caused great merriment. A word of praise should be given the members of the orchestra for their useful assistance.

CHISLEHURST.

CANON MURRAY'S JUBILEE MEMORIAL.

On Wednesday afternoon, December 23rd, the new Sanctuary and Altar and their accessories, erected in Chislehurst Parish Church as a jubilee memorial of the Rector, the Rev. Canon Murray, were dedicated to the Glory of God and to the use of His Church, though legally all requirements were fulfilled by the licence sanctioning their use. The service was conducted by the Parochial Clergy, the Rev. T. S. Goudge dedicating the building, the Rev. J. F. Twist the altar and its ornaments, and the Rev. W. F. Armstrong the reredos. The Rector also was present.

The new erection marks a very beautiful addition to the church. The external work has been carried out to as nearly as possible match the other portion of the fine old church, viz., in flint and stone, and the whole work reflects greatly to the credit of Mr. G. F. Bodley, A.R.A., the architect. The reredos is of white alabaster, richly decorated The subject is the Annunciation, and the panels on either side are devoted to St. Augustine and St. Paulinus. The former holds a primatal cross, and the latter a pastoral staff. Immediately above the table runs the text in gilt letters, "He hath visited and redeemed His people." The reredos was made by Mr. Bridgeman, of Lichfield. The altar, which was made by Mr. Smith, the contractor for the external work, contains six new candlesticks, which are gifts from parishioners. A new altar cross is being designed by Mr. Bodley, the present cross being used only temporarily. The new east window, which has been executed by Messrs. Burlison and Grylls, of 23, Newman-street, Oxford-street, under the direction of Mr. Bodley, the architect, consists of three lights, with tracery, the centre light being taller than the two sides. The subject of the window is the Crucifixion—the figure of our Lord on the cross being in the centre, with St. Mary the Virgin on the left and St. John the Evangelist on the right. The figures are placed on richly draped screens. That in the centre over the figure of our Lord is held by an angel, which occupies the upper portion of the light. Under the figure of our Lord is the text, "Crucifixus est pro nobis." The tracery openings have ornamental treatment, mostly in white and gold. The two largest openings have roses on red grounds, surrounded by golden rays. The two new side windows in the new portion of the sanctuary are to be replaced by stained glass, Mr. Tiarks having promised that on the north side of the altar, and Mrs. Croshaw that on the south side. The probable subjects will be the Nativity and the Ascension. The roof of the entire chancel has been re-decorated, to tone with the new portion, the whole being effectively carried out in subdued colours. The paving in the sanctuary has been executed by the well-known firm of Messrs. Farmer and Brindley, of 63, Westminster Bridge-road. The new steps to the sanctuary and altar are executed in choice New Rosso marble, and the paving on the top is of the same material and cream-coloured statuary marble, a slab of the latter being also placed under the altar. The green marble circles in front of the altar are from Anglesea. The new covered way from the vestry, which has been erected by the Rector, was also opened on this occasion. The work has been executed in white stone, the entrance to the church being made through a disused doorway, which used formerly to lead to the old rood loft, and was later bricked up.

The Proposed Urban Council.—At a meeting of the Chislehurst Parish Council, on Monday, January 11th, the reports of the Committee of eight members, appointed in April last, to consider the question of the advisability of constituting the parish of Chislehurst an Urban District, were presented. The majority of the Committee—Messrs. Balme, Travers Hawes, Otway, Russell and Willis—reported against the proposal, and the minority—Sir P. Nickalls (subject to a rider), and Messrs. Bartlett and Pillman— in favour of it. The adoption of the majority report was moved by Mr. Balme and seconded by Mr. Otway, and as an amendment Mr. Bartlett moved the adoption of the minority report. A long discussion followed, the debate ultimately being adjourned until the following Wednesday, when, on a vote being taken, the amendment was lost by the casting vote of the Chairman.

Another step has been taken towards supplying Chislehurst with electric light, in the registration of a company for that purpose in the Joint Stock Company's office, under the title of The Chislehurst Electric Supply Company, Limited. The company is formed to supply the electric current for lighting purposes to the parish of Chislehurst. Its supporters are Mr. Richard B. Martin, M.P., Mr. Charles Balme, Mr. A. Travers Hawes, Mr. W. L. Thornton, Sir Patteson Nickalls, Mr. H. J. Hadrill, Mr. Edmund Charrington and Mr. Henry James.

"EN ROUTE TO CHINA."

(BY A BROMLEY LADY.)

Lying groaning in my berth on the first night of the voyage, it seemed to me that the principal characteristic of a P. & O. boat was noise. Every bar and beam seemed to creak and squeak, chains rattled and the water hissed against the side. My berth was next the partition separating the cabin from the passage, or gangway, I think they call it, and people seemed continually marching up and down, and generally stopping for a chat close to my side; no sooner did I close my eyes than some one's family history would be shouted (apparently in my ear).

"Poor little chap, it's 'ard to leave 'im, very 'ard, you see he's never 'ad no one but me, and I'm all the world to 'im."

Then an officer would address a Lascar: "This is only temporary, do you understand? Tem—por—ary." "Yussir, yussir," from the Lascar. From the saloon came the sounds of "O promise me," wailed in a high key, followed by the "Tom-tit," sung very slowly like a dirge. Then some-one thumped several tunes on the piano, with wrong notes in every other bar.

At last it did seem as though most of the passengers were going to bed, but it must have been past mid-night, when three or four men rushed roaring with laughter down the gangway, one tumbling against the thin board wall, on the other side of which I lay. I shut my eyes and lost consciousness for what seemed like a few minutes, when suddenly a pail was dashed violently down on my cheek, and some one began vigorously scrubbing my brain. Really it was the deck a few feet above, but I give you the impression. I should imagine that the whole ship was scrubbed, then probably the doors and portholes and very likely the chains, masts and rigging. Anyhow, the chains were tossed about, and I think they must have been gathered in a heap on the deck above my berth, and let fall, first separately, and then together, while a few cannon-balls were rolled about, lest it should be too quiet.

For the next two days the sea and sky may have been very beautiful to behold, but I did not observe them. The menus at table may have been varied and tempting, I know not. I do know that the ship seemed to be trying to stand on her head, first on one side and then on the other, and luggage of different sorts seemed to enjoy practising dancing all round the cabin, while the door flung itself with a violent bang against the head of my berth every few minutes, and my hamper full of glass and china leapt from a stand on to the floor, and repeated the operation with a hideous noise every time it was re-placed.

On the third day I struggled into the saloon and lay on a couch wrapped in rugs, studying the effects of light and shade produced by waves, reflected on a white ceiling, or drearily gazing at vast expanses of terra cotta table cloth, broken here and there by a crudely brilliant china flower-pot, bearing a weary looking palm. There are eight long tables in the saloon, surrounded by chairs on screws, with red velvet cushions, and a red velvet couch like the seat of a railway-carriage runs half way round the saloon. The white walls are relieved by peacock-blue curtains wherever there is any excuse for hanging a curtain, and all over the ship the peacock-blue curtain is ubiquitous. I don't mind the combination of terra cotta and peacock-blue in the saloon, but red velvet in close proximity is a little trying, and, alas, many of the flower-pots are bright yellow!

I wish that my thirteen year old brother were here to explain to me why the captain keeps altering the time, and makes the days longer or shorter as he likes. On Sunday we said "What a long afternoon this has seemed." "Yes," was the answer, "the captain made it half-an-hour longer, and put all the clocks back." If you ask the time someone will give you English time, someone else Irish time, and a third the ship time. I don't know which is right, but I am patriotic enough to hope that English time is alone really correct.

Never having seen a large ship before I had an idea that the decks on which people walked went right across the ship, and I am awfully disappointed to find that a deck is only a sort of wide passage down the side of the ship and that great ugly engines and things with high iron walls take up all the middle part of the whole ship. I thought the engines and masts were put away somehow at the ends. However, these few yards of well-scrubbed boards act as a recreation ground, a rendezvous, and a promenade. We sit there in groups all day, or march up and down in twos and threes. As we saunter to and fro in the evenings, I try to imagine that it is the Parade at Eastbourne, but my imagination is not vivid enough to conjure up a band, and instead of an ever-changing panorama of faces there are only two or three dozen, whose very expressions I am getting to know by heart.

The species known at home as "the British blue-jacket," "honest jack tar," &c., is conspicuous by his absence and I only see one or two specimens now and then. Instead are numbers of Lascars, queer brown creatures, appallingly thin. They seem to have no shoulders and no hips, their arms almost grow out of their necks, their joints form queer angles when they walk, and their feet are not put on quite straight. They walk about with their heads forward, in a rather deprecating and apologetic manner, as if they know how badly they are made. They make me think of grasshoppers, and I can't help wishing they could be padded. They do not walk firmly and steadily from the hips, but sort of wobbily, somehow moving their spine with an action like a worm when he lifts himself out of the earth and looks about. Most of them have short black hair on the lower part of their faces, but this hair does not grow near their lips, or hang over it like an Englishman's, it leaves the lips in a sort of island of skin, which makes their mouths look even bigger than they naturally are, and Nature has not made them small. Most of these Lascars wear very shabby coats, and trousers, evidently made for men of decent breadth, and so they fasten them on with straps and strings. On their heads are a curious sort of turban, very dirty, and generally partly red. There is a good deal of difference in the tint of their skins, but I am inclined to think that the duskier hues are caused by coal dust rather than a difference in nationality.

I am anxious to discover which are the officers of the ship, I do not know for certain, but I think that they are English men in blue, speckled with brass buttons, and wearing gold braid somewhere on their costumes. I mentally distinguish these individuals from the passengers and other men by their self-consciousness. If I have pitched upon the right men as officers their self-consciousness is even more conspicuous than their brass buttons. There is a man now marching slowly up and down the captain's bridge, and gazing self-consciously at the passengers below. In a few minutes he will pause and look self-consciously at the sea, and darkly frown. But he is not the worst by any means, for there are comparative and superlative degrees in official self-consciousness, and this man is only positive.

Since we left England we have only stopped once, and that was at Gibraltar. Gibraltar is a dark mass, sparkling with tiny points of light

below, and rising into deep shadow above. I wish I could give a better description of it, but we arrived there after dark, and left by starlight. The straits are lovely, low blue hills on either side of the sea, now rising into sharp points of rugged rock, now leaning languidly on each other. We gazed first at the African side, and then at the Spanish side, and both seemed equally beautiful. No sooner had we anchored than little boats came along side, and agile brown men climbed on deck with fruit and flowers for sale. "Ver good oranges, ver cheap, ver sweet, only von sheellin." Very good they are, but not very cheap. I have bought the same quantity for fourpence at home. However, no one seemed to mind that, the oranges were all sold and the flowers too, and those who did not buy enjoyed the picturesque scene of the sale, the electric light flashing on the masses of golden fruit, and the careless piles of flowers white and violet. The eager, vivacious sellers, the buyers, merry and interested, but not unconscious that in all probability they were being swindled.

Since I wrote the above I have been in fairyland, and spent three glorious hours in an enchanted country. The magician who transported me thither was a black-haired olive-skinned man with gleaming dark eyes and white teeth, and the vehicle a boat, a sort of gondola, all green, in the stern of which the magician and his comrade stood, face to face and pulled strange oars in a weird fashion. They took us past rocky terraces and white palaces, to the foot of wide stone steps, where, I must confess, the glamour which surrounded our magician was somewhat rudely torn aside, for he did his best to cheat us, and make us pay more than the sum agreed upon, and shouted and gestulated, and followed us—not with blessings. From the sea, Malta is lovely, and Valetta is even more quaint and pretty than it looks from the water. The streets are narrow and paved with stones, and the houses on either side are high and quaintly irregular, painted white, with picturesque balconies and green lattices, and the whole effect is Moorish, and makes one dream of old romances. The Maltese are of an Oriental type, with those great dark eyes which one associates with those born under sunny skies. The very beggars wear their rags gracefully and stand, or sit, or lean in most charming poses—poses, for which an English professional model would have to be drilled for hours. The women wear a black silk mantilla, with one side over the head, forming a sort of stiff wide hood. The place swarms with priests, most of them very fat, and nearly all rather dirty, but they do not look out of place, they make part of the picture. Some of the streets are so steep as to look almost perpendicular, and the pavement forms wide steps. From the wider streets narrow courts run to right and left, with here and there a glimpse of blue sea at the end. The highest point is called, I think, St. Peter's Curtain; it is a sort of open square, not far from the barracks, and there, leaning over a stone wall, one can see right across the harbour, the shore curving in and out in blue bays and inlets, and watch the little boats busily plying to and fro from the ships lying at anchor to the landing stages, and look to left and right over the white roofs—as un-English a scene as one can well see. The English soldiers, walking among the people, or marching in step to the music of a band, seem to blend well enough; they do not Anglicise the atmosphere of the place, which throws its spell over them, and their buff uniforms add a note of colour not too emphatic or vehement.

St. John's Church is a lovely old building. The interior has too much richness of colour to be really conducive to a devotional spirit, at least so it seems to one accustomed to Westminster Abbey. There is no "dim religious light" in St. John's Church, but gilding and painting, pictures all over the roof, and a general effect of gorgeousness. There is a picture said to be by Michael Angelo, of the beheading of John the Baptist, a very striking piece of work, and a small picture of the Annunciation, by Fra Angelico, in which the face of the Virgin is exquisite. I should have liked a longer time to study it, but the guide wished us to observe the gate and pillars of solid silver, placed in the church when Napoleon removed the precious gate which is said to have been made entirely of gold. Alas, all good things come to an end. Time and tide wait for no man, and ships will not wait for passengers. We had to be back at the appointed time, and leave our fairyland, to find our ship more like a demon's land, covered with coal dust, with decks as black as ink.

Children, and lovers of merriment generally, will be glad to see that Mr. Morton is going to bring to Bromley his Greenwich pantomime, "The Forty Thieves," with scenery and fittings complete, for the week commencing Feb. 15th. This is a class of entertainment which is very rarely to be seen without a journey to London, and we believe the importation of it to the Grand Hall means a great expense to Mr. Morton, which may be taken as evidence that it will be in proportion worth seeing.

THE RAINFALL.—The rainfall for December, as measured in Widmore-road, Bromley, amounted to 3.24 in. Rain fell on 22 days, the largest amount registered in one day being .62 in., on the 4th. For the corresponding month last year the fall was 2.53 in. The rainfall for the year reached the total of 25.51 inches, thus striking a mean between the two previous years, it being 20.73 in. in 1895, and 30.18 in. in 1894.

HAYES.

THE HAYES GRAVEL QUESTION.—At the meeting of the Bromley Rural District Council on January 1st, a letter on the above subject was received from Mr. E. A. Hambio, J.P., stating that at a meeting of the Conservators of Hayes Common (of which body he is the Chairman), held on the 22nd December, the taking of the gravel from Hayes Common by the Bromley Rural District Council was considered and the Conservators came to the conclusion that they were willing to consider any proposition from the Rural District Council, based upon the following condition:—1. That the gravel should be dug from a fresh pit that the Conservators will set apart for the digging of gravel by the Highway Authorities. 2. That the Bromley Rural District Council would contribute towards the expense of rendering the old pits safe, in accordance with the provisions of the Highways Act of 1835. 3. That the working of the new pit should be carried on in strict conformity with the provisions of the Highways Act of 1835; that is to say, that the Highway Authorities would do all that is necessary to render the pits safe during working, and would, when taking of the gravel ceases, as nearly as possible, restore the surface to the original condition. This was, of course, without prejudice to the position of the Conservators, should the Bromley Rural District Council take further proceedings before the Magistrates to obtain an order. The Clerk said the letter had been fully considered by the General Purposes Committee, and they recommended that the proposal should be agreed to, the details to be considered afterwards. —This was agreed to.

The Sunday School children assembled under the direction of Miss Stuart, Miss Brett, and the Rev. G. F. Matthews on Jan. 7th, at the schools, and after a good tea had been given them, the prizes were distributed, and a clever conjuring entertainment given by Mr. Nigel Smith.

KENTISH CASTLES.

MALLING.

At West Malling there still exists an ancient building known as St. Leonard's Tower, which is remarkable as being one of the earliest military towers constructed in England after the departure of the Romans. Although not generally known as one of the castles of Kent, it is really a most important member of the series. It is almost all that remains visible above ground of the residence of Bishop Gundulf, and may fairly be considered one of the earliest Norman keeps in existence in England.

The tower, which is shown in the accompanying sketch, stands upon a ledge of sandstone rock, which juts out from and forms the east side of a short narrow valley or combe, about a quarter of a mile south-west of the parish church of West Malling. The castle was defended on its western side by the narrow valley which opens upon one of the tributary streams of the river Medway.

From the excellent account of this early castle given by Mr. G. T. Clark, in his "Mediæval Military Architecture in England," we find that the tower is a very plain rectangular structure of the early Norman type, about 32 feet square at its base, about 60 feet high on its northern and eastern faces and about 70 feet on the two other faces; the difference being produced by the inclined surface of the rocky shelf on which the structure is situated. The tower is flanked at the end of each face by a pilaster strip which rises from the plinth, and each adjacent pair meet and cover the contained angle. At three of the angles these strips have a projection of six inches and they are 3 ft. 6 in. wide, reduced by two sets-off to 2 ft. 6 in. at the base of the parapet, into which they probably died. The pilasters covering the north-east angle are broader and of greater projection in order to accommodate a turnpike stair, which rises from the base to the roof, and was once crowned by a square turret. It is open to doubt whether there were turrets on the other corners, but if there were, they were doubtless of smaller size.

The west face of the tower has another pilaster, 3 feet broad, which rises from the plinth but stops at the level of the uppermost floor, at the base of the window, of which it forms the sill.

There are no windows in the basement, but there is one quite plain round-headed doorway, which once led into the lowest apartment. This passage, which has long been walled up, opened on the top of the rock and probably was approached by an external wooden stair which must have been ten feet high.

All the floors were of timber but as far as can now be seen there are no traces of fire-places, mural chambers, or galleries, and as the walls are eight feet in thickness it is probable that this part of the Bishop's residence was primarily intended for defensive uses rather than comfort.

The early character of the work is indicated by the rudeness of construction, yet the masonry is very sound and solid. It is clearly the original work, and does not appear to have been ever repaired or even pointed. The building has for this reason a special value to those who desire to study the precise methods of working adopted by the masons who reared the massive Norman keeps in England. The material employed is of local character. The stones are laid in the wall pretty much in the same state as they were brought in from the quarry, of all shapes, but rarely containing more than a foot cube. The work is roughly, but decidedly coursed, with a slight tendency to the herring-bone pattern. The chiefly noticeable characteristics are very open joints and the free use of mortar. Quoins and window-dressings are of a tufaceous ashlar, with wide joints.

As already indicated, St. Leonard's Tower is only a portion of the castle or episcopal residence which once stood here. The other parts of the building lay to the north-east and east, where the ground forms a tableland a little above the level occupied by the tower or keep; but what those buildings were, what their extent, plan, and date, are questions which could only be determined by a careful excavation of the site, for, with the exception of a short piece of curtain wall projecting eastward, a few yards from the south-east angle of the keep, and traces of some rather extensive earthworks, nothing remains to tell the story of this interesting old building.

MEREWORTH.

Mereworth Castle is, or rather was one of those buildings which once figured among the defensive structures of the county, and when the necessity of such defences no longer existed, it was replaced by a modern house, to which the old name continued to be applied. At the time of the Domesday Survey, Mereworth was part of the possession of Hamo de Crevequer, who was vicecomes or sheriff of Kent until his death, which happened in the reign of Henry I. This place gave name to an ancient family, of which Sir William de Mereworth, one of that line, was with Richard Cœur de Leon at the siege of Ascalon. John de Merewith held the manor in the beginning of the reign of Edward II., and during a portion of the reign of Edward III. he was sheriff of the county, and resided at Mereworth Castle.

From this it is evident that a castle existed here in the riegn of Edward III., if not earlier, and from the importance of the family of Mereworth it is highly probable that it was a building of some size and strength. Very little information, however, is obtainable about the earlier building, and save for the fact that it is said to have been an embattled building and surrounded by an ancient moat, there is little to be recorded regarding it.

The present mansion is a seat built after the plan of Palladio, designed by a noble Vicentine gentleman, Paolo Almerico, an ecclesiastic and referendary to two Popes, who built it in his own country, about a quarter of a mile from Venice, in a situ-

ation pleasant and delightful, and nearly like this at Mereworth; being watered in front with a river, and in the back encompassed with the most pleasing risings, which form a kind of theatre, and abound with large and stately groves of oak and other trees; from the top of these risings there are most beautiful views, some of which are limited and others extensive. Mereworth Castle is surrounded by a moat as the older building was, and has four fronts, each having a portico, but the two side ones are filled up. The hall, which is in the middle, forms a cupola, and receives its light from above. It is formed with a double roof, between which the smoke is conveyed through the chimneys to the centre of it at the top. The wings are at a small distance from the body of the house, and are elegantly designed. The basement is occupied by the kitchen and the various rooms for the servants.

In the front of the house is an avenue cut through the woods, three miles in length, towards Wrotham Heath. This was constructed at great expense by Lord Westmoreland.

It may be added that the present building of Mereworth Castle has at least one claim on the attention of the archæological world, for it was here, on the 19th of September, 1857, that the Kent Archæological Society may be said to have had its birth. Upon that occasion the Viscount and Viscountess Falmouth invited a few friends to Mereworth Castle for the specific purpose of laying the foundation of an Archæological Society for the County of Kent. The result has been the formation and growth of the present flourishing association known as the Kent Archæological Society.

Births.

CHUBB.—On the 18th Dec., Chevender, Chislehurst, the wife of E. Geoffrey Chubb, of a daughter.

COOK.—On the 24th ult., at Byfield, Bromley, Kent, the wife of P. Inkerman Cook, M.D., of a son.

GRIFFITH.—On the 18th Jan., at Nutfield Villa, Plaistow, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Frank Griffith, of a son.

HELLICAR.—On the 31st December, at 12, Palace-grove, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Evelyn A. Hellicar, of a daughter.

MORRISH.—On the 19th Jan., at 6, Kemerton-road, Beckenham, the wife of Reginald J. Morrish, of a son.

TAPP.—On the 2nd January, at Coverdale, Bromley-park, Kent, the wife of Arthur Tapp, of a son.

Marriages.

SAUNDERS—SOMERS-CLARKE. On the 7th Jan., at St. Cuthbert's, Philbeach-gardens, South Kensington, by the Rev. Henry Westall, M.A., Godfrey Wadham St. George, son of W. Sedgwick Saunders, M.D., F.S.A., of 58, Onslow-gardens, S.W., to Sybil Katherine, second daughter of the late G. Somers-Clarke, F.R.I.B.A, of Cockspur-street, W.C., and Chislehurst, Kent.

STEWART—WHITLOCK.—On the 6th Jan., at St. Nicholas Church, Coogee, Sydney, New South Wales, William Angus Stewart, of Glasgow, to Amy Florence, second daughter of the late George Whitlock and Mrs. Whitlock, Bromley, Kent.

Deaths.

BROWN.—Dec. 27th, at Nervion, Shortlands, Kent, Sir John Brown, J.P., D.L., late of Endcliffe Hall, Sheffield, aged 80.

CHAPMAN—On the 20th Jan., at Keston House, Keston, Kent, Amy Sawyer, fifth daughter of the late Henry Chapman

COOKE.—On the 2nd January, at Upton Lodge, Beckenham, Eliza Charlotte, widow of Charles Northcote Cooke, aged 85 years.

COOPER.—January 26th, at Coniston, Cedars road, Beckenham, Mary Finch widow of the late John Cooper, of Blackheath, aged 72.

HOLLAND.—On the 21st Jan., at 29, Wood-lane, Highgate, Mary Louisa, second daughter of Wilmot Holland.

LITTLEHALES.—On the 12th Jan., at Sherbrooke, 8, Rectory-road, Beckenham, Eldred Harry, third son of the late Dr. Littlehales, of Winchester, aged 69.

NORMAN.—On the 23rd January, at Bromley Common, Kent, of pneumonia, Archibald Francis Wake, younger son of Archibald Cameron and Mildred Norman, aged seven months.

PARR.—On the 3rd January, at Bickley, Charles Chase Parr, eldest son of the late General Thomas Chase Parr, of H.M. Bombay Army, aged 49.

SOMERVILLE.—Dec. 28th, suddenly, Stafford Baxter Somerville, of Bromley, Kent, and 48, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London, solicitor, son of the late Lieutenant John Somerville, R.N., Kt. T. and S. (Portugal), aged 74 years.

WILLIAMS.—Dec. 28th, at Sandfield, Chislehurst, Ellen, widow of the late Geo. Harvey Williams, M.D., aged 85.

WRIGHT.—On the 6th Jan., at Ivanhoe, Sidcup, Marianne, wife of Freeman Wright.

FUNERALS.—J. HUMERSTON, Undertaker and Appraiser, 17, East Street, Bromley; Upholsterer and Cabinet Maker. rc132

MONUMENTS, HEADSTONES, CROSSES, in Stone, Marble, or Granite. Imperishable Lead Letters, &c.—W. HINCHLIFFE, Mason, London Road, Bromley, Kent.

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Notices.

BROMLEY COTTAGE HOSPITAL.—The Annual General Meeting of the Subscribers will be held at the Parish Room, West Street, on Thursday, 11th February, 1897, at 5.30 p.m.. to receive the Report, and adopt the Accounts for the past year.

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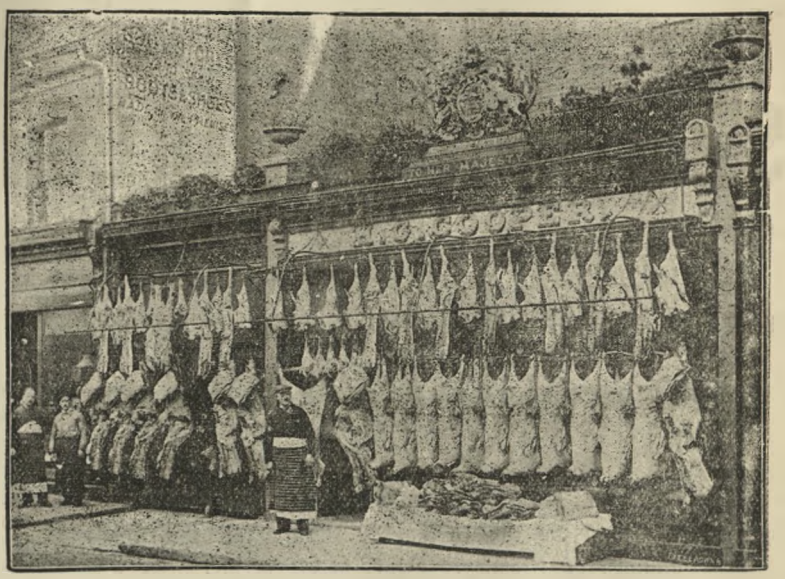

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ANTIQUE CLOCK CASES, CANDELABRAS, VASES, &c., RESTORED.

Agent to the Royal Exchange Fire and Life Office. A large participation in Life Profits.

H. G. DUNN,

Upholsterer, Cabinet Maker, Undertaker & Appraiser,

ESTIMATES FREE OF CHARGE.

REMOVALS TO ALL PARTS.

Manufactories and Store Warehouses

PARK ROAD AND MARKET SQ., BROMLEY.

20, MARKET SQUARE, BROMLEY, KENT.

JAMES R. POCOCK,

THE NURSERY, BROMLEY, KENT,

(NEAR BROMLEY COLLEGE).

AS the Season for Planting has now arrived, J. R. P. invites those about to do so to pay a visit to his Nursery, to inspect his Collection of

Young Well-Grown Healthy Trees, Shrubs, and Roses,

And having been recently moved are now in good condition for transplanting. He has also a good Stock of BORDER, ALPINE, and BULBOUS ROOTS, and supplies every article requisite for the garden.

Certificated by the Society of Arts and the Royal Horticultural Society of London.

NEW GARDENS MADE AND PLANTED BY CONTRACT OR OTHERWISE.

Do you want a Servant?
Do you want a Situation?
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Do you want to Sell anything?
Do you want to take Apartments?
Do you want to let Apartments?
Have you Lost anything?
Have you Found anything?

If so ADVERTISE in

The Bromley Chronicle,
The Beckenham Chronicle,
The Chislehurst Chronicle.

SPECIAL PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS

Of the above class are inserted in the above-named

THREE PAPERS AT THE PRICE OF ONE PAPER.

A splendid chance is thus offered to Advertisers of securing a wide publicity.

SCALE OF CHARGES:

Twenty Words .... **6d.**
Twenty Words *(for Three Weeks)*.... **1/-**

And so on at the rate of **3d.** for every additional **8** words.

No such favourable offer has ever before been made to the General Advertising Public, as will be easily seen when it is stated that the population among which the Three Papers circulate is about

60,000

VIZ :—

Population of	Bromley, about	25,000
„	Beckenham, about	25,000
„	Chislehurst and Mottingham, about	7,000
„	Surrounding Villages, about ...	4,000

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY AFTERNOON

PRICE ONE PENNY.

May be ordered of the Publishers at the "CHRONICLE" Offices, 14, Market Square, Bromley, and Railway Bridge, Beckenham, Kent; at Messrs. W. H. Smith & Sons, Railway Bookstalls; and all Newsagents.

TELEPHONE No 9517

BROMLEY LITERARY INSTITUTE,

99, Widmore Road, Bromley.

President :—RIGHT HON. SIR JOHN LUBBOCK, Bart., M.P.

Founded 1846. **Founded 1846.**

SUBSCRIPTION.

To Annual Members - - -	Twelve Shillings & Sixpence.
Subscription for Two Members of the same Family - - - - - -	One Guinea.
Each Additional Member - - -	Seven Shillings & Sixpence.
To Quarterly Members - - - -	Three Shillings & Sixpence.
Monthly Tickets to Non-Residents - -	One Shilling & Sixpence.

PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP.

Members are entitled to the use of the Library and Reading Room, with the privilege of introducing as a Visitor to the Reading Room, any friend NOT RESIDING in the district.

Members are eligible to join any Classes which are, or may be, connected with the Institute, on payment of a small additional subscription.

Members are also admitted to Lectures, &c., at reduced prices. This privilege, however, may be occasionally withdrawn.

THE LIBRARY,

Containing upwards of 6,500 Volumes, is open daily (except Sunday, Chris Day, Good Friday, and Bank Holidays) from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. for the issue of Books.

THE READING ROOM

Is open Daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and is furnished with all the principal

Newspapers, Weekly and Monthly Periodicals.

BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER.

LAND AGENTS,

Farm, Timber and General Valuers, Surveyors,

HOUSE AGENTS & AUCTIONEERS,

UNDERTAKE VALUATIONS of FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD ESTATES, and all kinds of PROPERTY for SALE either by AUCTION or PRIVATE CONTRACT.

MORTGAGES arranged; also Railway and other Compensations, Dilapidations, Division and Apportionment of Tithe Rent Charge.

Special attention paid to the Management of LANDED ESTATES, including LETTINGS, Collection of Rents, Tithes, and Valuations of Tenant Right.

PREPARATION of PLANS, Superintending the Erection or Repairs of Buildings, the Laying-out of Estates, Planting, Draining, &c.

VALUATIONS and SALES of FURNITURE and FARMING STOCK; also of GROWING TIMBER and UNDERWOOD; and all kinds of work carried out incidental to the Superintendence and General Agency of large or small Estates.

A MONTHLY LIST is published of LOCAL RESIDENCES,

also one of Country Houses and Estates to be Let or Sold (Furnished or Unfurnished) in the Home Counties and elsewhere, Free on Application; also a separate List of Farms.

AUCTION SALES will be held at the MART, TOKENHOUSE YARD, E.C., on the following days during the year 1897. Sales will also be held on special days when required:

Wednesday, February 3rd	Wednesday, June 16th	Wednesday, September 15th
Wednesday, February 24th	Wednesday, June 23rd	Wednesday, September 22nd
Wednesday, March 10th	Wednesday, July 7th	Wednesday, October 6th
Wednesday, April 14th	Wednesday, July 21st	Wednesday, November 10th
Wednesday, May 5th	Wednesday, August 4th	Wednesday, December 1st
Wednesday, May 19th	Wednesday, August 18th	

Sales of LOCAL PROPERTIES take place at frequent intervals at the "BELL" HOTEL, BROMLEY.

OFFICES:—BROMLEY AND BECKENHAM, KENT,

AND AT

69, KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Agents to the Sun Fire and Life Offices; Burglary Insurance; Railway Passengers' Plate Glass Assurance, &c.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, E. Strong and Sons, 14, Market Square, Bromley, Kent.

THE

BROMLEY RECORD

AND

MONTHLY ADVERTISER.

No. 464. MARCH, 1897. Price One Penny.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER'S
Special
LOCAL REGISTER
(Published on the 1st of each Month)
contains reliable particulars of almost every available property to be Let or Sold situate in the undermentioned favourite districts of

WEST KENT:

Bromley	Cudham	Knockholt
Beckenham	Downe	Orpington
Bickley	Farnborough	St. Mary Cray
Chislehurst	Grove Park	Shortlands and
Chelsfield	Hayes & Keston	West Wickham

Gratis on application. Particulars inserted free.

CHISLEHURST. — A Detached Residence, with stabling and grounds, suitable for medium establishment. Rent £160.

BROMLEY.—Valuable Building Land in undeniably good positions. Advances to builders. Moderate ground rent.

BROMLEY.—"St. Martin's." — Comfortable Villa, with good accommodation. Rent £50.

ORPINGTON.—A Bijou Cottage with good garden, four bedrooms, two sitting rooms, offices, &c. Rent £55.

BROMLEY. — A delightfully well-built Detached Modern Residence in charming grounds, near to station, gravel soil. Price freehold £2,300.

CHISLEHURST. — Occupying a pleasant position, close to station and near Common. Well-arranged Detached Residence, standing in grounds of about half-acre. Rent £96.

BEXLEY.—In the beautiful neighbourhood of the Crays, a fine old Baronial Mansion and park-like lands of 16 acres. Rent £400.

BICKLEY.—Ten minutes' walk of two stations. A beautiful Residential Property, embracing a substantial and well-arranged Residence in grounds of 5¾ acres. Rent £300

BROMLEY.—Conveniently arranged Detached Residence. Good accommodation and nice garden. Rent £90. Price freehold £1,800.

SHORTLANDS —Well-built double-fronted Detached Residence. Good garden. Rent: unfurnished £100 per annum; furnished 5 guineas per week.

DARENTH.—Desirable Family Residence, overlooking Darenth Valley. Stabling. Grounds of 7½ acres. Rent £110.

FAWKHAM.—A well-built and comfortable Residence. Stabling for four horses, &c. Well-established grounds of over 12 acres. Rent £150.

ST. MARY CRAY.—Well-built Detached Family Residence. Stabling for five horses. Large garden. Rent £120.

Further details and fuller particulars, together with orders for viewing the above can be had of Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper,

10, MARKET SQUARE, BROMLEY,

and Beckenham, Kent, & 69 King William Street, E.C.

BROMLEY SCHOOL OF MUSIC, 5, Aberdeen Buildings, High Street, Bromley (branch of the Beckenham School of Music and Art, Established 1883.) President: The Duke of Fife, K.T. Vice-Presidents: Sir Arthur Sullivan, Mus. Doc.; Prof. C. Villiers Stanford, Mus. Doc., D.C.L.; Prof. Joseph Joachim, Mus. Doc. Examining Visitors: Miss Fanny Davies, Sir Walter Parratt, Mus. Doc., Walter Macfarren, Esq., Otto Goldschmidt, Esq., Josef Ludwig, Esq. William Shakespeare, Esq. Director of Studies: Arthur O'Leary. Fifty eminent Professors, selected from the Royal Academy of Music, Royal College of Music, Guildhall School of Music, &c. Thirteen Scholarships and Prizes offered annually. Fees from £1 11s. 6d. per term of 12 lessons.

Particulars by letter to the Secretary, or personally on WEDNESDAYS from 2.0 to 4.

BECKENHAM SCHOOL OF ART, 10 and 11, The Parade, Beckenham. Director of Studies and Visiting Examiner: John Brett, Esq., (Associate of the Royal Academy). Art Master: Mr. Oscar Tolhurst. Particulars by letter to the Secretary, or personally at Beckenham, on Wednesdays from 9.30 to 12.30.

MADAME AMY BERESFORD. Professional Vocalist, gives lessons in Singing; particular attention given to correct production of voice, and clear enunciation. Terms for Concerts, 'At homes,' and lessons, apply to "Simla," The Avenue, Bickley.

MR. F. FERTEL (Organist and Choirmaster Bromley Parish Church) gives lessons on Pianoforte, Organ, Singing & Harmony. Holmcroft, Holwood Rd., Bromley.

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"THE YELLOW DOOR" Studios,
(near Ry. Stations). BECKENHAM.
Principal and Director:
Mr. FRANK SPENLOVE-SPENLOVE, R.B.A.,
(by Royal Charter) Royal Academy, Paris, &c.

THIS SCHOOL is one of the most important in England, and is instituted for highest class MODERN training in all branches of Drawing and Painting, Figure (from life), Landscape, &c. Also "BLACK and WHITE" for Illustration. SPECIAL JUNIOR Classes. Prospectus upon application.

MISS OLIVIA B. HARVEY (Advanced Senior Honours, Certificate, London College of Music) gives Lessons in Pianoforte, and Harmony. Engagements accepted for Concerts, At Homes, &c. Highest references from parents of pupils. Address, 42, Freelands Road, Bromley, Kent. rp342

DRAWING AND PAINTING in Oil and Water Colours, and Sketching from Nature. Miss Davis gives Lessons in the above. For particulars, apply at No. 1, Elmfield Park, Bromley.

BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.—Y GARN, Ravensbourne Road, Bromley. Principals: The Misses Hurst, assisted by certificated governesses. Pupils successfully prepared for Exams. Preparatory Class for little Boys.

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OF UNRIVALLED REPUTATION.

4/- PER BOTTLE.

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THIS WHISKY IS FROM A VERY OLD ESTABLISHED FIRM IN SCOTLAND, WHICH HAS ENJOYED FOR MANY YEARS A HIGH REPUTATION FOR THIS PARTICULAR BLEND. GUARANTEED PURE HIGHLAND MALT, AND TEN YEARS OLD.

G. PAMPHILON & SON,

WINE MERCHANTS,

BROMLEY, KENT.

Established 1775.

FACSIMILE OF LABEL.

48/- PER DOZEN.

MELLOW, SOFT & FINE FLAVOR COMBINED.

G. PAMPHILON & SON,

WHOLESALE & FAMILY WINE MERCHANTS.

ILLUSTRATED REVISED CASH PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

Champagnes. *per doz*

Louis Pamphilon, Epernay 1889 Vintg. 60/-
Ditto ditto extra quality 78/-
Pol Roger ..... 1889 vintage
Piper-Heidsieck..... 1889 ,,
Bollinger..... 1892 ,,
Ayala Extra Quality..... 1887 ,,
Giesler, 1st Quality .....
Mumm, G. H. & Co.....
Louis Roederer..... 1892 ,,
E. Irroy & Co., Carte D'or 1892 ,,
Pommery & Greno ..... 1892 ,,
Heidsiecks Dry Monopole 1889 ,,
Perrier Jouet, P D.C. .....

Market Prices

Specialites for Invalids.

Champagne in Quarter Bottles.

Louis Pamphilon, Cuvee Reservee.. 18/-
Louis Pamphilon, extra quality 24/-

Other Sparkling Wines

Asti Spumante (Italian) 36/-
Saumur 36/-
Sparkling Burgundy, 1st Quality ... 60/-
Ditto Hock 54/
Ditto Moselle 54/
Half Bottles, 6/- per 24 extra
Single Bottles same rates.

Still Hocks.

	per doz. bot.	*per doz. half-bot.*
Laubenheimer	18/-	11/-
Nierstein	24/-	14/-
Erbacher	30/-	17/-
Hochheim	36/-	20/-
Liebfraumilch	42/-	23/-
Marcobrunn	56/-	30/-
Red Hock	42/-	

Australian Wines.

	per doz.	*per bot.*
Sauvignon	16/-	1/4
Branxton Cabernet	21/-	1/6
Tintara	26/-	2/2
Riesling (White)	24/-	2/-
Highercombe (White)	30/-	2/6

In Quart Flagons.

Red & White Burgundy 30/- 2/6
Tintara and Ophir..... 42/- 3/6
6d. each allowed for Flagons when returned.

Italian Wines

	per doz.	*per bot.*
Vino da Pasto	12/-	1/-
Valtellina	18/-	1/6
Chianti	24/-	2/-
Capri (White)	24/-	2/-
Vino Vermouth	36/-	3/-
Sparkling Asti	36/-	3/-

Chianti.

In Tuscan Flasks.

18/- & 36/- per doz. 1/6 & 3/- each.

California Wines.

Burgundy 18/- 1/6
Hock 30/- 2/6

Aerated Waters. *per doz.*

Schweppe's Soda, Seltzer & Potass 3/-
Ditto Lemonade and Ginger Ale..... 3/6
Soda, Seltzer & Potass 2/-
Lemonade & Ginger Ale 2/6
Syphons — Soda, Potass, Seltzer, Lemonade 4/-
Johannis's Appollinaris, Ginger Beer in Stone Bottles.

Burgundies.

	per doz.	*per bot.*
Macon ..... 1893 vintage	20/-	1/8
Beaujolais ..... 1892 ,,	24/-	2/0
Beaune..... 1891 ,,	30/-	2/6
Pommard ..... 1889 ,,	36/-	3/0
Volnay..... 1884 ,,	42/-	3/6
Pommard, Superior, 1887 ,,	42/-	3/6
Chambertin..... 1881 ,,	72/	6/-
Chablis ..... 24/- to 36/-		

Half Bottles.

Macon 12/- 1/-
Beaujolais 13/6 1/2
Beaune 16/6 1/5
Pommard 19/6 1/8
Volnay..... 23/- 2/-

Ports.

Good Young 24/- 2/-
Fine old Tawny 36/- 3/-
Ditto well-matured 48/- 4/-
Superior old fine quality 54/- 4/6
Ditto Crofts No 1..... 60,- 5/0
Ditto, ditto Grand Wine 66/- 5/6
Ditto very choice 72/- 6/-
Ditto rare old wine ..... 84/- to 150/-

Tarragona. *per doz.*

Superior Wines..... 12/- 18/- & 24/-

Liqueurs. *per bot.* *per ½bot.*

Curacoa... ..... 5/- 2/6
Maraschino 5/- 2/6
Chartreuse yellow..... 8/- 4/6
Ditto Green..... 10/6 5/6
Benedictine 7/- 3/6
Kirsch Wasser 3/6
Kummell Riga 4/-
Noyeau, Pink 2/6
Angostura Bitters 2/6
Heering Copenhagen Cherry Brandy 4/6 2/6

Cordials. *per bot.*

Pamphilon's Cherry Brandy .....3/- & 4/-
Orange Bitters..... 3/-
Peach Bitters..... 3/6
Ginger Brandy 3/- 3/6
Rum Shrub 2/6 3/-
Peppermint 2/- 2/6
Cloves..... 2/- 2/6
Noyeau 3/-
Milk Punch 3/6
Lovage..... 2/-

Bottled Ales, Stout, Etc.

	per doz. Imp pts.
Pamphilon's Special Dinner Ale	2/6
Ditto Nourishing Stout	2/6
Light Dinner Stout	3/-
Bass Pale Ale (½ pints 2/6)	4/-
Bass No. 1 Burton in ½-pints.....	3/6
Pamphilon's Pale Ale	3/-
Pilsener Lager Beer (½ pints 2/6).....	4/6
Guinness' extra Stout (½ pints 2/6).....	4/-

Clarets. *per doz.* *per bot.*

Claret 12/- 1/-
Vin Ordinaire 15/- 1/3
Vin de Medoc .....1893 vintage 18/- 1/6
St. Julien .....1893 ,, 24/- 2/-
Pauillac .....1891 ,, 30/- 2/6
Margaux.....1890 ,, 36/- 3/-
Chateau Margaux 1889 ,, 54/- 4/6
Chateau Palmer ...1890 ,, 54/- 4/6
Chateau Leoville ...1887 ,, 60/- 5/-
Chateau Larose ...1890 ,, 60/- 5/-
Sauternes, Graves .....21/- to 36/-

Stock in Half-Bottles.

Claret..... 9/- 9d.
Medoc ..... 10/6 11d.
St. Julien 13/6 1/2
Pauillac..... 16/6 1/5
Margaux 19/6 1/8

Sherries.

Natural Sherry.....16/- 1/4
Sherry 18/- 1/6
Light Sound Wine 24/- 2/-
Old-fashioned Brown 30/- 2/6
Pamphilon's Dinner Sherry.....30/- 2/6
Nutty Character 36/- 3/-
Golden, Generous 42/- 3/6
Very Fine Brown 42/- 3/6
Pale old Dry 48/- 4/-
Ditto very Choice.....54/- 4/6
Choice old Rare Wines..... 60/- to 100/-

Marsala. *per doz.*

Ingham & Woodhouse.....18/- 21/- & 24/-

Madeira.

Various .....36/- to 60/-

Scotch Whiskies.

	per gal	*per doz*	*per bot*
Good	15/-	30/-	2/6
Fine old.....	18/-	36/-	3/-
Superior 5 years old.....	20/-	42/-	3/6
Glenlivet Bd, 7 years old...	21/-	44/-	3/8
Very fine Highland Malt ...	21/-	44/-	3/8
Pamphilon's **VOS**, guaranteed 10 years old	**24/-**	**48/-**	**4/-**

Irish Whiskies.

Good 15/- 30/- 2/6
Fine old..... 18/- 36/- 3/
Superior old..... 21/- 42/- 3/6
Do., J. Jameson's, old Bonded 24/- 48/- 4/-

Rum.

Jamaica..... 15/- 30/- /
Old Jamaica..... 18/- 36/- 3/-
V. O. Jamaica..... 3/6 and 4/-

Brandies.

Pale..... 18/- 36/- 3/-
Fine old Pale ..... * ...24/- 48/- 4/-
Fine old Cognac..... ** ...27/- 54/- 4/6
Finest old Cognac ... *** ...30/- 60/- 5/-
Choice old Cognac ... **** ...34/6 69/- 5/9
Curious Old Cognac..... 100/- 8/6

Gins.

Cordial & Unsweetened 12/- 24/- 2/-
Fine old Tom..... ... ...14/6 30/- 2/6
Ditto Finest, ...15/6 32/- 2/8
Sloe, Orange, and Hop Gin.

CASK ALES.

OUR SPECIALITÉ **F.P.A.** BREWED FROM PURE MALT & HOPS.

Per Kild., 18/- ; Per Firkin, 9/6 ; Per Pin, 4/9.

ALL THE LEADING BRANDS OF **HAVANA CIGARS** CLUBS AND THE TRADE SUPPLIED.

QUERNMORE HOUSE SCHOOL,

HOLWOOD ROAD, BROMLEY.

Boys from 5 to 15 years prepared for the Public Schools, the Navy, and other Professions.

THE STAFF INCLUDES

SEVEN UNIVERSITY GRADUATES,

Four of whom are in First-class Honours.

Iron Play-room for wet weather All games played under the supervision of Masters.

Special classes for very young or backward boys are conducted in separate premises by Ladies, aided by Masters.

A Class in Vocal Music and Sight Singing is held weekly by Mr. F. Lewis Thomas, This may be joined by boys not in the School.

For Prospectus apply to

G. LOLY, B.A., Head Master.

JAMES YOUNG,

LATE

J. K. HUNTER,

PRACTICAL COACH BUILDER

LONDON ROAD, BROMLEY.

Carriages built on the most approved principles.

GEORGE PYRKE,

147 & 148, HIGH STREET, BROMLEY, KENT.

FURNITURE REMOVED OR WAREHOUSED.

ESTIMATES FREE ON APPLICATION.

Staff of experienced workmen for carefully removing Furniture, Pianos, Pictures, Glass, &c., to or from any part of the world. Rout Seats, Plate, Glass, China, Mirrors, Linen, Dancing Cloths, Marquees, and every requisite for every class of Entertainments. Supplied on Hire.

Pianos (New and Second-hand), Bought, Sold, Lent on Hire, and Tuned by Contract or otherwise.
Furniture Repaired, Polished, and Re-stuffed by efficient workmen on the premises.

SECOND-HAND FURNITURE BOUGHT TO ANY AMOUNT

Important New Feature of 1897 Edition

OF

STRONG'S DIRECTORY

(Red Cloth Cover)

The PUBLISHERS have pleasure in announcing that the Directory for 1897 contains an

Entirely New Map on a Large Scale

(specially prepared for this Directory), Showing all the Roads, Streets, and Principal Buildings of Bromley. This MAP is presented with the Directory,

THE PRICE OF WHICH REMAINS AT

ONE SHILLING.

STRONG'S BROMLEY DIRECTORY is the *oldest* Directory of Bromley, having been first published in 1863. It is the *largest* Local Directory, containing more than double the number of names and addresses given in any other Directory in the district. It is the *only* Directory that comprises the following parishes :—

Bromley, Beckenham, Bickley, Chelsfield, Chislehurst, Cudham, Downe, Farnborough, Foots Cray, Grove Park, Hayes, Keston, Knockholt, Mottingham, North Cray, Orpington, Shortlands, St. Mary Cray, St. Paul's Cray and West Wickham.

BOUND IN RED CLOTH.

May be had at Smith & Sons' Bookstalls; of all Stationers; and of the Publishers,

E. STRONG & SONS,

14, MARKET SQUARE, BROMLEY, KENT

ESTABLISHED 1803.

COOPER BROS.,

Corn Merchants

AND

DEALERS IN HAY, STRAW, AND CLOVER

19, MARKET SQUARE, BROMLEY.

Noted Stores for Genuine Scotch Oatmeal

Which the above Firm import direct.

Deliveries in Beckenham Daily. Price Lists on Application.

MEALS AND BIRD SEEDS OF ALL KINDS.

THE NATIONAL TELEPHONE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Office for District : 71, CHURCH STREET, CROYDON. *TELEPHONE No. 9309.*

THE COMPANY provide Telephonic communication by means of Private Wires for direct service between two or more Addresses, or Wires connected with the Exchange System, this latter giving each Subscriber facilities for direct communication during ANY PERIOD OF THE DAY OR NIGHT with any other Subscriber to the same, and they are prepared to connect Business or Private Addresses by Metallic Circuits or Twin Wires in the Suburbs, if within one mile and a half of the nearest Exchange, at a rental of £10 per annum on a five years' agreement, or £12 per annum on a yearly agreement for local service.

Subscribers at the above rate will be placed in communication with any of the Company's Metropolitan Subscribers (many thousands in number), on payment of a Tollage Fee of 3d. per conversation of three minutes' duration. This tollage charge can be commuted upon payment of the whole Area rate (instead of £10 for local service only) viz., £17 per annum on a five years' agreement, and £20 on a yearly agreement, which gives communication throughout the entire Metropolitan area.

Communication by Trunk Lines with the Company's subscribers in all the principal towns in the United Kingdom can be obtained by Subscribers entering into an agreement to pay the Post Office Trunk Line Fees.

Where an address is beyond a mile and a half from the nearest Exchange of the Company an additional rental of £2 10s. per annum per half-mile will be charged over and above the foregoing rates.

The Company have opened a large number of Call Rooms in various Districts where the Public may speak to Subscribers connected with the Metropolitan Exchange System. A list of these Call Rooms will be supplied on application at the Local Offices.

Specially low rates quoted for Private or Direct Wires. Street Fire Alarms erected and maintained in connection with Fire Stations, Firemen's Houses, &c., &c.

Telephone and internal installations, with apparatus of the most approved patterns, erected and sold outright or maintained at a small annual charge.

Further particulars and information can be obtained upon application to the District Manager, 71, CHURCH STREET, CROYDON.

WM. E. L. GAINE, General Manager.

Head Offices : OXFORD COURT, CANON STREET, E.C.
February, 1896

AXMINSTER CARPETS.

BATCHELAR & SON,

LIMITED,

UPHOLSTERERS,

6, WIDMORE ROAD, BROMLEY.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

BATCHELAR & SON beg to draw attention to their prices for

AXMINSTER CARPETS

WITH BORDERS,

12ft. × 9ft. 9in.	...	...	...	£4 18 6
13ft. 6in. × 12ft.	...	...	...	£6 8 6
15ft. × 12ft. ...	...	...	..	£7 1 6
18ft. × 14ft. 3in.	...	...	...	£9 14 6

The above Quotations are for our SPECIAL AXMINSTER CARPETS, **3/11 per yard**, Bordered made and laid complete.

LARGER OR SMALLER CARPETS IN PROPORTION.

BATCHELAR & SON

LIMITED,

6, Widmore Road, Bromley.

APPOINTED BY SPECIAL ROYAL WARRANT

SOAP MAKERS TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

SUNLIGHT & LIFEBUOY SOAP COMPETITIONS.

£66,156 in PRIZES OF CASH BICYCLES* WATCHES† BOOKS GIVEN FREE during 1897.

RULES.

1. Competitors may enter EACH or EVERY MONTH for EITHER or BOTH "Sunlight" or "Lifebuoy" Competitions, but must SEND IN the "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY." Coupons in SEPARATE PACKETS carefully marked on the outside of the postal wrapper "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY."

2. For this Competition the United Kingdom will be divided into 7 Districts, and the prizes will be awarded every month during 1897 in each of the 7 districts as stated below.

3. Competitors to save as many "SUNLIGHT SOAP" or "LIFEBUOY SOAP" Wrappers as they can collect. Cut off the top portion of each wrapper—that portion containing the heading "SUNLIGHT SOAP" or "LIFEBUOY SOAP." Enclose with these (called "Coupons") a sheet of paper stating Competitor's full name and address, and the number of coupons sent in, and forward same (see Rule 1.) postage paid to Lever Brothers, Limited, Port Sunlight, near Birkenhead, marked on the Postal Wrapper (top left-hand corner) with the NUMBER of the DISTRICT Competitor lives in, and the word "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY," whichever coupons the packet contains.

4. The competition will CLOSE the LAST DAY of EACH MONTH. Coupons received too late for one month's competition will be put into the next.
All parcels on which Postage has not been fully paid WILL BE REFUSED.

5. Competitors who obtain wrappers from unsold soap in dealers' stock will be disqualified. Employees of Lever Brothers, Limited, and their families are debarred from competing.

6. A printed list of winners in competitor's district will be forwarded to competitors in about 3 weeks after each monthly competition closes.

7. Lever Bros., Ltd., will endeavour to award the prizes fairly to the best of their ability and judgment, but it is understood that ALL WHO COMPETE AGREE TO ACCEPT THE AWARD of Lever Bros., Ltd., as final.

LEVER BROS., Ltd., Port Sunlight, nr. Birkenhead.

No of district.	NAME OF DISTRICT.	PRIZES FOR SUNLIGHT COUPONS.	Total Prizes in all Districts during 1897.
1	IRELAND.	The **1** Competitor in each District who sends in the **largest number** of **Sunlight** coupons from the District in which he or she resides, will receive **£21 cash**	£1,764 0 0
2	SCOTLAND.	The **10** Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number** will **each** receive, carriage paid, at **winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Helical **Premier** Bicycle,* with Fleuss pneumatic tyres, **price £21**	17,640 0 0
3	LONDON, MIDDLESEX, KENT, SURREY.	The **40** Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number** will **each** receive, **at winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Rolled Gold Watch,† **price £4 4s.**	14,112 0 0
4	WALES, LANCASHIRE, CHESHIRE.	The remaining **Sunlight** Competitors will **each** receive **Cloth-bound Books**, by Popular Authors, in the proportion of **1 Book** for **every 50 Sunlight** Coupons sent in	10,000 0 0
5	NORTHUMBERLAND, DURHAM, WESTMORLAND, CUMBERLAND, YORKSHIRE, ISLE OF MAN.	**Total Prizes for Sunlight Coupons during 1897**	£43 516 0 0
6	SHROPSHIRE, HEREFORDSHIRE, MONMOUTHSHIRE, STAFFORDSHIRE, WORCESTERSHIRE, WARWICKSHIRE, DERBYSHIRE, LEICESTERSHIRE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, OXFORDSHIRE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, BERKSHIRE, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, RUTLANDSHIRE, LINCOLNSHIRE, HUNTINGDONSHIRE,	**PRIZES FOR LIFEBUOY COUPONS.**	
		The **1** Competitor in each District who sends in the **largest number** of **Lifebuoy** Coupons from the District in which he or she resides, will receive **£21 cash**	1,764 0 0
		The **5** Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number** will **each** receive, carriage paid, at **winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Helical **Premier** Bicycle,* with Fleuss pneumatic tyres, **price £21**	8,820 0 0
		The **20** Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number** will **each** receive, at **winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Rolled Gold Watch,† **price £4 4s.**	7,056 0 0
		The remaining **Lifebuoy** Competitors will **each** receive **Cloth-bound Books**, by Popular Authors, in the proportion of **1 Book** for **every 50 Lifebuoy** Coupons sent in	5,000 0 0
7	NORFOLK SUFFOLK, ESSEX, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, BEDFORDSHIRE, HERTFORDSHIRE, SUSSEX, HAMPSHIRE, ISLE OF WIGHT, CHANNEL ISLANDS, WILTSHIRE, DORSETSHIRE, SOMERSETSHIRE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, DEVONSHIRE, CORNWALL.	**Total Prizes for Lifebuoy Coupons during 1897**	22,640 0 0
		GRAND TOTAL of all Prizes given for Sunlight and Lifebuoy Coupons, 1897	£66,156 0 0

* These Bicycles are the celebrated Helical (Spiral) Tube **"Premier"** Cycles, 1897 Pattern, manufactured by the New "Premier Cycle Co., Ltd., of Coventry and 19 & 20, Holborn Viaduct, London, fitted with the Fleuss Tubeless Pneumatic Tyres, Lamplugh Saddles [illegible]

† These are 14-carat Half-Hunter Rolled Gold Watches, jewelled, ¼-plate.

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MOON'S CHANGES.—MARCH.

New Moon, 3rd, 11.56 a.m. | Full Moon, 18th, 9.28 p.m.
First Quarter, 11th, 3.28 p.m. | Last Quarter, 25th, 12 noon.

The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

MARCH, 1897.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st—St. Luke's Burial Board meeting, St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common.
1st—Entertainment by Dyson's Gipsy Choir, at Bromley Grand Hall (and five following nights).
1st—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.
2nd—Bromley Urban District Council, Council Offices, East-street, Bromley, 7.30. p.m.
2nd—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne and Lepper of live and dead farming stock, at Fixted Farm, Hayes.
3rd—ASH WEDNESDAY.
3rd—Mottingham Parish Council meeting, Board Schools, Mottingham.
6th—Special mission commences at the Bromley Baptist Church.
7th—FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT.
8th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30. a.m.
8th—Performance of "Newmarket," at the Bromley Grand Hall (and two following nights).
8th—Bromley School Board meeting, Council Offices, East-street, Bromley.
9th Local Veto meeting, in connection with the Bromley Temperance Society, at the Congregational Schoolroom, Bromley.
10th—Annual dinner of the Bromley Licensed Victuallers' Protection Society, at the "Bell" Hotel.
11th—Entertainment by Metropolitan Police Minstrels, at the Bromley Drill Hall.
12th—Bromley Philharmonic Association's Concert, at the Drill Hall.
12th—Annual meeting and lecture in connection with the Bromley Camera Club, at the Science and Art Schools.
12th—Sitting of County Court, Court House, Bromley.
14th—SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT.
15th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30. a.m.
16th—Bromley Urban Council meeting, Council Offices, Bromley, 7.30. p.m.
18th—Annual Parish meeting for the election of Parish Councillors.
21st—THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT.
22nd—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30. a.m.
22nd—Bromley School Board meeting, Council Offices, Bromley, 8 p.m.
26th—Lecture by Mr. S. B. Webber, on "Orthochromatic Photography," in connection with the Bromley Camera Club, at the Science and Art Schools.
28th—FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT.
29th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30 a.m.
30th—Bromley Urban Council meeting, Council Offices, Bromley, 7.30. p.m.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

The above Authority met on February 2nd and 16th.

THE INDIAN FAMINE FUND.

At the meeting on February 2nd, the Chairman said that although no communication had been received by the Council respecting steps to be taken to open a subscription list for the Indian Famine Fund, he had, in consequence of an appeal through the Press by the Lord Lieutenant of the County, and of an opinion expressed by many influential ratepayers, decided to open a fund for that purpose. He sugested asking the ministers in the district to make offertories in their churches, and he had made arrangements with the bankers to receive the subscriptions.

Mr. Wheeler Bennett said he was sure their hearts went out in deepest sympathy to their poor distressed brethren in India. He liked to be practical on such occasions and would be pleased to hand the Chairman a cheque for one hundred guineas. (Applause.)

At the next meeting of the Council the Chairman said he had pleasure in informing the members that up to that (Tuesday) morning he had received £340 16s. 4d. in aid of the Indian Famine Relief Fund.

THE RECORD REIGN.

At the previous meeting it appeared from the minutes, that a special meeting had been held, in Committee, at which various suggestions were made for celebrating the Queen's record reign, and eventually the Council were recommended to appoint a special Committee, to consist of five members of the Council, one from each Ward, with power to add to their number by seeking the assistance of gentlemen outside the Council.

At the close of the Council meeting, the following members were, upon Mr. Worley's motion, seconded by Mr. D. Payne, appointed as the sub-Committee, with power to add outside members:—Town Ward, Mr. Grinsted; Bromley Common, Mr. Wheeler Bennett; Bickley, Mr. McIntyre; Sundridge Ward, Mr. Davis; and Plaistow, Mr. Mallett.

PREVALENCE OF SCARLET-FEVER.

Mr. Davis, in moving the adoption of the Drainage and Sanitary Committees' report, said the Committee regretted having to report such a large number of scarlet-fever cases. Fortunately they were of a mild type, but two schools—Wharton-road and Lady Scott's School had been closed.

Subsequently an order was issued for the closing of all the elementary schools of the parish.

THE PALACE ESTATE.

The Highways and Buildings Committee reported that they had considered the plans submitted by Messrs. Baxter, Payne and Lepper, of seven new roads on the Bromley Palace Estate.

As the plans had been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Council's bye-laws, the Committee recommended the same for approval. At the same time they suggested that a very strong representation should be sent to the owner of the estate, calling attention to that portion of the proposed new road from Homesdale-road to Gundulph-road, suggesting that the same be made with a single curve instead of a double curve, and that he be informed that such portion of the new road would not be taken over by the Council as a public road in its present condition.

This recommendation was passed in a milder form.

Improvements.

The same Committee reported that in accordance with the authority given by the Council, the Committee had been in negotiation with Messrs. Few and Co., for the acquisition of a strip of land at 43, High-street, for widening the roadway at that point, and made a provisional offer of £100, such sum to include all costs and fees in the matter.

A letter had, however, been received from Messrs. Few and Co., declining such offer, and the Committee recommended that no further action be taken in the matter.

In connection with the proposed improvement of Chislehurst-road, the Committee had to report that the Surveyor had met Mr. Dashwood (Mr. Wythes' agent), and the proposed new boundary had been staked out and agreed upon by Mr. Dashwood in accordance with the plan submitted.

The Committee therefore recommended that such plan be approved by the Council, and that the best thanks of the Council be conveyed to Mr. Wythes and Mr. Dashwood for their action in the matter.

The Fire Brigade.

The Fire Brigade Committee reported that in accordance with the instructions of the Council, they had further considered the details of the scheme adopted for the provision of a fire-engine house, and estimated the first year's expenditure to be:—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
As under Scheme 2b		390 17 0
Repayment of principal and interest on extra cost of building	18 1 6	
Depreciation at 1¼ per cent. on extra cost of building ...	4 6 6	
Total extra expenditure ...		22 8 0
		£413 5 0

And the subsequent annual expenditure—

	£ s. d.
I estimate would be as under Scheme 2b	265 17 0
Add total extra expenditure, as above	22 8 0
	£288 5 0

Your Committee have carefully considered such report and now recommend that Scheme, numbered 2b, as supplemented by the Surveyor, be adopted by the Council, and that the necessary application be forthwith made to the Local Government Board for their sanction to borrow the sum of £1,233 for the erection of the Engine-house, &c., and the purchase of the engine.

Your Committee submit for the information of the Council the following resolution, which has been unanimously adopted by the members of the present Volunteer Fire Brigade, viz.:—

"That the whole of the Brigade, as at present constituted, place their services at the disposal of the Urban District Council, each member to retain his present position."

Under these circumstances your Committee are pleased to recommend that such offer be accepted by the Council, and that Mr. James Hopton be appointed Captain of the Council's Fire Brigade, at a salary of £20 per annum from the 25th March next, and that the following persons be approved as members of the Brigade, viz.:—Foreman James Ingles, Engineer Richard Hunt, Sub-Engineer George R. Amos, Firemen, George Minter, Charles Towell, Daniel Vass, H. Watson, Henry Wetherall.

Your Committee further recommend that Mr. Thomas Bennett, who has been the paid fireman under the Volunteer Brigade, and has for some time past been in charge of the Council's fire escape, be appointed to take charge of the Fire Engine, and the whole of the apparatus connected with the Brigade, from the 25th March next, at 35s. per week until the rooms over the Engine-house are ready for occupation, when he shall be paid 26s. per week with the use of such rooms, coal and gas. According to this estimate the cost of the Fire Brigade will be a rate of about ½d. in the £ per annum.

Electric Lighting.

A letter was received from Messrs. Todd, Dennes and Lamb, solicitors, of 22, Chancery-lane, stating that in pursuance of the agreement of the Council to transfer their Electric Lighting Provisional Order to a local company, they submitted on behalf of their clients—the proposed company—the draft deed of transfer. It was drawn, they added, upon the lines required by the Board of Trade, and when adopted by the Council it would be necessary that it should be advertised in the "London Gazette" and in a local paper. Upon settlement of the deed of transfer, they would be glad to submit for the approval of the Council the names of the proposed Company and the directors, and meanwhile they assured the Council that the company would consist mainly of leading tradesmen and ratepayers in the town of Bromley.

The letter was referred to the General Purposes Committee.

At the next meeting the Committee reported that they had considered the letter received from Messrs. Todd, Dennes and Lamb, submitting draft deed of transfer of the Bromley Electric Lighting Order to a proposed local Company, and recommended that such draft deed be referred to Mr. Willett with instructions to settle with Counsel the general conditions of transfer and more particularly the terms on which the undertaking may be repurchased by the Council.

Paved Crossings.

The Highway and Building Committee reported that they had considered the question of the land in front of the "White Hart" Hotel, and recommended that application be made to the owners for permission to construct a paved crossing six feet wide along the whole of the frontage.

In moving the adoption of the report, Mr. Mallett said that the Committee thought they would be able by obtaining tenders for the whole of the crossings, which numbered about ten, to get the work done at a reduced rate. Respecting the "White Hart" crossing they were not empowered to employ counsel, and they did not feel qualified to give an opinion on the legal aspect of the question, but so far as they could ascertain they thought that in all probability the Council had not a right over that piece of ground, and they, therefore, recommended that, with the consent of the owners, they should be enabled to put a footpath of wood paving across the whole frontage of the "White Hart." That would make it comfortable for the public, and the cost would be about £45. They thought that would be a reasonable way out of the difficulty.

In reply to a question, Mr. Mallett said the ten new crossings would be situate as follows: One each at Ravensbourne, Walpole, Pope, Johnson's Ringer's, Ethelbert-roads, and four in Plaistow-lane.

Loans for Private Improvements.

The Assistant Secretary to the Local Government Board wrote to the effect that the Board had had under consideration the report made by their Inspector, with reference to the Bromley Council's application to borrow £1,500 for works of private street improvement, and they had decided to comply with the application.

It was mentioned that the roads included Glebe-road, Station-road and Florence-road.

The Finance Committee was instructed to take the necessary steps to raise the loan.

It was on the recommendation of the Highways Committee resolved to take over certain roads at Park End.

The Grand Hall.

A letter was read from Mr. T. R. Ronald, general manager and secretary to the Law Guarantee and Trust Society, Limited, acknowledging receipt of the report of the Sub-Committee of the Council, on the Grand Hall, Bromley, and stating that it was not the Society's intention to again open the swimming bath for the purpose intended. Therefore, it would not be necessary to do any repairs to make it water-tight. Instructions had been given to repair the cover to the well, and with reference to the fire-proof curtain, the lessee was to see the Surveyor on the subject.

The Surveyor said the act drop-scene had been altered in a perfectly satisfactory manner, so that it could be lowered at any moment. He had satisfied himself on those points, and there was nothing to prevent the license being granted.

Widening of Plaistow-lane.

On the above subject, the Clerk read a letter from Mr. H. Howard Batten, Clerk to the Trustees of the London Parochial Charities, stating that with reference to the Bromley Council's application, he was directed by the Trustees to inform them that they would be prepared to throw into the public-way a piece of frontage, between Freelands and Hawes-roads, as indicated on the plan forwarded, subject to all expenses being borne by the Council, and also (1) the making up of the roadway; (2) the filling up of ditch, laying in drain-pipes, if necessary, and forming pathway; (3) taking down the large trees overhanging the road; and (4) the present fences to be set back and the frontage enclosed and made good with a rough fence as might be required. He would, he added, be glad to know if those terms were acceptable to the Council.

The letter—which was regarded as very satisfactory—was referred to the Highways Committee.

Subsidence at Homesdale-road.

A letter was read from Mr. H. Podger, of 156, Homesdale-road, Bromley, drawing the Council's attention to the culverts and sewer in Homesdale-road. The water-way was, he said, insufficient, and he hoped the Council would take immediate steps to lay in a large sewer and larger junction, otherwise he must, he said, lay the matter before the Local Government Board, who had already stated that the Bromley Local Authority were liable for any damage caused by the incapacity of the sewer, or the insufficient water-way of the culverts under the road. The ground over the line of sewer had, he said, sunk away, causing the foundation of a part of his laundry to give way, and the long wall to crack. Unless it was put a stop to the building would become unsafe to work in, and a serious amount of damage might arise.

Mr. Gilbert said he was not surprised to receive that communication. They had better leave it until the recommendations of the Committee were received.

The matter was referred to the Sanitary Committee.

BROMLEY SOHOOL BOARD.

The above Anthority held meetings on January 25th, and February 8th.

Removal of Names from Register.

At the former meeting the School Attendance Committee recommended that a circular be addressed to the head teachers at the various Board Schools calling their attention to the illegal removal of names from the register.

The Chairman remarked that in one case the Committee found that a girl's name had been removed from the register at the Raglan-road School, and she had not been to school for two years. The child was only eleven years of age. One boy had also been off the register twelve months and had been playing in the precincts of the school all that time. It was a question of the teachers exercising authority in removing names from the lists without consulting the Board.

The Committee's report was adopted.

H. M's. Inspector's Reports.

The following reports were received.

Aylesbury-road Boys' School.—The boys read fairly as a whole; they have been taught to write well, and the style of figuring of their arithmetic is creditable. The rest of the elementary work is very uneven, and shows many failures, some of it, such as the reading of the third standard, spelling in the third and fourth, and arithmetic in the fourth and fifth standards is deplorably inaccurate, and will need great attention. The class subjects have been taught with greater success, and may be awarded the higher grant. I should like to see firmer order here, and shall hope to find a great improvement in the teaching of the elementary subjects.—The grant of 18s. 6d. was awarded on the total average attendance of 180, the total sum payable being £191 12s. 6d.

Raglan-road School.—Boys: Good order prevails, and the results of the examination show that the school has made such satisfactory progress that I feel able to recommend the higher principal grant. Perhaps the reading of the third standard is the weakest point, but the teacher of this class has had a large number of scholars to instruct. I have before mentioned that the teachers complain of down draughts in this school, and I think they do so with reason.—Girls' School: The girls are also very well ordered. Their work seems generally very fairly satisfactory. The syllabus for the work for each month should be entered regularly in advance.—Infants' School: The children drill very well and are orderly. Their work generally shows satisfactory success, and the teachers seem very interested in it. The school is necessarily very full, pending the provision of the much-needed further school places for infants in this rapidly-growing neighbourhood. The room in which the lowest class has been taught, urgently requires much better ventilation. The registers must be tested on behalf of the Board at least once a quarter, at irregular intervals, as required by paragraph 6 of Appendix II. of Instructions to Inspectors. Attention is directed to Article 85 (d) of the Code. E. J. Cook has obtained a second class in the Queen's Scholarships' Examination. The new ventilator should be made satisfactory, and steps taken to prevent draughts.—The grant of 20s. 6d. was awarded in the Boys

School on the average attendance of 293 ; 20s. in the Girls' School on the average attendance of 246 ; and 17s. in the Infants' School on the average attendance of 175. The gross amount of claim was £300 6s. 6d. for the Boys' School ; £260 12s. for the Girls' School ; and £148 15s. for the Infants' School, making a total of £709 13s. 6d., which on final payment of fee grant (£91 12s. 6d.), made the total sum payable £801 6s.

Miss Annie M. Mackie, headmistress of the Raglan-road Girls' School, who had been asked for her observations on the Inspector's report, wrote on January 18th : "With reference to the report recently received, I feel I should like to write a few words in justice to the teachers and myself. We were all exceedingly disappointed that we did not obtain the higher principal grant, and we can in no way account for it. In spite of the many drawbacks—the closing of the school for illness, changing of teachers in Standard IV., &c., we have done our utmost during the year, not to let the work in any way go back, and had really felt we had succeeded. Neither Mr. Holt White nor Mr. Harbour found fault in anything at either visit ; on the contrary much was praised, so much so that we all felt confident of the highest grant this year. Now when the report comes, without any fault being found, nothing particularised, we are entirely at a loss to understand it, and feel it is unjust and we are disheartened and disappointed."

Miss Heppel remarked that there was no criticism in the report, and nothing to show that the elementary subjects had been neglected.

Mr. Fielding also observed that the report clearly showed that the Inspector had no fault to find.

Mr. Bragg said he admitted the Inspector did not criticise, but the report, he contended, clearly showed that more attention had been given to the special subjects than to the elementary ones.

Miss Heppel pointed out that the special subjects — such as geography and grammar— could not be taught without reading and writing.

Mr. Fielding said possibly the explanation was that the Inspector thought the figures were already high enough.

Miss Heppel said she did not see how it could be improved.

The reports were referred to the School Management Committee.

At the next meeting it was resolved to invite the observations of the head master upon the report of the Aylesbury-road Schools.

Raglan Road Schools Enlargement.

At the meeting of this Authority on Feb. 8th,

The Clerk reported that seven tenders had been received, and the names and prices were as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
General Builders, Limited, 15, Southampton-row, London ...	8,171	11	0
T. Crossley and Son, Bromley...	7,798	0	0
J. C. Arnaud, Bromley	7,780	0	0
W. Holt and Sons, Croydon ...	8,183	10	0
J. Chesham & Sons, Haggerston	7,760	10	0
F. P. Duthoit, Bromley	7,526	0	0
(Or if work was delayed until May, the estimate would be reduced by £375)			
T. D. Graty, Bromley	7,789	0	0
(Or, if work not commenced before May, so that new season bricks could be used the estimate would be £250 less)			

The Chairman said the first question they had to decide was whether they were going to wait till May.

Mr. Bragg said seeing the amount of difference in several of the builders' estimates, if the work was postponed until May, he would move that the matter be postponed until May.

Mr. Loly said he thought Mr. Bragg had shown that a saving could undoubtedly be effected, and he asked the Clerk to tell them whether he thought they would be justified in waiting until May ?

The Clerk said there were over one hundred on the books in excess of the accommodation, and there was another hundred that should be got in within the next three months.

In reply to the Chairman, the Clerk said the Department, according to their letters, would expect the Board to go on with the work.

The Chairman remarked that it would not do to jeopardise their grant by what the Department might think was any unreasonable delay.

The Clerk said the matter had been mentioned in the Inspector's reports for the past two years.

Mr. Loly said under those circumstances, while having every sympathy with what Mr. Bragg had said, he should vote for the immediate progress of the building.

Mr. Bragg asked Mr. Bell whether he did not think that, if they waited until May, they would get a better class of bricks than could be obtained at present.

Mr. Bell said that entirely depended on where the bricks came from that they had estimated for. The specificaton would not be varied.

Mr. Bragg said if the builder complained of not being able to get bricks, they could hardly complain of him not going on with the work.

Mr. Bell said they assumed that the contractors were perfectly acquainted with the circumstances. He was getting best bricks at 42s. per thousand.

The discussion was then continued in Committee.

Eventually Mr. Loly said that in view of the discussion that had taken place he would move that Messrs. Arnaud's contract be accepted

Miss Heppel seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Comparative Cost of Teaching.

In moving the adoption of the School Management Committee's report,

The Chairman said the cost of teaching the children in the various schools ought to be entered on the minutes. The particulars were as follows : Valley School, £2 1s. 4d. per scholar; Raglan-road Schools, £2 3s. 3d. ; Aylesbury-road School, £2 8s. 8d. ; and Wharton-road School, £1 8s. 4d. He would not, he said, attempt to justify or reconcile the figures, but it showed that there was scope for some reform.

School Attendance Committee.

In the minutes of a meeting of the School Attendance Committee, held on January 28th, at which Mr. Loly and Miss Heppel were present, it was recommended that the head teachers be requested to exercise caution in endorsing their weekly returns with the names of children, whose absence might reasonably be inferred to be due to the sickness either of the children themselves or of others in the family. They also recommended that the form of medical certificate be so altered as to afford greater latitude to medical men in deciding whether it was advisable for children to attend school or not.

The Quorum Reduced.

On Feb. 8th in pursuance of notice Mr. Loly moved "That rule 4 of the bye-laws for the regulation of

the meetings and business of the Board be altered by reducing the quorum from five to three." He would not have done so, he remarked, unless he knew that the members were very nearly unanimous in favour of his proposition, for personally he was inclined to reduce the quorum to a larger number, viz., four, but it had been pointed out to him that three was the usual number of quorums on large bodies, such as Guardians, &c. He would not personally advocate the reduction to three, under normal circumstances, but that Board would very soon be coming to an end, and the new Board—who would probably be in a better condition to have larger attendances than they had had—would have the option of reverting to the old system or not. The situation of the present Board was decidedly an abnormal one, as they were not in a position to get large attendances, one member being unable to be present, through illness, while another had not put in an attendance for a good many months. The latter's non-attendance was not on the score of ill-health, but perfectly voluntary; he referred, of course, to Mr. Peill. In some measure the cause of his absence arose from their taking Counsel's opinion on the question of contracts, which was, they thought, adverse to Mr. Peill. There seemed, he said, to be some sort of opinion outside that it was the duty of that Board to take steps, as a Board, to enforce the opinion which Counsel expressed, but it was not possible for that Board in its corporate capacity to take proceedings, and if proceedings were taken they would have to be instituted by members in their individual capacity. Such a proceeding would be very unpleasant to the feelings of any member, for none of them had any hostility whatever towards their colleague in question, and did not want to take proceedings against him. Nothing, Mr. Loly continued, had been done, but the Chairman kindly volunteered to negociate, in a sense, with that gentleman, calling his attention to the views of his colleagues. They had, however, heard nothing since. Referring to his motion, Mr. Loly pointed out that other members were occasionally unable to attend, owing to business, and under those conditions it was, he said, due to the public and to the enormously-increasing business of the Board, that a quorum should be easily formed. Supposing any particular resolution was carried, owing to that reduction of quorum, it would always be open to members to rescind it on a subsequent occasion.

Mr. Loly's motion was then put and carried.

The Rainfall.—The rainfall for January, 1897, as measured at Elmfield, Bromley Common, amounted to 1·76 in. Rain fell on 16 days, the largest amount registered in one day being .49 inch on the 8th. For the corresponding month last year the fall was only 0.55 in., in 1895 it was 1.36 in., and in 1894, 4.58 in.

New Music.—We have much pleasure in noticing a new song, "Impress of the Creator," composed by Mr. F. Lewis Thomas, the conductor of the Bromley Musical Society, which has just been published by Messrs. Chappell and Co. It was sung with great success by Mr. Ben Davies, at a recent concert at the Queen's Hall, London, and will, undoubtedly, bring the composer's name to the front as a song writer. The words, by Amelia Opie, are far above the average in merit, and it is not too much to say that, high as is the standard of the words, the music is fully equal to them. We most cordially commend the song to all who have a soul above the ordinary drawing-room sentimental ballad.—Fortissimo.

PROPOSED INCORPORATION OF BROMLEY.

The Bromley Urban District Council, at their meeting on Feb. 2nd, took into consideration a proposal, brought forward by Mr. Dickins, for the celebration of the Queen's Record Reign by applying for a Charter of Incorporation for the town of Bromley. The resolution of which Mr. Dickins had given notice was as follows:—

"That in order permanently to celebrate the record reign of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria the necessary steps be forthwith taken to apply for a Charter of Incorporation for the town of Bromley.

In moving the resolution Mr. Dickins said that the proposal was not a new one, as it had been brought forward by Mr. G. Payne in 1888, and by Mr. Loftus a few years ago. It was opposed by the members of the old Local Board, because it would have introduced the principle of one man one vote, and he himself would have opposed it in those days. Now, however, they had one man one vote, and, therefore, that reason for opposition was gone. The old Local Board was formed thirty years ago, when the rateable value of the parish was about £60,000, and it had now increased to £175,000. Both it and the population—which was now about 25,000—were likely to further increase. From inquiries made, he found that there were 287 municipal boroughs in England and Wales and of these more than two-thirds—191—had smaller populations than Bromley. Among the advantages of incorporation he mentioned an improved financial position, as they would probably be able to borrow money under 3 per cent—3½ per cent being the lowest rate at which they had borrowed hitherto. Turning to the administrative point of view, he said corporations could appoint auditors of their own instead of being subject to a Local Government Board official. They would also have the power of making various appointments, such as inspectors of weights and measures, &c. They might, too, apply for a separate Commission of the Peace, and if it were granted, the fines levied would in a large proportion be spent at home. Another advantage was that the mayor and the ex-mayor would be magistrates by virtue of their offices. Another was that they would have aldermen, who would sit for six years. A borough, too, had more prestige, and had a better standing with the Local Government Board and the County Council. They would also have better powers for dealing with the condition of the streets, and, if the Metropolitan Police were re-organised, they might get control of their own police.

The Chairman (Mr. Grinsted) briefly seconded the motion.

Mr. Wheeler Bennett said Mr. Dickins had covered the ground so well, that he (the speaker) did not propose to keep them long. During the last year or two the incorporation of Bromley had occupied his mind, and it seemed to him a most desirable form of government. He regarded it as a matter where the advantages outweighed the disadvantages, and he thought it would be a distinct advantage for Bromley to have a Charter of Incorporation. The very word meant strength, and they would have the better control of very many things of which they had very feeble control at present. Mr. Dickins had made a point of the value of placing their finances in such a shape that they might be covered as corporate stock. He might say, however, for the benefit of those who were not members of the Council, some eighteen months ago, that they went thoroughly into the matter and found they were not large enough to put the finances into stock, so as to place them in the market. Looking at the future of Bromley, however—and it

was fast growing—he thought that in a few years the finances might be put into corporate stock with very great advantage.

Mr. Davis remarked that two questions had been put before them: the question of the desirability of applying for a Charter of Incorporation, and, secondly, the desirability or possibility of connecting it with the special celebration that year. The first exclamation that naturally rose to one's lips was, he said, "what on earth has a Charter of Incorporation for Bromley got to do with the celebration of Her Majesty's sixty years' reign?" He failed to see the slightest connection. If he was as strongly in favour of obtaining a charter as he was against it—as he thought the disadvantages decidedly outweighed the advantages—he would very much object to connecting it with the special celebration of the present year. The object was not to glorify themselves, but to do honour to Her Majesty, and he failed to see how the Queen was to be honoured by Bromley obtaining a charter. Bromley was a very ancient and loyal town, but it was just doubtful whether Her Majesty had ever heard of Bromley, and even if she had, he did not believe it would arouse any vivid emotions in her heart to know that Bromley had succeeded in its wishes to have a charter. There was also the inherent objection that the initiative did not rest with that Council, but with the ratepayers outside. Those in favour of obtaining a charter would have to stir up the ratepayers and persuade the majority of them to petition in favour of the incorporation, and even when they asked for it they would probably not get it, and then they would look smaller than now.

Mr. Wheeler Bennett: Why not?

Mr. Davis said, for various reasons; he did not think they deserved it, neither did he think it would be good for them. Mr. Dickins had said they would have a considerable amount of patronage; he (the speaker) did not know whether he would be most sorry for the auditor or for the Council. Then reference was made to a special bench of magistrates. He (the speaker) had hoped that Bromley was an orderly place and in no need of a special bench of magistrates to deal wtih cases arising in their borders. The appointment of aldermen for six years was also held out as a great bait, and it was said that they would be free from all annoyance connected with elections. Some of them welcomed the last Local Government Act because it gave so much power to the ratepayers, giving them an interest, and a large voice in local affairs, but he did not think one of the objects to gain that was so that they should not seek election for a long period. No doubt repeated elections were unpleasant, as some of the members on that Board could testify; they were annoying and expensive, but he did not regard that as any special reason for a charter. On the whole he could not see, in the first place, what that proposal had to do with the celebration of the Queen's 60th year of her reign, and apart from that he would be strongly opposed to any suggestion that they should apply for a charter. He thought they were very much better as they were.

Mr. McIntyre said he thought anything in the way of increasing their hospital accommodation—(Mr. Wheeler Bennett: Hear, hear)—or providing a Convalescent Home, where those who were getting better could go and get fresh air, would be far more to the liking of Her Majesty than their seeking for a Charter of Incorporation. For his part he was not in favour of it.

Mr. Mallett supported the resolution, and said he had hoped they would have been unanimous in supporting Mr. Dickins on that occasion. Mr. Davis had said he could not see that the reception of a charter by that town would be any means of celebrating the Diamond Jubilee of the Queen, but all he (the speaker) could say in reply was that in asking for that charter they would be following a precedent taken by a great many towns. In 1887—the celebration of the Jubilee—a considerable number of towns applied for power of incorporation, among them being Richmond and Chelmsford, both of which got it. It seemed to him that Bromley was a sort of place which ought to be incorporated. If they looked at its history they would see that Bromley had been a market-town for centuries, while all the neighbourhood, for some seven or eight miles round, had consisted of hamlets and villages. Now they had reached that state of affairs when their neighbours had somewhat overgrown themselves and were getting as big as themselves. Beckenham, for instance, and Chislehurst had grown very rapidly, so that Bromley had been deposed from its natural position in the surrounding country. Still, after all, Bromley was the chief town in the western division of Kent, or, at any rate, in that part of it. They still held most of the important offices there; they had the market, petty sessions, county-court, Board of Guardians, and Rural Council. All those things brought public business to the town and made it an important place, and it seemed to him that these justified them in asking for the incorporation of the town. The way to work in order to obtain it was to get a very strong committee together, who would canvass the whole of the town, and he calculated that they would have to get something like 2,000 signatures in order to have much weight with the Committee of the Privy Council.

Mr. Worley opposed the motion.

Mr. Hutchings was in favour of it being adjourned.

Upon the resolution being put to the meeting, the voting was as follows:—

For (5):	Against (6):
Mr. Dickins,	Mr. McIntyre,
Mr. Wheeler Bennett,	Mr. Bond,
Mr. Peill,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Gilbert,	Mr. Hutchings,
Mr. Mallett.	Mr. Worley,
	Mr. D. Payne.

The Chairman announced that the resolution had been lost by one vote—5 for and 6 against.

At the next meeting the Chairman announced that he had received a memorial, signed by about one hundred and fifty ratepayers, asking him to call a public meeting to consider the advisability of applying for a Charter of Incorporation for Bromley, and he should, in compliance with such an influentially signed requisition, take steps to call a meeting. (The date subsequently fixed was Feb. 26th.)

LOCAL WEDDINGS.

A wedding in which considerable interest was taken took place at the Bromley Parish Church on Wednesday Feb. 3rd, between Mr. William Elliot Snow, of Leinster Gardens, London, W., and Miss Mary Hicks, daughter of Mr. H. Hicks, of Plaistow Hall. The ceremony was performed by the Vicar of Bromley (the Rev. A. G. Hellicar), assisted by the Rev. J. Haslam, of Gravesend, who gave an appropriate address.

The marriage of Mr. Richard John Walter Allen, son of Mr. Stephen R. Allen, J.P., C.C., of Pembroke Dock, and Miss Agnes Martha, eldest daughter of Mr. James J. Stokes, of Springfield, South Hill Park, Bromley, was solemnised at St. Mary's, Church, Shortlands, on January 28th, The Rev. Canon Reck, M.A, rector of Rotherhithe, assisted by the Rev. H. F. Wolley, M.A., vicar of Shortlands, officiated.

BROMLEY COTTAGE HOSPITAL.

The annual general meeting of the subscribers to the Bromley Cottage Hospital took place in the Parish Room, West-street, on Feb. 11th, when, in the absence of the Rev. A. G. Hellicar, the chair was occupied by Mr. W. McKewan, the hon. treasurer, who was supported by Mr. H. H. Pain, hon. secretary; there being also present Dr. H. J. Ilott, Dr. Beeby, and Messrs. T. C. Dewey, J. Wheeler Bennett, G. Edey, M. H. Hodder, J. E. Woodward, G. Weeks,, Edgar Soames, J. Y. Hay, A. Wright, F. W. Foskett, and others.

The 28th annual report, particulars of which appear on another page, was presented, and taken as read.

The Chairman, before moving its adoption, expressed regret at the absence of the Vicar. He should also like to pay a few words of tribute to the memory of the late Mr. C. F. Devas, one of the oldest and warmest friends, and one, he believed, of its founders, as well as the first treasurer, and it was to him they were indebted for the piece of ground on which the new wing of the Hospital had been recently erected. One of his last acts was to give his consent, without which they could not have proceeded with the work. The last six months, Mr. McKewan went on to say, had been rather a busy time at the Hospital, both as regards patients and work. Those who were at the last annual meeting knew that it was impressed on the minds of the Committee that there was a great necessity for extending the Hospital, not only for the patients, but for the nurses, who they felt were not suitably accommodated. They were almost obliged to live and sleep in the same atmosphere with the patients. They saw no way of altering this condition of things, except by extending the building. Eventually a decision was arrived at to build the extension on part of the garden, and at the first meeting they had, a subscription list was opened, and was headed by Mr. Wheeler Bennett, Mr. T. C. Dewey, and others, which brought the amount to £900. They then had further promises, amounting to £600, and before they closed the list the sum they required—£2,000—had been subscribed. (Applause.) The work had now been completed, and answered most thoroughly the object they had in view. The nurses were most suitably accommodated there, and they also had a very nice sitting-room, besides very good sleeping accommodation. In addition to that they now had accommodation for 32 beds in the old Hospital, instead of only 20 as hitherto, and within three weeks of the enlargement they had 26 patients, and they had had as many as 29. He therefore thought they had good cause to congratulate themselves on the liberality of the donors, and to hope that the extension would result in increasing the amount of good done by the Hospital in relieving the suffering poor. They still had a sum of £170 unexpended, and with that amount they intended to provide a new bathroom for the Hospital, and also—if they got the permission of the owners—take off the crest of the hill between the Hospital and the main road, and thus make the approach less difficult. (Applause.) The Chairman next proceeded to speak of the medical staff. As the number of patients increased, he said, so must the attention and care of the medical staff increase, and lately they had had some very serious cases to deal with, which, but for that Hospital, must have been sent to London for treatment. Continuing, Mr. McKewan said they had an excellent Matron, who was well supported by the nurses, so he believed the patients were as much cared for as it was possible for them to be. They could not, of course, do all that without expense, and he would like to emphasize the necessity of increasing their subscription list. They hoped that subscribers would not consider their donations were limited to two, five or ten guineas. He, himself, would like to see hundreds of subscribers of 5s. (Applause.) They wanted interest in the Hospital to be more widely spread. Mr. McKewan concluded by moving the adoption of the report.

Mr. T. C. Dewey, in seconding, emphasized what the Chairman had said at the close of his address. The Prince of Wales had recently issued a very earnest appeal for increased annual subscriptions for the London Hospitals. The Prince based his claims principally on the fact that the population was rapidly increasing, and that the cost of the maintenance was continually rising. He thought they could base their appeal on the same facts, and they urgently appealed to residents in Bromley to come forward with increased annual subscriptions. Those subscriptions, he took it, were the life of the Hospital, and without them they could not succeed. They had recently engaged Mr. Rose as collector.

Mr. Wheeler Bennett, in supporting the motion, said they wanted to stir up the Bromley people to such a point that they would get more help than formerly. He would like to see more help from the tradespeople and the working-classes in Bromley, but he believed it was their own fault in not making the Hospital more widely known among the working-classes, they had not such help from them. Personally, he thought a working-man on the Committee would be advantageous, so long as they got the genuine type of the British workman. (Hear, hear.)

The motion was then put to the meeting and carried.

The officers and committee were then re-elected and thanked for their past services. Mr. Foskett was appointed assistant hon. secretary.

QUEEN'S REIGN CELEBRATION.

A Committee of the Bromley Urban Council having been appointed, with power to add to their number, to make arrangements for the celebration of the Queen's Record Reign, the following committee has been formed: Mr. Coles Child, J.P. (chairman), Mr. J. Wheeler Bennett, Dr. W. Chatterton, Messrs. Thomas Davis, Thomas C. Dewey, W. H. Dodgson, E. F. Duncanson, Daniel Grinsted, J.P., Rev. A. G. Hellicar, Mr. Paul Henwood, Dr. Herbert J. Illot, Dr. E. M. Madden, Messrs. William R. Mallett, Thos. C. McIntyre, William McKewan, J.P., J. Howard Moore, J.P., A. C. Norman, J.P., Edward Packe, Dr. D. T. Playfair, Major C. Satterthwaite, Messrs. John Scott, jun., J.P., and Wm. Thursfield.

At a meeting of the Committee held on Feb. 22nd it was unanimously resolved that the committee issue an appeal for funds in order to provide and endow a Convalescent Home for the benefit of the patients treated in the Bromley Hospitals, or in the event of this being impracticable, to maintain as many beds as possible in existing Convalescent Homes to be approved by the Committee."

'That a Sub-Committee of seven be appointed to consider details and report at an early date."

A Sub-Committee was appointed in accordance with the terms of the resolution, consisting of Messrs. Bennett, Davis, Child, Grinsted, Ilott, Norman and Madden.

A further Sub-Committee was also appointed to draw up an appeal for funds.

The annual general meeting of the Bromley Drill Hall Company was held on Feb. 8th at the Drill Hall, Mr. R. Gordon Mullen presiding. There was only a small attendance of shareholders, the business being of a formal character. A dividend of 2 per cent. for the past year was declared.

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DIARY OF FEBRUARY.

1st—M. Tivadar Nachez, the famous Hungarian violinist, gave a recital at the Bromley Grand Hall.

1st—Annual General Meeting of the Beckenham Public Hall Company, at which a five per cent. dividend was declared and the question of enlarging the hall was discussed.

2nd—A fund was opened in Bromley by the Chairman of the Urban District Council in aid of the sufferers from the Indian Famine.

2nd—At the usual meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council, Mr. Dickins proposed that the town should celebrate the Queen's record reign by applying for a charter of incorporation, the resolution was lost by one vote.

2nd—A special committee, with power to add to their number, was appointed by the Bromley Urban Council to decide in what way the Queen's record reign should be celebrated in Bromley.

3rd—An illustrated lecture entitled "a Story of Fifty years" was given by Mr. R. Murray Hyslop, in connection with the Beckenham Abstainers' Union.

3rd—The Bromley datachment 2nd Volunteer Battalion "Queen's Own," held their annual ball at the Drill Hall.

4th—At a vestry meeting of the parish of Beckenham, it was agreed to allow the churchyard wall by the milestone to be set back for the purpose of widening the highway.

5th—Lieutenant-Col. H. Kilgour, recruiting staff officer, Woolwich, gave an interesting lecture at the Bromley Drill Hall, on "the advantages of the Army."

5th—The Annual meeting of the Bromley Literary Institute was held. Mr. E. Latter presiding, when Messrs. T. C. Dewey and W. McKewan, J.P., were added to the list of vice-presidents.

5th—In consequence of the prevalence of scarlet fever in the district, the Bromley Guardians placed a building at the disposal of the Joint Hospital Board.

5th—Lecture on "Longfellow," by Mr. Robt. Whyte, jun., before the Chislehurst men's social bible class.

6th—The annual cross-country race of the South of the Thames Cross-Country Association, was held at Oakley Park, Bromley Common, over a course of about 7½ miles, and won by Mr. C. Winterbourne, (Brighton County Harriers) in 47mins. 7secs. The St. Mark's A.C. was first in club competition. 231 runners took part in it.

6th.—Triennial election of the Mottingham School Board when there were only two candidates for five seats.

6th.—A meeting of inhabitants of Beckenham, was held for the purpose of starting a fund in aid of the sufferers from the Indian Famine. Mr. A. H. Baker, J.P., chairman of the Council, presided and Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P., was the principal speaker.

7th.—The old house "Blackbrook," Southborough, was destroyed by fire.

8th.—On the motion of Mr. Loly, the quorum of the Bromley School Board was reduced from five members to three.

9th.—A Scotch concert of a high-class, was given under the auspices of the Bromley Temperance Socitey.

10th.—Grand concert, given by Madame Amy Beresford, at Bromley, when among the artistes were Mr. Ben Davies, Madame Clara Perry, Mr. Bantock Pierpoint, Madame Amy Beresford, and Mr. Morten Cotton.—An encouraging report was presented at the first annual meeting of the Bromley Presbyterian Church of England.

11th—The annual general meeting of the subscribers to the Bromley Cottage Hospital was held, Mr. W. McKewan, J.P., hon. treasurer, presiding, and a satisfactory report as to the progress of the hospital was presented.

12th—The Bethesda Choir, composed of Penhryn quarrymen, sang at the Bromley Congregational Church and acquitted themselves admirably. A collection in their aid was taken and amounted to £25; the following Sunday they visited the Farwig Wesleyan Mission, when £17 was raised.

14th—Dean Farrar preached at St. Paul's Church, Beckenham, in aid of the fund for the restoration of Canterbury Cathedral.

18th—Charles Turner, a general dealer, of Chislehurst, was discovered dead on top of his van, in Orchard-road, Bromley, death being due to diabetes.

18th—Successful Concert at the Village Hall, Chislehurst, in aid of the Royal Gardeners' Orphan Fund.

23rd—Inquest on a Bromley man named Thomas Roots, whose death occurred from injuries received in falling out of a cart the previous Saturday. Verdict, "Accidental Death."—Parish Meeting at Chislehurst to consider the advisability of applying to the County Council to constitute Chislehurst an Urban District, when a proposal in favour of such a course was defeated by 110 votes to 56.

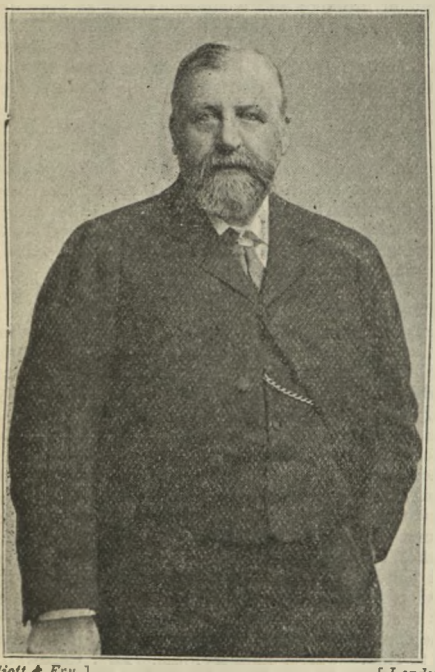
24th—Public Meeting at the Clock House Hall, Beckenham, to express sympathy with Greece on her attitude towards Crete, the Rev. G. Manby in the chair, addresses by Mr. H. J. Tor, Bishop Jenner, and others.—Inaugural Meetings of the Local Free Church Council, in the Bromley Congregational Church; addresses by Rev. T. Nicholson (in the chair), Rev. Dr. Monro Gibson, Rev. C. H. Kelly, and others.—Organ Recital at Bromley Parish Church, by Mr. P. G. Hodsoll, organist and choirmaster of East Farleigh Parish Church.—Shakespearean and Dramatic Recital by Mr. Ernest Meads at Bromley Grand Hall, in aid of the Plaistow Church Enlargement Fund.

RECORD PORTRAITS.

No. XVII.—Mr. R. B. MARTIN, M.P.

The introduction of Mr. Richard Biddulph Martin, of Chislehurst Common and Lombard-street, City, into our Portrait Gallery, this month, needs no justification, that gentleman being very well known, by name at any rate, to a large majority of the residents of the district. He is frequently seen in our midst, when in residence at Chislehurst, and for some years has been a justice of the peace for the county, attached to the Bromley Division.

Mr. Martin is the elder son of Mr. Robert Martin, of Overbury Court, Tewkesbury, Worcestershire, by Mary Anne, daughter of the late Mr. John Biddulph, of Ledbury. He was born in 1838, and educated first at Hardenhuist, near Chippenham, at a school severely, but not unjustly criticised by Mr. Augustus Hare in his recent autobiographical



Elliott & Fry,] [*London.*

Mr. R. B. Martin, M.P.

sketches. Subsequently he proceeded to Harrow and Exeter College, Oxford, where he graduated B.A., in 1859 and M.A. three years later. After leaving college he commenced life as a banker, was the senior partner in the well-known firm of Martin and Co., bankers, of Lombard-street, London, and is now chairman of Martin's Bank, the limited company formed to succeed to the old business, and which has a branch office in Bromley.

Mr. Martin has been interested in several financial and other companies. He is chairman of the Assets Realisation Company, and of the Debenture Corporation, also of the British North Borneo Company, which received its charter from the Government of Mr. Gladstone, whose eloquent speech in the House of Commons, when the granting of the charter was opposed by certain members, was a complete exposition of the policy of granting charters to adventurous Englishmen, and may, at this moment be read with interest and instruction.

It was in 1878 or 1879 that the subject of our sketch was made a justice of the peace for this county, and notwithstanding his many commercial and parliamentary duties, Mr. Martin still finds time to occasionally assist in the administration of justice at the Bromley Petty Sessional Court, where, however, the number of magistrates is generally in excess of the accommodation provided. In 1864 Mr. Martin married Mary Frances, only daughter of the late Admiral Richard Crozier, K.T.S., of West Hill, Isle of Wight.

As a politician, Mr. Martin first came under public notice in 1868, when, in conjunction with the present Lord Cobham, he unsuccessfully contested the Parliamentary seat of East Worcestershire, as a Liberal, his advocacy of the ballot being considered very advanced by the majority of Liberals. He again experienced defeat as a candidate for the City of London, in 1880. In July of that year, however, he was returned as Member of Parliament for Tewkesbury, and five years later, on the disfranchisement of Tewkesbury as a parliamentary borough, he sought the suffrages of the electors of the Chelmsford division of Essex, but was once more defeated, and had a similar experience in the Ashburton division of Devon, in 1886. In July, 1892, however, he re-entered the House of Commons as the Liberal Unionist Member for the Droitwich division of Worcestershire, in succession to Mr. John Corbett, the well-known creator of the salt industry in Droitwich, Mr. Martin's poll at this contest being 3,980 votes, as compared with 3,410 recorded in favour of his opponent, Mr. Thomas English Stephens, who fought the seat as a follower of Mr. Gladstone. At the General Election in 1896 Mr. Martin was again returned for the same seat, and this time unopposed.

Among various other offices filled by Mr. Martin, mention may be made of his occupancy of the post of President of the Institute of Bankers, of which he was one of the founders; his election as Treasurer of the Royal Statistical Society; while he is also a director of the Sun Fire Office and of the Sun Life Assurance Society, a F.R.G.S., and a vice-president of the Anthropological Institute. He has also been elected Treasurer of the recently established "Childhood Society, formed by eminent scientists for the better understanding of the problems connected with the education of backward children.

Mr. Martin is well-known locally, having resided at Bickley for fourteen years—from 1865 to 1879—and during this time he took a prominent part in founding the West Kent Archery Society, which meets at Widmore. In 1869 he was elected a member of the Bromley Local Board, and for three or four years rendered valuable service in this capacity. In 1879 he succeeded his uncle, Mr. James Martin, in the property at Chislehurst, formerly in the occupation of Mrs. Labouchere, grandmother of the proprietor of "Truth," where, till a few years ago he constantly resided, and still spends a part of each autumn, while his town address is No. 10, Hill-street, Mayfair.

Beyond being a conservator of Chislehurst Common, and a magistrate, Mr. Martin has necessarily, owing to his temporarily brief residence, taken no active part in local affairs for some time, and consequently, in an interview with our representative, he courteously declined to express any decided views upon the Urban Council question, and other matters which have been engaging so much attention at Chislehurst. Needless to add, however, he takes a lively interest in all movements for the progress and prosperity of the district, and is connected with the private company recently formed for supplying Chislehurst with the electric light.

"EN ROUTE TO CHINA."

(By a Bromley Lady.)

(*Continued from page 33.*)

One advantage of Brindisi is that the ship can go quite close to shore, and be connected by a gangway with the quay, so that passengers do not have to hire a boat every time they go on shore. Brindisi is not a very pretty place, though it looks picturesque from the sea. The houses have a great deal of white paint about them, but they do not look clean, and the streets are untidy. We wandered about the streets in the twilight and admired the fierce-looking Italians strolling about, wrapped in their long cloaks. I do not suppose that they were really very fierce, but there was a great deal of stage villain in their air and expression, and one could not help imagining a long knife hidden in the folds of the cloak. So dear is the cloak to the Italian heart that those who have coats almost invariably wear them hanging on their shoulders with the sleeves flying freely, as much "a la cloak" as possible.

In the noisy fruit-market we bargained for apples, lemons and oranges, surrounded by a crowd of dirty little Italian boys, who seemed to regard us as great curiosities.

The S.P.G. has a nice little church at Brindisi, just on the quay, and we attended two services there on Sunday. The church is rather dark, having windows only at the east end, square windows of plain glass, through which may be seen oranges nodding on their trees, and a tangled growth of green.

In the afternoon the Chaplain acted as guide, and took us to see a garden not far from the town, belonging to a Mr. G., a most jolly good-natured old fellow, who took us round his garden and gave us all branches of orange blossom, eucalyptus leaves, olives and all sorts of things. I ate one olive, but did not enjoy it much—the after taste, ugh!

A rather curious sight was that of oranges, lemons and almonds all growing on the same tree. I think that the oranges and lemons were grafted on the almond tree.

When we had wandered about the garden we were taken indoors to have tea. The sitting-room seemed greater in height than in breadth or length, which had a very curious effect, and the red-tiled floor and high arched, painted ceiling contrasted strangely with very English looking furniture, and crowds of photos of English faces. The eldest son of the house, a sturdy freckled lad of about 14, was home from an English school for his holidays. He spoke English only, and had forgotten all his Italian. His little sister, on the other hand, a child of about 12, spoke only Italian; she could understand English to a certain extent, but not speak it. Mrs.G. was most delighted to entertain such a large party, and with much gratification counted twenty seated round her table for tea. Mr. G amused us with the history of his life, shouted in a large and cheerful voice; the date of his birth, of his marriage, &c., being emphasised with a slap on his knee or the table. Immensely proud of his eight children, he declared that he only wished he had more. "So long as there's enough food to go round, the more the merrier, says I." With great gusto he also counted on his fingers the different trades and professions in which he had acted, and deemed himself proficient. Among them I heard with horror that he had acted as doctor and dentist to the community. "What another man can do, I can do, that's what I say." Personally, I should prefer toothache to the tender mercies of a dentist thus qualified!

In the evening the mails came on board, between two and three thousand great sacks of letters and parcels. The mail vans dashed up to the quay, agile brown men seized the sacks and, bending nearly double under the weight, rushed up the gangway, where a Lascar took each sack and handed it on to a sailor, who shouted the name printed on it, and flung it down the hatchway. Quick, quick, one after the other, till the van was empty. Then the crowd of Italians loafing on the quay set up a shout, the van was driven off, soon to be followed by another.

We left Brindisi on Sunday evening, the next three days were stormy, and I rather imagine that the meals in the saloon were but sparsely attended. I did not go to see. The revolving chair in which Miles, the steward, has such trouble to fix me (because it wants oiling) stood empty and desolate for three days. On the Wednesday, kind, but cruel-seeming hands dragged me on deck, where I lay helpless among a melancholy crowd. The Captain declared the deck looked like a picture of "After the battle," wounded wretches lying in all directions. The Captain makes delightfully sharp remarks in a very dry voice. I wish I could remember some of them, but sea-sickness has an evil effect on intellect and memory as well as appetite.

Next day, what a change! We stopped at 7 a.m. at Port Said. Every chair was filled at breakfast-time, and afterwards all the poor wretched invalids of the day before started off gaily in boats, sculled by grimy Egyptians, for the Port. Very eager we were to be off the ship, for coaling had begun; the air was filled with a fine mist of coal dust, and the decks grew every minute more dusky of hue, while black creatures, somewhat resembling men bent double, rushed up and down the gangways with sacks of coal, in such quick succession as to make one giddy to look at them, howling and yelling and making most ghastly noises.

Port Said itself is the abode of noise. Along the main street the shop-keepers instead of waiting for customers inside, howl praises of their wares without, as soon as they see foreigners approach, "Come inside and see, no charge anything for looking Best Turkiss Delight. Flor water ver cheap. Everyting here for de ladies," &c., while all along the street the vendors of wares throng on every side, catching at one's sleeve, and thrusting trays of little fancy articles under one's face, praising everything loudly in very curious English. One man pursued us with a large basket of oranges. "One hundred oranges for two shillin', two bob for this whole basket, only two bob!"

I believe some one was deluded into buying the basket, only to find that the lower half was filled with straw, with two layers of oranges above. The donkey drivers were most persistent in begging us to ride, "'Mrs. Langtry,' dis, 'Mrs. Cornwallis West,' 'Two Lovely Black Eyes.'" 'Mrs. Langtry' was decidedly the nicest donkey, and a tiny girl, who was of our party, took her place on "Mrs. Langtry's" back with great pride. One little beggar girl, clad only in a long strip of blue calico, pursued us with out-stretched hand. "No fader, moder, brudded, ta-ra-ra-boom-de-ay, gif me a penny." I wonder what she thought she was saying.

Blue calico seems a most favourite material in Port Said, many of the men wore very full bloomers of it, with ragged shirts or jackets above, and either turbans or a red fez with black tassel. Sometimes dirty white trousers were preferred, with a long blue shirt hanging over them, and a sash round the waist. We bought a great many things in the shops, generally at most exorbitant prices, for though we haggled, and tried to beat the vendors down, they would only take off a few pence, declaring that they would lose on the bargain. Frequently, we marched off and left a shop-keeper wildly protesting, as we declared our final price, and refused to be persuaded.

At 11 we were off again, slipping slowly along the Suez Canal, and the greater part of the afternoon was passed in looking from side to side of the ship. Such queer-looking objects appeared occasionally to break the monotony of the wide stretches of sand hills and plains. Here, an Arab would be lying at ease, near a sort of shanty on the bank, there, a couple of thin starved-looking camels would be walking along with packs on their backs. Some few eagles we saw, and literally thousands of seagulls hovering over the Canal, or near some distant small pieces of water amidst the sand. Then we would glide by queer house-boats moored to the shore, near which a goat and some fowls would be trying to pick up a living. At the "stations" were ships moored to let us pass, as we are "privileged," being a mail-boat.

After dark we reached the fresh water lake, and anchored for some hours, while passengers left for Ismailia, and about twenty new ones came on board. A steam launch came alongside, and great piles of baggage were transferred, followed by their owners, who waved their hands as the little steamer carried them away, and called out cheerful adieux to the friends they were leaving. The lake was delightfully calm, and a few stars made little paths of light across the water. Ismailia was only a faint distant outline, and, as our ship was still, there was a delicious quiet, only broken now and then by the notes of a bugle, which came over the waters mellowed by distance.

I find the Red Sea less hot than I imagined it would be; but I suppose that this is the best time of year for passing through it. The punkahs go all through the meals, pulled by brown boys in red turbans, who grin and seem to enjoy their work thoroughly. The stewards put ice in our glasses, and the cook favours us with a good deal of ice-cream. Awnings have been put up over the decks, and we sit or lie under them for the greater part of the day. Not much promenading is done until after sunset, and then we all take constitutionals up and down.

I saw the Sunday inspection for the first time yesterday. Truly a transformation scene; for the dirty ragged clothes of the Lascars disappeared, and they blossomed out into spotless white muslins, to which some added silk jackets of gorgeous hues, while their faces, free for the time from coal-dust, shone like copper newly polished.

This morning we passed the Twelve Apostles, great rugged rocks, twelve in number, rising sharply out of the sea, at unequal distances from each other.

A SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION FIASCO.—Saturday, Feb. 6th, was the day fixed for the triennial Election of the Mottingham School Board, but on the day named it was ascertained that though there were five seats to be filled, only two candidates had been nominated, viz.: Mr. W. J. Miller, farmer, and Mr. W. Lenny, commercial traveller. That being the case these two gentlemen were declared by the Returning Officer to be duly elected. On Feb. 20th, a Parish Meeting was held at Mottingham, Mr. Kingzett presiding, when resolutions were passed declaring that proper notice of nomination had not been given, and expressing a want of confidence in the two members elected, and it was decided to send copies of the resolutions to the Education Department.

KESTON.

We regret to record the death of Miss Chapman, who had for some years in conjunction with her sisters carried on a private school at Keston House. The deseased lady was well known and highly respected in the neighbourhood.

BROMLEY LITERARY INSTITUTE.

The annual meeting of the Bromley Literary Institute—established over half-a-century ago—was held at the Institute, Widmore-road, on Friday Feb. 6th. Mr. E. Latter (the honorary treasurer) presided, and there were also present: Mr. A. S. Gedge, Mr. J. Weeks, Mr. J. Churchill, Mr. D. Grinsted, Mr. W. L. Crossley (honorary secretary), Mr. A. Rogers, Rev. — Keen, and Mr. Tredekind.

The first business was to receive the Committee's report for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1896, which stated:—"The income derived from members subscriptions shows a small diminution. This is entirely due to a smaller amount being carried over from the previous year; as a matter of fact, the actual receipts from this source were slightly larger in 1896 than in 1895, and the Committee trust that this augmentation may continue during the following year. Arrangements have been made whereby the Bromley Camera Club rent one of the upper rooms as a 'dark room,' to the mutual advantage of both societies. The lawn in the rear of the building has also been let for a term, thus adding to the revenue of the Institute. The Committee wish again to ask every member to assist in obtaining fresh subscribers, between 30 and 40 new members have been elected during the year, thus proving that a demand exists for such advantages as the Institute can offer, but it is necessary that this number be largely augmented to fill up the gaps caused by the establishment of the Free Library.

Mr. Gedge said he had great pleasure in moving the adoption of the report.

Mr. Grinsted seconded the proposition, which was carried.

The financial statement was next submitted, and showed a slight improvement on the previous year, inasmuch as the adverse balance of £27 6s. 4½d., with which the year commenced, had been reduced to £24 4s. 4d. The receipts included £126 17s. 4d. from members' subscriptions, and £77 2s. 6d. from entertainments, but the expenses of the latter had amounted to £57 2s. 6d. The total income, including the balance due to the Treasurer, was £283 9s. 1d.

On the special account for painting, &c., an improvement was also reported, the balance due on Jan. 1st, 1896, to the Treasurer, of £36 16s. 2d., having been reduced by special donations, to £29 3s. 8d.

Mr. Gedge remarked that the accounts were about £10 better than in the previous year. They ought, however, to have about four or five hundred members.

Mr. J. Weeks remarked that the subscription—which amounted to threepence weekly—was very low, and their reading-room was remarkably well supplied.

Mr. Churchill moved the adoption of the accounts, and this was seconded and carried.

The retiring officers were then elected "en bloc."

NEW BYE-LAWS.—The application to the Kent County Council, on the part of the Bromley Urban Council, for the enactment of a series of bye-laws, designed to put an end to the rowdyism in the streets, which prevails more or less all the year round in all parts of this district, has, we are glad to say, been attended by an excellent result. At the quarterly meeting of the County Council last month the Parliamentary Committee reported that their attention had been called to the demand which existed in certain parts of the county for bye-laws giving summary remedies for certain forms of disorderly conduct and other nuisances. The Committee had considered the bye-laws in force in other counties, and were of opinion that with re-

gard to certain matters similar provisions might be usefully adopted, and they accordingly submitted and recommended for adoption bye-laws dealing with the use of bad language, disorderly or indecent conduct, shooting galleries or roundabouts, racing on the highways, playing musical instruments, loitering, throwing stones, &c.—to which sliding on highways was subsequently added. The recommendation of the Committee was adopted. That these bye-laws are fairly stringent will be seen by the two samples given below, dealing respectively with racing on highways and the playing of musical instruments.

"Racing.—No person shall race either on foot or horseback or on or with any bicycle, tricycle, velocipede, or any other similar machine, or in or on any carriage or vehicle of any description on any highway within the said county to the injury of such highway, or to the injury, interruption, fear, or personal danger of any person travelling thereon."

"Playing Musical Instruments, &c.—No person shall sound or play upon any musical or noisy instrument, or sing or shout in any public place or highway within 50 yards of any dwelling-house after being required by any constable or by an inmate of such house personally or by his or her servant to depart from the neighbourhood of such house."

The penalty for a breach of any of the bye-laws will be a fine not exceeding £2 for each offence, and the regulations are to extend to all parts of Kent, except such as are within any municipal borough.

Miss Alice Borton's Concert.—On Feb. 2nd, Miss Alice Borton, of Bickley, gave a most successful concert at Queen's Hall, the result being that a substantial sum was handed over to the charity in aid of which the concert was given. Mesdames Alice Gomez and Wilson-Osman were enthusiastically encored, as was also Miss A. Borton for the beautiful rendering of her own pianoforte piece "Suites de Pieces," and Mr. W. Hann for his violincello solos. Mr. Jack Robertson and Mr. Norman Bath also received recalls and Miss Alice Borton is much to be congratulated on the success of this her first concert. Some of the accompaniments were played by Miss A. A. Read.

BECKENHAM.

A fund for the relief of the sufferers from the famine in India has been opened at Beckenham, having been inaugurated at a public meeting held on Feb. 6th, which was addressed by Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P. Already the large sum of £1408 has been raised.

Dean Farrar preached an eloquent sermon at St. Paul's Church, Beckenham, on Sunday, Feb. 14th, in aid of the fund for restoring Canterbury Cathedral. The sum of £81 was collected.

CHISLEHURST.

The Urban Council Question.—A Parish Meeting called to decide upon the Question whether Chislehurst should apply to be constituted an Urban District—a proposal which has been agitating Chislehurst for a long time past—was held in the Chislehurst Village Hall, on Feb. 23rd, and was attended by a large number of ratepayers. Mr. A. Travers Hawes, the Chairman of the Parish Council, presided, and was supported by the Clerk, Mr. J. Bowen, while among others present were Sir Patteson Nickalls and Messrs. N. Balme, Bartlett, Brown, Flegg, Willis, Campbell Russell, I. Rogers, C. Dabner, Whur, Pillman & F. C. Dobbing. Sir P. Nickalls, one of the conveners of the meeting, moved the following resolution :—"That it is desirable to apply to the Kent County Council to constitute the parish of Chislehurst an Urban District Council, under the provision of the Local Government Act, 1888, and that application be made in due course." Mr. N. Balme took the opposite side, and amongst those who also took part in the discusssion were Mr. I. Rogers (for the resolution) Mr. Bartlett (for), Messrs. Dabner, Whur, Dobbing, Hatch & Gray (against), and Messrs. Pillman, Brown & Bennett (for.) After Sir P. Nickalls had replied the resolution was put to the meeting and lost by 56 votes to 110.

FARNBOROUGH.

We have to record the death of Mrs. Mills, grocer, of Farnborough, who passed peacefully away last month, after many months suffering, at the ripe age of 78 years. Mrs. Mills was highly respected and loved by all who knew her, and the funeral was attended by all her children and grandchildren, and a large number of friends. The coffin was covered with wreaths, and the funeral arrangements were satisfactorily carried out by Mr. Owen.

ST. MARY CRAY.

Death of Mr. P. J. Stanger.—We regret to announce the death of Mr. Philip James Stanger, of Crosbie, Masons-hill, Bromley, which took place on Thursday, February 4th, after a week's illness, the result of his taking a chill. Mr. Stanger formerly carried on a successful business at St. Mary Cray, and on retiring took up his residence in Bromley. He had been in ill-health for the past ten years, but he still maintained his interest in St. Mary Cray. For some time he was the President of the Dartford Liberal Association, and at St. Mary Cray he did a great deal for the cause of Liberalism, being looked upon as the leader of the party in the district. He was an active organiser of political meetings, and during the seventies and early eighties worked hard for Sir John Lubbock, Mr. Saunders and Mr. H. M. Bompas, Q.C., who were at one time or the other candidates in the Liberal interest. Mr. Stanger remained a staunch Liberal to the last. He was highly esteemed in St. Mary Cray as an upright man of business, and as one who, in his public work, aimed at advancing the public good. For many years he was an active member of the Orpington School Board, and the confidence of the ratepayers was evidenced by the fact that he was invariably re-elected. Among other public positions held by Mr. Stanger, he was an active member of the Burial Board, a manager of the Endowed Schools, and a member of the old Highway Board. His religious sympathies were with the Congregational denomination, and though he held no official position in the church, he regularly attended the services at the Temple, even after he removed to Bromley, driving over whenever possible on Sundays. Mr. Stanger was an enthusiastic lover of cricket, and in his earlier days played a good game. He was a member of the Kent County Cricket Club, and made a point of attending all the County matches at which it was possible for him to be present. The Canterbury week always found him a visitor to the Cathedral City. The funeral took place at the St. Mary Cray Cemetery.

BLACKBROOK.

A Destructive Fire.

The view and particulars of the old house known as Blackbrook, Southborough, which we give below, will, we are sure, be of interest to our readers.

Blackbrok or Blackbrook was an estate separated from the chief manor of Bromley at an early date.

Dr. Beeby's paper on the "Church and Manor of Bromley" contains the following particulars of the estate: "Blackbook was held by Sir Thomas Latymer, to whose father a charter of free warren was granted in 1329, and the Latymers conveyed the estate to Richard Lacer and Juliana his wife. In the Close Roll, seventh year of Edward III., are two deeds recording the transfer of Blackbrok and other lands in Bromley to Richard Lacer, who also possessed property at Deptford. He was Mayor of London, and assisted in punishing the abettors of the rebellion under the Earl of Kent. Lacer married a second time, and there is a memorial brass in Bromley Church to his wife Isabella, who died in 1361. At a short distance is a place of considerable antiquity called Turpington Farm, which tradition points out as the site of the Court-house of the first Lords of Blackbrook. Writing in 1797, Wilson, in his history of Bromley, says 'I heard this place was famous for having been an ancient barony of one of the feudal lords; was shewn a farm-house that had been the baron's court-house, and another which had been the jail.'"

The name of Blackbrook is very probably taken from the stream which runs in front of the house, and which, in rainy weather is very dirty and discoloured. Very little is known of the history and former occupants of the house. In the middle of the present century it became the residence of the Rev. J. E. Newell, the late Vicar of Bromley. It was then occupied in turn by Dr. Oldham and the late Mr. Sidney Williams, a well-known publisher, who died there.

During Dr. Oldham's tenure it was taken, furnished, for a short period, by the celebrated novelist, George Eliot, and her husband, and the former thus writes concerning it:—"Sept. 4, 1873—Went to Blackbrook, near Bickley. . . . 11th Oct.—We are really enjoying the country, and have more than our share of everything. George has happy mornings at his desk now, and we have fine bracing air to walk in—air, which I take in as a sort of nectar. We like the bits of scenery round us better and better as we get them by heart in our walks and drives. The house, with all its defects, is very pretty, and more delightfully secluded, without being remote from the conveniences of the world, than any place we have before thought of as a possible residence for us." It is alleged that George Eliot wrote part of one of her books while staying at Blackbrook, and as "Daniel Deronda" was published shortly afterwards, it is possible that it may have been the one.

It is supposed from the moulding and turned work on the staircase that the old part of the house dated back to the 16th century. It was built with oak timber and the walls were to a large extent composed of lath and plaster. Some of the bedrooms had the old-fashioned tyebeams running across the rooms, standing up in some instances over six inches above the floor level. It had, we believe, the customary ghost attached by superstition to such venerable buildings.

The house had recently been purchased by Sir Christopher Robert Lighton, Bart., who had just added a new wing to it. With Lady Lighton, he entered upon residence in it on Friday, Feb. 5th, and on Sunday, the 7th, it was destroyed by fire, with the exception of the new part, the schoolroom, kitchen and scullery.

The Fire.

It appears that on Lady Lighton awaking early on Sunday morning, she noticed a smell of burning, and informed her husband, who made an inspection of the house, but, finding nothing amiss, returned

to rest. Someone passing the house about 9.45 a.m., observed smoke coming through the tiles of the roof and gave the alarm. The attics were then well alight. The news was brought to the Bromley Fire Station by Sir Robert Lighton's coachman, who reached there at about 10.30, in a pony trap. The Bromley firemen, under Captain Hopton, speedily responded to the call, every member being in attendance. The distance of two miles or thereabouts was covered in good time, and on arrival it was found that the premises were well alight. The roof, in fact, had almost entirely given way, and the flames had obtained a strong hold on most of the rooms. The water hydrant was found to be about six hundred feet away from the house and as the hose brought by the firemen was not long enough to reach that distance, it was decided to commence operations with the water from an adjacent pond. The Brigade were soon at work, though the supply of water from this source was hardly sufficient, as it was from a stream running through the pond and steps had, therefore, to be taken to keep water of sufficient depth in the pond. Two branches of hose were set to work on the inside and outside of the burning building, and it was found possible to prevent the fire extending to the new portion of the house. The assistance of the Chislehurst Fire Brigade was also summoned, and on arrival they were able, by the use of some of the Bromley hose with their own, to obtain a good supply of water from the hydrant. Twelve of the fifteen rooms in the house were, however, completely burned out, but fortunately most of the furniture, which had not been properly arranged since the removal, was got out and stored in Mr. Knight's warehouse opposite. Some heavy articles, such as wardrobes, &c., had to be left, and these were totally destroyed. A large crowd collected during the day, and it was five o'clock in the afernoon before the firemen were able to relinquish their efforts. Sir Robert and Lady Lighton were amongst those who watched with anxiety the efforts of the firemen battling with the flames. Inspector Hool and a batch of police officers were in attendance and rendered aid to the two Brigades. The contents of the house were insured in the London Fire Office, and the building in the Guardian Fire Office. The fire originated, it has been ascertained, through a beam in the chimney catching fire, and there is no doubt this had occurred when Sir Robert Lighton made a search in the early morning, so that the premises must have been well alight before the outbreak was discovered.

Our illustration is from a photograph by Mr. G. W. Smith.

Rural District Council Elections.—The dates for election of rural district councillors have been fixed by the Local Government Board. The notice of election must be given not later than Saturday, 13th March, and the latest hour for receipt of nomination papers will be noon on Thursday, March 18th. Decisions as to the validity of nomination papers must be given not later than Friday, March 19th. On the following day at latest the statement of persons nominated must be made out. Candidates cannot withdraw later than noon on Tuesday, March 23rd. Notice of poll must be given five clear days at least before the election, and the day of election will be Monday, April 5th, or such other day (not earlier than Saturday, 3rd April, or later than Wednesday, 7th April), as may for special reasons be fixed by the County Council.

KENTISH CASTLES.

QUEENBOROUGH CASTLE.

At what date a castle was first built at Queenborough, guarding the water passage there, is not precisely known, but there appears to have been some sort of defensive work at a very early period. The building generally known as Queenborough Castle was built anew by Edward III., about 1361, "for the strength of the realm, and for the refuge of the inhabitants of this island." This work of re-building was planned and carried out by William of Wykeham, who, in spite of difficulties of position and lowness of the site, erected a large, strong, and magnificent fortification, suitable for receiving his royal master. When finished, the King paid a visit to it, remaining several days. He made the town a free borough, and named it after his Queen, Philippa, by royal charter, in 1366.

Queenborough Castle has figured but little in history, but it was nevertheless a building of some importance. During the reign of Richard III., and again in 1536, when Henry VIII. was adding to the fortification of the southern coast of England, Queenborough Castle was repaired and strengthened if not materially enlarged. Constables were regularly appointed to the castle until the year 1648, when the stronghold was seized by the Commonwealth Council, among other possessions of the crown, and vested in trustees. What is of still greater interest to us is the fact that in the 1650 a survey was made of the castle. This document informs us that the fortress contained about twelve rooms in the basement and forty on the upper floor. It was a circular building of stone, with six towers and out-houses, all roofed with lead. Within the walls was one small round court paved, and in its centre was a large well. A great court surrounded the castle and on the outside was the moat.

Queenborough Castle was situated close by the high road from Queenborough to Eastchurch, and occupied a space of upwards of three acres.

At the time of the survey referred to, it was described as being "much out of repair, and no ways defensive, by the Commonwealth, being built in the time of bows and arrows." It had no command of the sea, and no platforms for guns, and was therefore considered useless as a fortress. It was accordingly demolished, and the materials were valued at nearly eighteen hundred pounds. All that now remains of the castle are the moat and the well. The latter has been cleaned out and is still used as a source of water supply.

RICHBOROUGH.

Every visitor to the quaint old town of Sandwich must have observed, at the distance of about a mile, in the direction of Minster, a point of rising ground crowned with some old stone walls, partially covered with ivy. It is one of the first walks outside the boundary of the town taken by a stranger to the district, for it enjoys the reputation of being one of the finest Roman ruins we have in the kingdom. It is certainly the finest to be seen in Kent, and its position upon the highest point of land in the neighbourhood and the great thickness of its walls have led to its being spoken of by the name of Richborough Castle. As a matter of fact, however, it is not, and never has been a castle, as we now understand the word. It was rather a strongly-walled town. It was the chief port on the south-east coast of Britain, during the period of the Roman occupation of this island, and is unquestionably of great interest, as having been one of the most important and impregnable of defensive

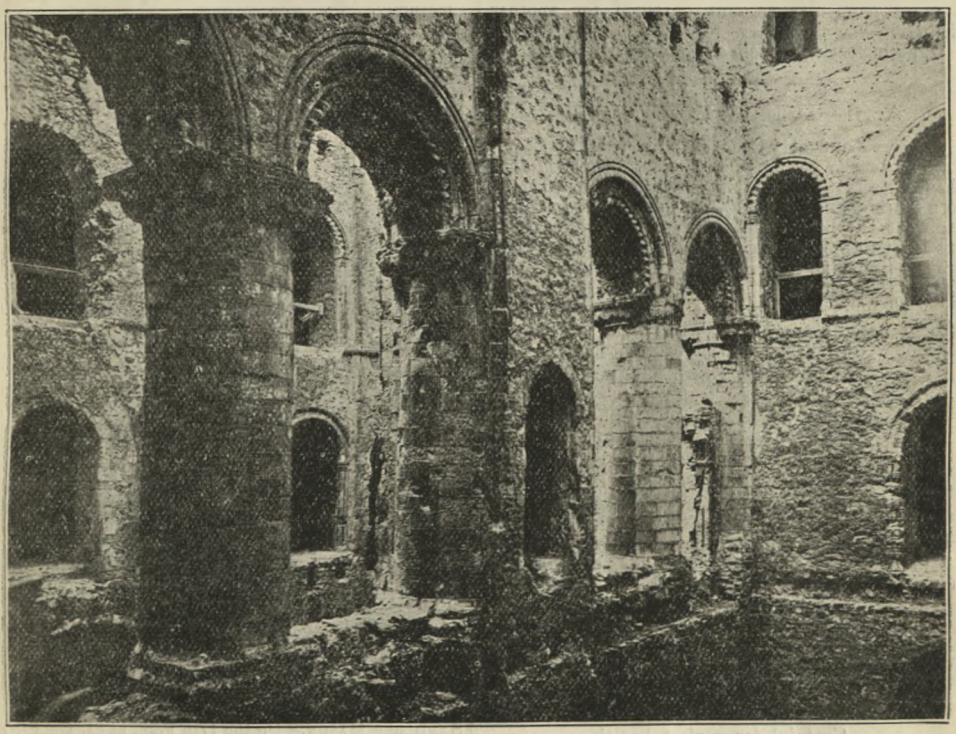
works in the county. For this reason it can hardly be omitted from our account of the Castles of Kent.

The walls, some of which are several feet in height enclose a small field, in the middle of which is a very remarkable subterranean quadrangular mass of masonry, which has long been and still remains an antiquarian puzzle. Excavations, which have been made around it, have shown that the masonry extends to a considerable depth.

The ruins were visited some years since by the Kent Archæological Society, upon which occasion the late Mr. Charles Roach Smith delivered an address, and among other matters treated of by that able antiquary, was the question of the probable use of this strong underground masonry. Mr. Smith gave it as his opinion that this might have contained an apartment or probably two or more apartments for the safe storage of the tribute collected by the Romans in Britain. Some more recent opinions upon the subject incline to the idea that it formed the foundation of a very high wooden watch tower or signalling structure, or even lighthouse, but, whatever it may have been there can be no doubt about the importance of the place in Roman times. It was conveniently near the Gaulish coasts, and during the sway of the Romans it must have been on the high road of communication between the interior of Britain and the Continent. The old Roman road called Watling Street which reached as far as Chester, ran through Richborough and so on to Dover.

The importance of Richborough, or Rutupium, as the Romans called it, as a maritime port must have been very much greater in former times than at present. The river Stour was much deeper, and ships of large size came up the river as far as Sandwich as recently as the times of Queen Elizabeth.

The various antiquities which, from time to time, have been discovered at Richborough present a picture of life and commercial activity in strange contrast to the present desolation and solitude of the spot. Coins, pottery, and various articles of domestic use tell of the times when these venerable and weathered walls looked down upon a busy crowd of Roman merchants and soldiers. A little way from the town wall there is a circular depression. This was the amphitheatre, and hither, at holiday time come the townspeople for amusements, as near like those of their native Rome as this comparatively uncivilized island could afford. The spot is now a mere field and the silence scarcely broken, except for the sound of sheep-bells or the song of the lark. The river on whose bosom Roman galleys floated and the landing-place at which they were moored, just under the steep escarpment on the east side of the site of the town, have both undergone a scarcely less remarkable transformation. Owing to the filling up of the river, navigation is limited to small boats and barges, and the whole place has become depopulated and given up to the purposes of husbandry.



An Interior View of Rochester Castle.

ROCHESTER.

The point at which a great road running through a district in one direction, crossed a deep and broad river running in another direction, must naturally have been a place of considerable military importance, upon all warlike occasions, and during every minor local disturbance. It is not surprising, therefore, to find traces of early defensive works at Rochester, a point at which we find precisely these conditions. The great Roman road which begins at Dover and runs through Richborough, and thence quite across Kent, through London, and on to Chester, was named Watling Street by the Saxons—a name which is still borne by that portion of the old road which runs across London. At Rochester the Medway was crossed probably by means of a ferry or floating bridge. Here, therefore, was a point which required special protection to safe-guard the two main avenues of communica-

tion between the various localities in Kent, which had been occupied by the Romans, and, although subsequent buildings and alterations of the surface have largely obscured traces of ancient fortification, sufficient evidences remain to show that earthworks on a large scale existed in Roman and probably earlier times. In general form these works enclosed an oblong space of large dimensions. The City of Rochester was enclosed by walls and ditches in Roman times; and on the site of the present Cathedral, there once stood a Roman Church.

The Castle, in which we are more particularly interested, stands on the highest point of ground in the place, and forms a very noble object from the banks of the Medway. Its magnificent walls, even in their decay, bear eloquent witness to the skill of their builders, and are likely to stand for many centuries a monument of Norman architectural achievement, and a valuable example of ancient masonry. The various features of this castle are so numerous and so important that we must reserve a more particular account of them for another chapter.

Our illustration is from a photo by Mr. E. Bacon.

A SINGULAR MONUMENT.

A correspondent writes:—On a visit to Leamington, in the spring of last year, I strolled into the Cemetery there, and my attention was attracted to a mass of rock, 8 to 10 feet long and 4 to 5 feet high, at the higher end. In incised tablets were cut inscriptions, of which I send you a copy, they are so eminently characteristic of the modesty of Tracey Turnerelli of the Beaconsfield "Golden wreath" notoriety that some of your readers may like to become acquainted with them. I do not remember to have seen them in print before:—

On One Side.

To my beloved wife,
Martha,
Sister of Thomson Hankey, M.P.,
Governor of the Bank of England,
now in her 80th year of age
I inscribe this commemorative Tablet.

Born and bred in the midst of riches and luxury, She was lowly minded and humble, a friend to the poor, a constant attendant on the sick a good wife and mother, and a practical working [Christian.

Thinking of thee, I thank my God.
Phil. 1, 4th.
Tracy Turnerelli, Aug., 1893.

On the Other Side.

Grateful for perfect health
at 80 years of age,
This stone will record the Volunteer work of one who owes to God, a long happy public life and at fourscore years,
A body without an ailment
A mind without a regret,
A name without a stain.
Tracy Turnerelli.

Author of "Peace," "What I did in 1851 to promote it," "Sixty years of Conservative work," "Kazan, travels in Asiatic Russia," &c., &c.

Died 24 Jany., 1896,
Aged 84 years.
R.I.P.

At the Head.

This Rock was erected by his Son, in memory of Peter Turnerelli, Sculptor to George 3rd and 4th, who died in 1839, and lies buried at St. John's Wood, London.

The National Monument of Burns at Dumfries was one of his many works.

At the Foot.

By their works, judge them.
Rev. xx. 12.

Births.

Beck.—On the 12th Feb., at Wayside, Chislehurst, the wife of Gilbert F. Beck, of a son.

Colchester.—On the 27th Jan., at Winfrith, Bickley, the wife of Maurice H. Colchester, of a son.

Crutch.—On the 8th, Feb, at Bromley, Kent, the wife of William F. Crutch, of a son.

Duff.—On the 17th Feb., at 18, College-road, Bromley, Kent, the wife of D. A. Duff, of a son.

Hemmant.—On the 18th Feb., at Lamorna, Bromley, the wife of Fred. W. Hemmant, of a son, prematurely.

Man.—On the 30th Jan., at Harleyford, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Fredk. H. D Man, of a son.

Umney.—On the 8th Feb., at Courtfield, Beckenhamgrove, Shortlands, Kent, the wife of Percy Umney, M.A., Cantab, Solicitor, of a son.

Marriages.

Allen—Stokes.—On the 28th Jan., at St. Mary's, Shortlands, by the Rev. Canon Beck, M.A., Rector of Rotherhithe, assisted by the Rev. H. F. Wolley, M.A., the Vicar, Richard John Walter Allen, son of Stephen R. Allen, J.P., C.C. of Pembroke Dock, to Agnes Martha, eldest daughter of James J. Stokes, of Springfield, South Hill Park, Bromley, Kent.

Clark-Smith—Pennington. On the 16th February, at All Souls' Church, Harlesden, London, by the Rev. H. E. Carlyon, M.A., Vicar, the Rev. Thomas Clark-Smith, M.A., Curate of S. John's, Bromley, Kent, to Annie Pennington, third daughter of the late Alexander Gordon Matheson Cameron, M.D., of Demerara.

Hutton—Wilkinson.—On the 28th Jan., at the Bromley Wesleyan Church, by the Rev. James Crabtree, of Headingley, the Rev. Samuel Hutton, of Britwell, Tetsworth, Oxon., to Miss Wilkinson, of Finsbury-park, N., formerly of Huddersfield. No cards.

Russell—Thomson.—On the 16th Feb., at St. Mary's Church, Shortlands, by the Rev. H. F. Wolley, M.A., Vicar, Henry, third son of John Russell, Esq., J.P., of Glenview, Limerick, to Florence, youngest daughter of the late Thomas Thomson, of Chalfont, Eden Park, Beckenham, Kent.

Sanders—Mason.—On the 17th Feb., at St. George's, Hanover-square, by the Rev. David Anderson, Isaac Sanders, of Bromley, Kent, to Sarah Sophia, widow of the late Christopher G. Mason.

Deaths.

Alston.—Feb. 20th, in Madras, John Hope Alston, of Tuticorin, second son of James Brown Alston, of Loancroft, Bromley, Kent, aged 35.

Cator.—On the 21st Feb., at Wady Halfa, of enteric fever, Edmund Humphrey Style Cator, lieutenant Royal Engineers, youngest son of the late Bertie Peter Cator, of Beckenham, in his 25th year.

Crutch.—On the 14th Feb., at Bromley, Kent, Maude Mary, the dearly-beloved wife of William F. Crutch, and third daughter of the late H. E. Bound, of 259, Camden-road, N.

Firth.—Feb. 6, 1897, at Mounthill, Beckenham, Kent, Harry Gordon, the fourth son of Francis Helme Firth, aged 25 years. Indian and Colonial papers please copy. Friends will kindly receive this (the only) intimation.

HAINES.—On the 8th Feb., at Hawthorne, Bickley, Kent, Isabelle, the beloved wife of R. T. Haines, and eldest daughter of Major G. I. de Winton, late of the 99th Regiment, aged 46.

JENNINGS.—On the 10th Feb., at 22, Fox-grove-road, Beckenham, Sarah Elizabeth Jennings, aged 80.

MALTBY.—On the 9th Feb., at Camden Wood, Chislehurst, Sarah Maltby, aged 64.

MAN.—On the 30th Jan., at Copehurst, Beckenham, Kent, Frederick Man, late of 7, Mincing-lane, E.C., in his 72nd year.

STANGER.—February 4th, at Crosbie, Bromley, Kent, Philip James Stanger, aged 63.

SURIE.—On the 11th Feb., at Crathorne, Chislehurst, Henry Arthur, son of Pieter Surie, in his ninth year.

TANNER.—On the 12th Feb., at Dunreigh, Albemarle-road, Beckenham, Anthony Richard, infant son of William Anthony and Mabel Constance Tanner, aged 4⅓ months.

FUNERALS.—J. HUMERSTON, Undertaker and Appraiser, 17, East Street, Bromley; Upholsterer and Cabinet Maker. rc132

MONUMENTS, HEADSTONES, CROSSES, in Stone, Marble, or Granite. Imperishable Lead Letters, &c.—W. HINCHLIFFE, Mason, London Road, Bromley, Kent.

MONUMENTAL.—Before purchasing a MONUMENT, T. CANDY would earnestly invite parties requiring the same to visit his extensive Works (Elmers End Road, Beckenham), where the largest Stock in the Trade may be seen. Ten minutes from Kent House Station.

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BOARD AND RESIDENCE—comfortable house, near South Eastern Station. Q., Clevedon, Tweedy Road, Bromley, Kent. rp393

Wanted to Purchase.

WANTED.—*BROMLEY RECORD* for years 1858 and 1859, and other numbers. S., *Bromley Record* Office, 14, Market Square, Bromley, Kent.

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MISS ROBINSON, Dressmaker, 27, Palace Road. By the day or week: at home or ladies' houses. terms moderate. rp93

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BROMLEY COTTAGE HOSPITAL.

TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending Thirty-First December, 1896.

It will be within the recollection of the Subscribers, that in the last Annual Report the question of increased accommodation for Patients was referred to and at the Annual Meeting more fully entered upon.

Since that meeting this question of enlargement has occupied the continuous and anxious attention of the Committee, and after much consideration it was decided to avoid all disturbance of the Patients, by erecting a building on a portion of the garden ground in front of the Hospital and connected with it by a short covered way.

To this proceeding the consent of the late Mr. Devas was necessary and this consent was readily given.

The services of Mr. Evelyn Hellicar, A.R.S.B.A., were engaged as architect and he was directed to prepare plans and specifications—these in the judgment of the Committee appeared to be most skilfully arranged, and such they now prove to have been.

Tenders were invited from four local Builders, that of Mr. T. D. Graty was accepted, and early in May the work was commenced.

The Committee would have hesitated to enter upon a task, which they felt would necessarily be an onerous one, had it not been for the munificent promise of £525 from one of their members and of large sums promised by others of them, these in the aggregate amounting to £907 7s.

Early in April, they issued a preliminary appeal somewhat limited in number, asking for promises, and within less than a month, they had the satisfaction of receiving such promises to the extent of about £600.

Thus encouraged they issued a second appeal, which was more widely distributed, and were soon gratified by feeling that success was assured, and that their confidence in the liberality of friends of the Hospital in Bromley and its vicinity had not been misplaced.

The main work was completed at the end of October, the necessary furniture and fittings were purchased, and during November the Nurses entered their new quarters, and the Rooms in the Hospital vacated by them were arranged as Wards for Patients.

Some necessary work in the Main building, and in the interior of the rooms in the new one has had to be deferred until the Spring, when that will be completed.

Among the results of the Enlargement, are:

- More suitable accommodation provided for the Nursing staff.
- The number of beds for Patients (formerly 20) increased to 32.
- The Main building of the Hospital (with the exception of the Matron's rooms) entirely devoted to Patients.

No stronger evidence could be given of the necessity for the enlargement that has taken place, than in the increased and increasing number of Patients; the total number dealt with during the year 1896 was 286 of whom 267 were new admissions and 19 of those admitted the previous year; this compares with a total for the year 1895 of 218 of whom 16 were admitted during the year 1894.

There were 19 Patients under treatment at the close of 1896, and within three weeks after, the number was increased to 26.

The grateful thanks of the Subscribers and of the Patients, are due to the constant and self-denying labours of the Honorary Medical Officers for the great skill and attention they show to the sufferers.

They are pleased to report that Mr. Alban Doran, Surgeon to the Samaritan Hospital for diseases of Women, has consented to act as an additional Honorary Consulting Surgeon.

However valuable may be the skill and attention shown by the Medical Officers, this would be of little avail, if not supported by like qualities in those who have to watch the Patients by day and by night, and the Committee desire to record their grateful thanks to their esteemed Matron Miss Davis, whose skilful and sympathetic care, with that of the other members of the Nursing Staff, conduces so greatly to the comfort and healing of the Patients.

It is a source of much gratification to the Committee, that the Nurses are now more suitably lodged than they have ever been before.

A perusal of the Medical Reports and of their Summary will interest any who sympathise with Hospital work, as showing how widely spread are the advantages to the suffering poor afforded by this institution and others of a kindred nature.

The Committee acknowledge with grateful thanks the services of Miss Heppel, of the Girl's Public Day School, in promoting, with the assistance of her friends and her pupils, a Bazaar and Entertainment by which the sum of £75 was added to the funds of the Hospital, they would equally acknowledge the kind help of other friends and of some of the Tradesmen of the Town by which the Hospital has been benefited.

The amount received from the Hospital Sunday Fund, from Collections in Congregations (apart from that fund) and from Friendly and other Societies, have been welcome additions to the income of the Institution.

The Presents received from week to week of game, poultry and eggs, fruit and flowers, books, pictures, &c., have been very acceptable. while the gifts of cast linen have been most useful.

The Committee desire to tender their warmest thanks for the liberality shown by the Donors to the Enlargement Fund, through which the usefulness of the Hospital has been so greatly increased.

A List of the Subscriptions and an account of the Expenditure, so far as has been ascertained, appears at the end of this Report.

It will be evident that the growing number of Patients and the increase of accommodation for them, will involve an addition to the Staff of Nurses and a considerable augmentation of the expense of maintenance; the Committee therefore earnestly, and with confidence, appeal to those Residents who are not already Annual Subscribers, that they will become so, in order that the efficiency

of the treatment and nursing of the Patients, may not be impeded through want of adequate pecuniary support.

The Hospital is situated in South Hill Road, Mason's Hill, five minutes' walk from the Bromley Station of the London, Chatham and Dover Railway.

The Committee invite Subscribers or other Residents to visit the Hospital: an inspection of the Building, with its quietness and good order, will tend to stimulate their interest in the welfare of the Institution.

Visitors may rely on receiving a courteous welcome from the Matron and Nurses.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1896.

Dr. INCOME.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
A. ORDINARY—			
Annual Subscription		452 0 6	
Donations	75 5 6		
Boxes	3 11 0		
		78 16 6	
Hospital Sunday Fund		82 9 1	
Church Collections (apart from Hospital Sunday Fund)		43 7 2	
Entertainments		87 15 7	
INVESTED PROPERTY—			
Dividends on £800 Victoria 4 per cent. and £700 Canada 3 per cent. inscribed Stock	51 4 8		
Income Tax returned	1 15 6		
		53 0 2	
NURSING INSTITUTION—			
Probationers' Fees		45 0 0	
PATIENTS' PAYMENTS—			
In-Patients		146 7 7	
Total ordinary Income			988 16 7
Cash Balance at 1st Jan., 1896			270 2 8
			£1258 19 3

EXPENDITURE.

Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
A. MAINTENANCE—			
PROVISIONS—			
Meat	130 6 5		
Fish	11 15 3		
Milk	59 4 8		
Bread, Flour, &c.	29 2 2		
Grocery	125 11 2		
Vegetables	2 8		
		358 8 5	
SURGERY AND DISPENSARY—			
Drugs, Chemicals, and Disinfectants, &c.	80 5 5		
Instruments and Appliances	50 11 0		
Wines and Spirits	34 5 8		
		165 2 1	
DOMESTIC—			
Renewal of Furniture	37 4 3		
Washing	59 17 7		
Water	4 11 8		
Fuel & Lighting	100 4 0		
Uniforms	6 7 9		
Sundries	19 7 3		
		227 12 6	
ESTABLISHMENT CHARGES—			
Rates & Taxes	6 13 11		
Insurance	3 19 0		
Garden	7 16 1		
Repairs (ordinary)	116 1 11		
		134 10 11	
SALARIES, WAGES, &c.—			
Matron & Nurses	101 9 9		
Wages (Servants)	75 12 8		
		177 2 5	
			1062 16 4
B. ADMINISTRATION—			
MANAGEMENT—			
Official Printing, Stationery and Postage			53 14 9
Total Ordinary Expenditure			1116 11 1
Cash balance at 31st December, 1896:—			
In hand		7 18 5	
In Bank		134 9 9	
			142 8 2
			£1258 19 3

[*AUDITORS' CERTIFICATE.*]

We have examined the above Accounts with the Books and Vouchers of the Hospital, which we have duly audited. We have further verified the Balance of Investment of £800 Victoria 4 per cent. Inscribed Stock, and £700 Canada 3 per cent. Inscribed Stock, as also the Cash at the Bank and in hand, and certify the same to be correct.

W. McKEWAN, Hon. Treasurer.
H. HERBERT PAIN, Hon. Secretary.
London, February, 1897.

GERARD VAN DE LINDE & SON,
Hon. Auditors, Chartered Accountants.

NOTE.—Estimated Outstanding Liabilities:—£157 15s. 6d.

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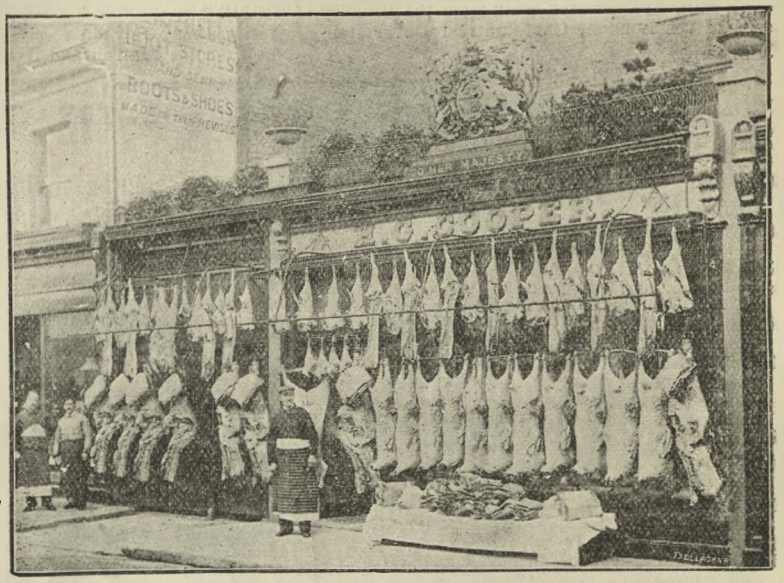

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,,	Surrounding Villages, about ...	4,000

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Wednesday, April	14th	Wednesday, July	7th	Wednesday, September	22nd
Wednesday, May	5th	Wednesday, July	21st	Wednesday, October	6th
Wednesday, May	19th	Wednesday, August	4th	Wednesday, November	10th
Wednesday, June	16th	Wednesday, August	18th	Wednesday, December	1st

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AND

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SHORTLANDS.—Well-built double-fronted Detached Residence. Good garden. Rent: unfurnished £100 per annum; furnished 5 guineas per week.

DARENTH.—Desirable Family Residence, overlooking Darenth Valley. Stabling. Grounds of 7½ acres. Rent £110.

FAWKHAM.—A well-built and comfortable Residence. Stabling for four horses, &c. Well-established grounds of over 12 acres. Rent £150.

ST. MARY CRAY. — Well-built Detached Family Residence. Stabling for five horses. Large garden. Rent £120.

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BROMLEY SCHOOL OF MUSIC, 5, Aberdeen Buildings, High Street, Bromley (branch of the Beckenham School of Music and Art, Established 1883.) President: The Duke of Fife, K.T. Vice-Presidents: Sir Arthur Sullivan, Mus. Doc.; Prof. C. Villiers Stanford, Mus. Doc., D.C.L.; Prof. Joseph Joachim, Mus. Doc. Examining Visitors: Miss Fanny Davies, Sir Walter Parratt, Mus. Doc., Walter Macfarren, Esq., Otto Goldschmidt, Esq., Josef Ludwig, Esq. William Shakespeare, Esq. Director of Studies: Arthur O'Leary. Fifty eminent Professors, selected from the Royal Academy of Music, Royal College of Music, Guildhall School of Music, &c. Thirteen Scholarships and Prizes offered annually. Fees from £1 11s. 6d. per term of 12 lessons.

Particulars by letter to the Secretary, or personally on WEDNESDAYS from 2.0 to 4.

BECKENHAM SCHOOL OF ART, 10 and 11, The Parade, Beckenham. Director of Studies and Visiting Examiner: John Brett, Esq., (Associate of the Royal Academy). Art Master: Mr. Oscar Tolhurst. Particulars by letter to the Secretary, or personally at Beckenham, on Wednesdays from 9.30 to 12.30.

MADAME AMY BERESFORD, Professional Vocalist, gives lessons in Singing; particular attention given to correct production of voice, and clear enunciation. Terms for Concerts, 'At homes,' and lessons, apply to "Simla," The Avenue, Bickley.

MR. F. FERTEL (Organist and Choirmaster Bromley Parish Church) gives lessons on Pianoforte, Organ, Singing & Harmony. Holmcroft, Holwood Rd., Bromley.

"SPENLOVE" SCHOOL OF ART,
"THE YELLOW DOOR" Studios,
(near Ry. Stations). BECKENHAM.
Principal and Director:
Mr. FRANK SPENLOVE-SPENLOVE, R.B.A.,
(by Royal Charter) Royal Academy, Paris, &c.

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4/- PER BOTTLE.

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BROMLEY, KENT.

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48/- PER DOZEN.

MELLOW, SOFT AND WITH FINE FLAVOR.

G. PAMPHILON & SON,

WHOLESALE & FAMILY WINE MERCHANTS.

ILLUSTRATED REVISED CASH PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

Champagnes. *per doz*

Louis Pamphilon, Epernay 1889 Vintg. 60/-
Ditto ditto extra quality 78/-
Pol Roger .....1889 vintage
Piper-Heidsieck.....1889 "
Bollinger.....1892 "
Giesler, 1st Quality .....
Mumm. G. H. & Co.....
Louis Roederer.....1892 "
E.Irroy & Co.,Carte D'or 1892 "
Pommery & Greno .....1892 "
Heidsiecks Dry Monopole 1889 "
Perrier Jouet, P.D.C. .....

Market Prices

Specialites for Invalids.

Champagne in Quarter Bottles.

Louis Pamphilon, Cuvee Reservee.. 18/-
Perrier Jouet 24/-

Other Sparkling Wines

Asti Spumante (Italian) 36/-
Saumur 36/-
Sparkling Burgundy, 1st Quality ... 60/-
Ditto Hock 54/
Ditto Moselle 54/

Half Bottles, 6/- per 24 extra
Single Bottles same rates.

Still Hocks.

	per doz. bot.	*per doz. half-bot.*
Laubenheimer	18/-	11/-
Nierstein	24/-	14/-
Erbacher	30/-	17/-
Hochheim	36/-	20/-
Liebfraumilch	42/-	23/-
Red Hock	30/-	

Australian Wines.

	pr doz.	*pr bot.*
Sauvignon	16/-	1/4
Branxton Cabernet	21/-	1/9
Tintara	26/-	2/2
Riesling (White)	24/-	2/-
Highercombe (White)	30/-	2/6

In Quart Flagons.

Red & White Burgundy 30/- 2/6
Tintara and Ophir..... 42/- 3/6
6d. each allowed for Flagons when returned.

Italian Wines

	pr doz.	*pr bot.*
Vino da Pasto	12/-	1/-
Valtellina	18/-	1/6
Chianti	24/-	2/-
Capri (White)	24/-	2/-
Vino Vermouth	36/-	3/-
Sparkling Asti	36/-	3/-

Chianti.

In Tuscan Flasks.

18/- & 36/- per doz. 1/6 & 3/- each.

California Wines.

Burgundy 18/- 1/6
Hock 30/- 2/6

Aerated Waters. *per doz.*

Schweppe's Soda, Seltzer & Potass 3/-
Ditto Lemonade and Ginger Ale..... 3/6
Soda, Seltzer & Potass 2/-
Lemonade & Ginger Ale 2/6
Syphons — Soda, Potass, Seltzer, Lemonade 4/-
Johannis's Appollinaris, Ginger Beer in Stone Bottles.

Burgundies.

	pr doz.	*pr bot.*
Macon .....1893 vintage	20/-	1/8
Beaujolais .....1892 "	24/-	2/0
Beaune.....1891 "	30/-	2/6
Pommard .....1889 "	36/-	3/0
Volnay.....1884 "	42/-	3/6
Pommard, Superior, 1887 "	42/-	3/6
Chambertin.....1881 "	72/	6/-
Chablis ..... 24/- to 36/-		

Half Bottles.

Macon	12/- 1/-
Beaujolais	13/6 1/2
Beaune	16/6 1/5
Pommard	19/6 1/8
Volnay.....	23/- 2/-

Ports.

Good Young	24/-	2/-
Fine old Tawny	36/-	3/-
Ditto well-matured	48/-	4/-
Superior old fine quality	54/-	4/6
Ditto Crofts No 1.....	60,-	5/0
Ditto, ditto Grand Wine	66/-	5/6
Ditto very choice	72/-	6/-
Ditto rare old wines	84/- to 150/-	

Tarragona. *pr doz.*

Superior Wines..... 12/- 18/- & 24/-

Liqueurs. *pr bot. pr ½bot.*

Curacoa...	5/-	2/9
Maraschino	5/-	2/9
Chartreuse yellow.....	8/-	4/6
Ditto Green.....	10/6	5/9
Benedictine	7/-	3/6
Kirsch Wasser	3/6	
Kummell Riga	4/-	
Noyeau, Pink	2/6	
Angostura Bitters	2/9	
Heering Copenhagen Cherry Brandy	4/6	2/6

Cordials. *pr bot.*

Pamphilon's Cherry Brandy	3/-
Orange Bitters.....	3/-
Peach Bitters.....	3/6
Ginger Brandy	3/6
Rum Shrub	2/6 3/-
Peppermint	2/- 2/6
Cloves.....	2/- 2/6
Noyeau	3/-
Milk Punch	3/6
Lovage	2/6

Bottled Ales, Stout, Etc.

	pr doz. Imp pts.
Pamphilon's Special Dinner Ale	2/6
Ditto Nourishing Stout	2/6
Light Dinner Stout	3/-
Bass Pale Ale (½ pints 2/6)	4/-
Bass No. 1 Burton in ½-pints.....	3/6
Pamphilon's Pale Ale	3/-
Pilsener Lager Beer (½ pints 2/6).....	4/6
Guinness' extra Stout (½ pints 2/6).....	4/-

Clarets. *pr doz. pr bot.*

Claret	12/-	1/-
Vin Ordinaire	15/	1/3
Vin de Medoc .....1893 vintage	18/-	1/6
St. Julien .....1893 "	24/-	2/-
Pauillac .....1891 "	30/-	2/6
Margaux.....1890 "	36/-	3/-
Chateau Margaux 1889 "	54/-	4/6
Chateau Palmer ...1890 "	54/-	4/6
Chateau Leoville ...1887 "	60/-	5/-
Chateau Larose ...1890 "	60/-	5/-
Sauternes, Graves .....21/- to 36/-		

Stock in Half-Bottles.

Claret.....	9/- 9d.
Medoc	10,6 11d.
St. Julien	13/6 1/2
Pauillac.....	16/6 1/5
Margaux	19/6 1/8

Sherries.

Natural Sherry.....	16/-	1/4
Sherry	18/-	1/6
Light Sound Wine	24/-	2/-
Old fashioned Brown	30/-	2/6
Pamphilon's Dinner Sherry.....	30/-	2/6
Nutty Character	36/-	3/-
Golden, Generous	42/-	3/6
Very Fine Brown	42/-	3/6
Pale old Dry	48/-	4/-
Ditto very Choice...	54/-	4/6
Choice old Rare Wines.....	60/- to 100,-	

Marsala. *per doz.*

Ingham & Woodhouse.....18/- 21/- & 24/-

Madeira.

Various .... 36/- to 60/-

Scotch Whiskies.

	pr gal	*pr doz*	*pr bot*
Good	15 -	30/-	2/6
Fine old.....	18 -	36/-	3/-
Superior 5 years old.....	21 -	42/-	3/6
Glenlivet Bd, 7 years old...	22 -	44/-	3/6
Very fine Highland Malt ...	22 -	44/-	3/8
Pamphilon's VOS. guaranteed 10 years old		24/-	48/- 4/-

Irish Whiskies.

Good	15/-	30/-	2/6
Fine old.....	18/-	36/-	3/
Superior old.....	21/-	42/-	3/6
Do.,J.Jameson's,old Bonded	24/-	48/-	4/-

Rum.

Jamaica.....	15/-	30/-	2,6
Old Jamaica	18/-	36/-	3/-
V. O. Jamaica.....		3,6 and	4/-

Brandies.

Pale.....	18/-	36/-	3/-
Fine old Pale ..... *	24/-	48/-	4/-
Fine old Cognac..... **	27/-	54/-	4/6
Finest old Cognac ... ***	30/-	60/-	5/-
Choice old Cognac ... ****	34/6	69/-	5/9
Curious Old Cognac.....		100,-	8/6

Gins.

Cordial & Unsweetened	12/-	24/-	2/-
Fine old Tom	1 /-	30/-	2/6
Ditto Finest.	16/-	32/-	2/8

Sloe, Orange, and Hop Gin.

CASK ALES.

OUR SPECIALITÉ **F.P.A.** BREWED FROM PURE MALT & HOPS.

Per Kild., 18/- ; Per Firkin, 9/6 ; Per Pin, 4/9.

ALL THE LEADING BRANDS OF **HAVANA CIGARS** CLUBS AND THE TRADE SUPPLIED

QUERNMORE HOUSE SCHOOL,

BROMLEY, KENT.

Boys from 5 to 15 years prepared for the Public Schools, the Navy, and other Professions.

THE STAFF INCLUDES

SEVEN UNIVERSITY GRADUATES,

Four of whom are in First-class Honours.

Iron Play-room for wet weather All games played under the supervision of Masters.

Special classes for very young or backward boys are conducted in separate premises by Ladies, aided by Masters.

A Class in Vocal Music and Sight Singing is held weekly by Mr. F. Lewis Thomas, This may be joined by boys not in the School.

For Prospectus apply to

G. LOLY, B.A., Head Master.

BROMLEY HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS,

ELMFIELD ROAD, BROMLEY, KENT.

Head Mistress: MISS HEPPEL, B.A.

THE SUMMER TERM WILL BEGIN ON TUESDAY, MAY 4th, 1897.

Prospectuses and forms of application for admission may be obtained at the School, or from the Secretary of the Girls' Public Day School Company Limited, 21, Queen Anne's Gate, London, S.W.

A PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT IS ATTACHED TO THE SCHOOL.

The Head Mistress will be at the School to recieve Parents and to enter Pupils on Thursday and Friday, April 29th and 30th, from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.

JAMES YOUNG,

LATE

J. K. HUNTER,

PRACTICAL COACH BUILDER

LONDON ROAD, BROMLEY.

Carriages built on the most approved principles.

GRAND HALL, BROMLEY.

MR. F. LEWIS THOMAS

HAS PLEASURE IN ANNOUNCING A

Grand Evening Concert

AT THE ABOVE HALL,

On TUESDAY, MAY 11th, 1897.

ARTISTES:

MADAME CLARA SAMUELL.

MADAME MARIAN MACKENZIE.

MR. HERBERT GROVER.

MR. SANTLEY.

MR. BERTRAM H. LATTER.

Violin - - - - MR. ARTHUR W. PAYNE.

Violoncello - - - - MR. SIDNEY BROOKS.

Solo Pianoforte - - MR. F. LEWIS THOMAS.

Conductor - - - MR. W. HENRY THOMAS.

DOORS OPEN AT 7.15 P.M. for Ticket Holders only. COMMENCE AT 8.0 P.M.

TICKETS:—Reserved Seats, 5s. Unreserved Seats, 3s. Two Front Rows of Balcony, 2s. Back of Balcony, 1s.

To be obtained on and after April 5th at Messrs. E. Strong & Sons, "Bromley Chronicle" Office, 14, Market Square, Bromley.

GEORGE PYRKE,

147 & 148, HIGH STREET, BROMLEY, KENT.

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Pianos (New and Second-hand), Bought, Sold, Lent on Hire, and Tuned by Contract or otherwise.
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SECOND-HAND FURNITURE BOUGHT TO ANY AMOUNT

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AND

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PUBLIC CALL OFFICE (Open Continuously)

Available for communications by Trunk Line with PROVINCIAL TOWNS and the METROPOLITAN AREA on payment of the usual tolls.

Private Wires erected and sold outright or maintained at an annual rental.

Head Office: Oxford Court, Cannon Street, E.C.

W. E. L. GAINE, General Manager.

AXMINSTER CARPETS.

BATCHELAR & SON,

LIMITED,

UPHOLSTERERS,

6, WIDMORE ROAD, BROMLEY.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

BATCHELAR & SON beg to draw attention to their prices for

AXMINSTER CARPETS

WITH BORDERS,

12ft. × 9ft. 9in.	...	...	...	£4 18 6
13ft. 6in. × 12ft.	...	...	...	£6 8 6
15ft. × 12ft. ...	...	...	...	£7 1 6
18ft. × 14ft. 3in.	...	...	...	£9 14 6

The above Quotations are for our SPECIAL AXMINSTER CARPETS, **3/11 per yard**, Bordered made and laid complete.

LARGER OR SMALLER CARPETS IN PROPORTION.

BATCHELAR & SON

LIMITED,

6, Widmore Road, Bromley.

APPOINTED BY SPECIAL ROYAL WARRANT

SOAP MAKERS TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

SUNLIGHT & LIFEBUOY SOAP COMPETITIONS.

£66,156 in PRIZES OF CASH BICYCLES* WATCHES† BOOKS GIVEN FREE during 1897.

RULES.

1. Competitors may enter EACH or EVERY MONTH for EITHER or BOTH "Sunlight" or "Lifebuoy" Competitions, but must SEND IN the "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY" Coupons in SEPARATE PACKETS carefully marked on the outside of the postal wrapper "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY."

2. For this Competition the United Kingdom will be divided into 7 Districts, and the prizes will be awarded every month during 1897 in each of the 7 districts as stated below.

3. Competitors to save as many "SUNLIGHT SOAP" or "LIFEBUOY SOAP" Wrappers as they can collect. Cut off the top portion of each wrapper—that portion containing the heading "SUNLIGHT SOAP" or "LIFEBUOY SOAP" Enclose with these (called "Coupons") a sheet of paper stating Competitor's full name and address, and the number of coupons sent in, and forward same (see Rule 1.) postage paid to Lever Brothers, Limited, Port Sunlight, near Birkenhead, marked on the Postal Wrapper (top left-hand corner) with the NUMBER of the DISTRICT Competitor lives in, and the word "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY," whichever coupons the packet contains.

4. The competition will CLOSE the LAST DAY of EACH MONTH. Coupons received too late for one month's competition will be put into the next.
All parcels on which Postage has not been fully paid WILL BE REFUSED.

5. Competitors who obtain wrappers from unsold soap in dealers' stock will be disqualified. Employees of Lever Brothers, Limited, and their families are debarred from competing.

6. A printed list of winners in competitor's district will be forwarded to competitors in about 3 weeks after each monthly competition closes.

7. Lever Bros., Ltd., will endeavour to award the prizes fairly to the best of their ability and judgment, but it is understood that ALL WHO COMPETE AGREE TO ACCEPT THE AWARD of Lever Bros., Ltd., as final.

LEVER BROS., Ltd., Port Sunlight, nr. Birkenhead.

No of district.	NAME OF DISTRICT.
1	IRELAND.
2	SCOTLAND.
3	LONDON, MIDDLESEX, KENT, SURREY.
4	WALES, LANCASHIRE, CHESHIRE.
5	NORTHUMBERLAND, DURHAM, WESTMORLAND, CUMBERLAND, YORKSHIRE, ISLE OF MAN.
6	SHROPSHIRE, HEREFORDSHIRE, MONMOUTHSHIRE, STAFFORDSHIRE, WORCESTERSHIRE, WARWICKSHIRE, DERBYSHIRE, LEICESTERSHIRE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, OXFORDSHIRE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, BERKSHIRE, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, RUTLANDSHIRE, LINCOLNSHIRE, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.
7	NORFOLK SUFFOLK, ESSEX, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, BEDFORDSHIRE, HERTFORDSHIRE, SUSSEX, HAMPSHIRE, ISLE OF WIGHT, CHANNEL ISLANDS, WILTSHIRE, DORSETSHIRE, SOMERSETSHIRE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, DEVONSHIRE, CORNWALL.

PRIZES FOR SUNLIGHT COUPONS.

	Total Prizes in all Districts during 1897.		
The **1** Competitor in each District who sends in the **largest number of Sunlight** coupons from the District in which he or she resides, will receive **£21 cash**	£1,764	0	0
The **10** Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number** will **each** receive, carriage paid, at **winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Helical **Premier** Bicycle,* with Fleuss pneumatic tyres, **price £21**	17,640	0	0
The **40** Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number** will **each** receive, **at winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Rolled Gold Watch,† **price £4 4s.**	14,112	0	0
The remaining **Sunlight** Competitors will **each** receive **Cloth-bound Books**, by Popular Authors, in the proportion of **1 Book** for **every 50 Sunlight** Coupons sent in	10,000	0	0
Total Prizes for Sunlight Coupons during 1897	£43 516	0	0

PRIZES FOR LIFEBUOY COUPONS.

The **1** Competitor in each District who sends in the **largest number of Lifebuoy** Coupons from the District in which he or she resides, will receive **£21 cash**	1,764	0	0
The **5** Competitors in each District who send in the next **largest number will each** receive, carriage paid, at **winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Helical **Premier** Bicycle,* with Fleuss pneumatic tyres, **price £21**	8,820	0	0
The **20** Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number will each** receive, **at winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Rolled Gold Watch,† **price £4 4s.**	7,056	0	0
The remaining **Lifebuoy** Competitors will **each** receive **Cloth-bound Books**, by Popular Authors, in the proportion of **1 Book** for **every 50 Lifebuoy** Coupons sent in	5,000	0	0
Total Prizes for Lifebuoy Coupons during 1897	22,640	0	0
GRAND TOTAL of all Prizes given for Sunlight and Lifebuoy Coupons, 1897	£66,156	0	0

* These Bicycles are the celebrated Helical (Spiral) Tube **"Premier"** Cycles, 1897 Pattern, manufactured by the New "Premier Cycle Co., Ltd., of Coventry and 19 & 20, Holborn Viaduct, London, fitted with the Fleuss Tubeless Pneumatic Tyres, Lamplugh Saddles and accessories.

† These are 14-carat Half-Hunter Rolled Gold Watches, jewelled, ¼-plate.

UBSCRIPTIONS.—The *Bromley Record* will be forwarded monthly, post paid, on payment of the annual subscription of Eighteenpence.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.—POSTAGE.—The *Bromley Record* (except when it contains a special supplement) can now be sent to any part of the world for one half-penny postage.

COPIES FOR BINDING.—Subscribers desirous of binding the *Record* can obtain uncut and unstitched copies.

BACK NUMBERS.—Back Numbers of a few issues can still be had on application at the office of the *Bromley Record* 14, Market Square.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISEMENTS. Page 30s Half do. 16s. Quarter do. 8s.
Column: 1s. 6d. three lines, and 6d. per line after.
First Page: 2s. 6d. for three lines, 9d. per line after.
Servants wanting situations: under 20 words 1s.
Births, Marriages, and Deaths, 1s. each.

MOON'S CHANGES.—APRIL.

New Moon, 2nd, 4.24 a.m. | Full Moon, 17th, 6.25 a.m.
First Quarter, 10th, 9.27 a.m. | Last Quarter, 23rd, 9.48 p.m.

The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

APRIL, 1897.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st—Confirmation at Church of the Annunciation, Chislehurst.
3rd—Polling for the election of Urban District Councillors, at Bromley.
4th—PASSION SUNDAY.
5th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30 a.m.
5th—St. Luke's Burial Board meeting, St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common, 8.15. p.m.
5th—Bromley School Board meeting, Council Offices, East-street, Bromley, 8 p.m.
5th—Polling for the election of Parish Councillors' at Chislehurst.
7th—Lantern lecture in connection with the Bromley Philharmonic Association, at the Co-operative Hall.
8th—Demonstration by Dr. Fleming, on the "X Rays," at the Bromley Grand Hall.
8th—Bromley Bible Flower Mission, Parish Room.
9th—Lecture in connection with the Bromley Camera Club, at Sicence and Art Schools, Bromley.
9th Monthly sitting of Bromley County Court, Court House, Bromley.
11th—PALM SUNDAY.
12th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30 a.m.
13th—Meeting of Bromley Urban District Council, Council Offices, Bromley, 7.30 p.m.
13th—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, ayne and Lepper of household furniture, &c., at The Chestnuts, Gwydor-road, Beckenham.
14th—Messrs. Baxter, Payne and Lepper's sale of 38 plots of freehold building land, Farnaby-road, Bromley, at the Mart, E.C., at two o'clock.
14th—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne and Lepper of Glenacote, Grove Park, at the Mart, at two o'clock.
16th—GOOD FRIDAY.
18th—EASTER SUNDAY.
19th—EASTER MONDAY.—Bank Holiday.
20th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30 a.m.
20th—Bromley School Board meeting, Council Offices, East-street, Bromley, 8 p.m.
22nd—Bromley Bible Flower Mission, Parish Room.
23rd—Performance of "St. Celia's Day, by Bromley Philharmonic Association, at Bromley Drill Hall.
23rd—Lantern evening in connection with Bromley Camera Club, at Science and Art Schools, Bromley.
24th—Bromley School Board election—Polling.
25th—LOW SUNDAY.
26th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30 a.m.
27th—Meeting of Bromley Urban District Council, Council Offices, Bromley, 7.30 p.m.
27th—Dramatic performance in aid of the Chislehurst Gymnastic Class and Band of Hope, at Village Hall.
27th—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne and Lepper of farming stock, at Sundridge Park Farm, Bromley.
28th—Theatrical entertainment in aid of St. Katherine's Parish, Rotherhithe, at the Village Hall, Chislehurst (and following night).
30th—Annual meeting of the Bromley Philharmonic Society, at the Bromley Co-operative Hall.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

Three meetings of this Authority have been held during the month, viz., on March 2nd, 16th and 23rd.

SCARLET-FEVER.

At the meeting on March 2nd, it was reported that 21 fresh cases of scarlet-fever had occurred in the previous fortnight. Eighteen of the cases were removed to the Infectious Hospital and the premises disinfected, the remaining three cases being properly isolated and nursed at home. The 21 cases occurred in 14 houses. On account of the number of cases and their being distributed in most parts of the district it was considered advisable to close the whole of the day schools throughout the district for a period of 21 days.

WIDENING OF PLAISTOW-LANE.

The Highway and Buildings Committee reported that a letter was read from Mr. H. H. Batten, stating the Trustees of the London Parochial Charities were prepared to throw into the public highway in Plaistow-lane a piece of land between Freelands and Hawes-roads, as shown on the plans submitted to them, subject to all expense being borne by the Council, and also the following matters, viz.:—1. Making up the roadway. 2. Filling up ditch, laying in drain-pipes if necessary, and forming the roadway. 3. Taking down the large trees overhanging the road, and depositing the same on the ground. 4. The present fences to be set back, and the frontage enclosed and made good with a rough fence as may be required.. The Committee recommended the Council to accept the offer on the conditions named.

In moving the adoption of this report, Mr. Mallett pointed out that the Council had been able to bring the negotiations for the widening of Plaistow-lane to a successful issue, and had obtained a piece of land 500 feet in length and averaging 10 feet in width to be thrown into Plaistow-lane. The land had been given them, and he thought the public ought to be thankful to the authorities for dealing so liberally with them in the matter. It would widen the road, from the end of Freelands-road to Plaistow-lane, some 40 feet, except a small piece by Sir Samuel Scott's lodge. Certain conditions were, he reminded the Council, attached to the gift, the works required being estimated to cost about £50, and as the Council had, in the estimates for the year, provided for the kerbing

and channelling of the same roadway, they would have a very good job made of it.

Road Repairing.

On the subject of the estimates of material required for road repairs, Mr. Mallett mentioned that the expenditure on the main roads was to be very considerable. No doubt many of the Councillors would agree that the road on Bromley Common was in a very bad state at the upper part, and arrangements had been made with the Surveyor and County Surveyor that that road should be made up thoroughly. The increase of expenditure on the main roads would be £1,063, but it would all be re-paid, and it included material for the making up of Plough-hill. On other roads, there was a reduction of £329, for as they had a full supply of material last year and the roads were in such excellent condition, the Surveyor would be able to economise, and let them off with about £329 worth of materials less as compared with last year's estimate.

Mr. Lawrence questioned whether it was advisable to use such a large quantity of flints on the main roads. Were they, he asked, to be put on and then covered with other material. As far as he was able to judge, flints ground down into nothing but pap, and he thought it would be money badly laid out. If the cost of the other material was greater he believed it would be a saving in the end.

Mr. Mallett said they proposed using more granite and quartzite than they had previously done.

Mr. Peill remarked that the road would be made up with flints and then given a coating of the other material.

The report was adopted.

Fire Alarms.

The Fire Brigade Committee reported in reference to the provision of fire bells and alarms, they had received the following offers from the National Telephone Company, Limited: 1. To provide bells to ring from the Fire-station to the houses of members of the Brigade, the Company are prepared to erect the lines and fix apparatus, maintaining the whole in good working order for an annual rental of 15s. per house connection. 2. To erect six fire alarm posts of the most reliable pattern, in the positions mentioned below, and connected by separate wires with Council's fire-station, fixing all necessary apparatus and keeping the same in good working order for the sum of £5 10s. per annum per post. The Company are prepared to supply and install the best and most reliable apparatus, and further, their contract to include maintenance, and to be for a term of five years and at its expiration to be an annual one subject to six months' notice on either side. The Company draw the Council's attention to the fact that in submitting these offers, they have calculated on the Council giving them all the wayleave facilities already applied for, and should these facilities not be granted the offers must be considered as cancelled. The Committee recommended that the offers submitted by the National Telephone Company be accepted. The following are the proposed positions of the fire alarm posts:—Sundridge Park-station, London-road (opposite Park End, Bromley (L.C. & D.Ry.) Station, Widmore-road, (opposite Shawfield-park), Bickley-station, Bromley Common (opposite Crown-lane), Bromley Common (opposite Holy Trinity Church). The Committee also recommended that a plan be prepared, to be hung in the Fire Station, showing the positions of all the hydrants in the district.

The recommendations were agreed to at the following meeting.

Drainage of Southborough.

At the meeting on March 16th, the Sanitary Committee reported that the Surveyor had submitted plans, sections, and estimate of cost of laying a sewer in Crown-lane and Southborough-road, and the Committee recommended that the Crown-lane sewer (No. 1) and section 1 (No. 2) of the Bickley Estate sewer, be proceeded with at once, and that formal application be made to the Local Government Board for their sanction to borrow the sum of £1,231 6s. 8d., the estimated cost of all three sections.

The report was adopted.

New Crossing Required.

At the meeting on March 2nd, the Clerk read a letter from Sir Gainsford Bruce, stating that there was great need for a crossing to be laid down across the road near the L.C. & D.R. station, at Bromley. In wet weather all the people coming from South-hill to the station had to cross over a very muddy road. He knew that from the slope in the road some little care would be necessary in the construction of the crossing, so as not to interfere with the horse and carriage traffic along the road, but he thought there was no insuperable difficulty. It was not necessary that the crossing should be exactly opposite the station; it would be a great boon if it were laid down at any convenient spot within fifty yards of the station.

The letter was referred to the Highways Committee.

The Mortuary.

The Sanitary Committee, at the next meeting of the Council, reported that they had considered the letter received from Mr. A. W. Pritchard, to purchase at a fair and reasonable valuation, the site of the present Mortuary in West-street, but after again carefully considering the matter were unable to recommend the acceptance of such offer.

Loans Sanctioned.

The following letter was received from the Assistant Secretary to the Local Government Board, dated February 23rd:—"I am directed by the Local Government Board to state that they have had under consideration the report made by their Inspector, Colonel Durnford, after the enquiry held by him with reference to the application of the Council for sanction to the borrowing of the sums of £1,730 for the improvement of High-street and Beckenham-lane, £1,130 for kerbing and channelling certain streets, £730 for works of surface water drainage, and £320 for the erection of urinals. The Board have decided to comply with the application except as regards the urinals, and formal sanction to the borrowing of the first three mentioned sums are forwarded herewith. I am, however, to state that the sanction to the loan of £1,730 is given subject to the condition that the thickness of the retaining wall to be constructed in Beckenham-lane will be increased by 6 inches throughout. As regards the proposed urinals, the Board consider that the site, in front of the new Post-office, is objectionable, and having regard to the considerable opposition which has been shown to this site they would suggest that the District Council should endeavour to obtain a better site. The Board direct me to add, with regard to the drainage of the urinals, that the drain pipes should be laid in straight lines and not in curves, as shown on the drawings."

The matter was referred to three Committees—the Highways Committee to take steps for carrying out the work, the Finance Committee to make arrangements for the loan, and the Sanitary Committee to again consider the question of providing public conveniences.

A Three per cent Loan.

At the next meeting of the Council the Finance Committed reported they have had under consideration the question referred to them by the Council, of raising the following loans, recently sanctioned by the Local Government Board, viz.:—£1,500 for works of Private Street Improvement. £1,730 for improvement of High-street and Beckenham-lane. £1,130 for kerbing and channelling certain streets, and £730 for works of surface water drainage, Masons-hill. A total sum of £5,090 is thus required by the Council, and the Clerk has made enquiries with a view to obtaining the amount required on the most advantageous terms. The most satisfactory offer has been received from the Yorkshire Penny Bank, who are willing to lend the Council the above-mentioned sum at 3 per cent., subject to the option of either party to terminate the loan as to any portion extending over 10 years at the expiration of that time, on six months' notice. The total charges in the matter, including stamp duty on the mortgage declaration, will amount to £45 16s. Your Committee therefore recommend that such offer be accepted, and that the Clerk be authorised to take the necessary steps for completing such loan.

Crematoriums.

At the first meeting of the Council a circular letter was read from the King's Norton Rural District Council, on the subject of the provision of crematoriums. The King's Norton Council were of opinion that in the interests of the public health it was very desirable that local authorities should, without having first to incur the expense of obtaining a Local Act, have the power to provide and maintain a crematorium, if they considered it desirable to do so.

The letter was referred to the Sanitary Committee, sitting as the General Purposes Committee of the Burial Board.

A Saturday Polling Day.

At the first meeting, Mr. Lawrence moved that application be made to the County Council to fix the polling-day at the coming elections on a Saturday. It would, Mr. Lawrence said, be more convenient both for the City gentlemen and the working-classes.

Mr. Davis questioned whether elections on Saturdays would not necessitate a great deal of work in clearing up the schools.

Mr. Dickins was also opposed to the alteration. With regard to the City gentlemen, he remarked that if they kept the polling-station open all the year round and on Sundays they would not get them to vote.

Mr. Peill supported the resolution, which was put to the meeting and carried.

At the next meeting of the Council the Clerk announced the receipt of orders from the Local Government Board, respecting the forthcoming elections; and also reported that the Clerk to the Kent County Council had written fixing Saturday, April 3rd, as the polling day.

The Disposal of House-refuse.

At the next meeting, on March 16th, the Drainage and Sanitary Committee reported as follows:—"Your Committee have had under their consideration the question of the disposal of the dust and refuse collected, which was referred to them by the Council in the Spring of last year. They find that the same condition of things which prevailed when a Committee of the Local Board reported on it in July, 1893, still exists, though to a certain extent the evils which then existed have been intensified by the growth in the population of the district, which has increased the bulk to be dealt with, and also by the continual spread of the inhabited area which has restricted the limits within which the collection can be safely deposited. The site which is now in use for the purpose is the same as that dealt with in the report of July, 1893, being a large excavation in the rear of Havelock-road, between that street and the Council's stone-yard. The deposit consists of the collections made by the dust-carts during several years, and comprises every description of house, kitchen and garden refuse, mixed with a varying quantity of earth and ashes, the whole mass existing in various stages of decomposition and fermentation. On the last occasion of your Committee's visit, the more recent deposit was giving off a most offensive smell, perceptible at a considerable distance, and the weather being dry and windy, large quantities of paper were strewn over the neighbouring land, and spreading on to the back gardens of the houses in Havelock-road; the same wind would naturally carry with it the lighter particles of dust from the heap, and even if these were harmless from a sanitary point of view,—which they are hardly likely to be, seeing the source from which they are derived,—they must inevitably be a great nuisance to the residents in the neighbourhood, and render it impossible for them to ventilate their houses freely when the wind is setting in their direction. In wet weather these particular evils are no doubt abated, but decomposition and fermentation must go on with greater vigour, giving rise in a warm condition of the atmosphere, to a freer discharge of noxious gases; these may be so sufficiently diluted as not to allow of any ill effects on the health of the neighbourhood being directly traced to their existence, but the possibility of mischief is always present, and it may break out when least expected. No doubt the admixture of a considerable quantity of earth and ashes has a deodorising, and partially disinfecting effect when dry, but then the risk of dispersal by the wind of noxious germs, comes into force. The process of complete decomposition evidently take a long time, as that portion of the heap which has been accumulating for two or three years, and is sifted for use in the brick field, retains a considerable and very perceptible degree of heat, as was evident by the quantity of visible vapour disengaged when your Committee was present, and the heat was plainly perceptible by touch as well as to the sight. Your Committee have since had a bacteriological examination made of a small sample from the old and new heaps respectively, and, whilst no germs of specific diseases were found in those particular samples, an immense number of germs were found, whose presence in the atmosphere is admittedly most prejudicial to the health of those into whose systems they may gain admittance. All the evils connected with the existence of these refuse heaps will in a short time be greatly aggravated, as the neighbouring land which is now vacant, will without doubt be covered with houses, roads having already been laid out ready for building operations. It has been objected that if the Council's collection of refuse were destroyed, a similar quantity would be imported from elsewhere for use in the brickfields, but your Committee venture to think that if it were found desirable to destroy the objectionable refuse produced in our district, for greater security to the health of the inhabitants, it would be found much easier to insist on the proper carrying out of the bye-laws with regard to the deposit of injurious and offensive matter in the district. In accordance with instructions from the Council, the Committee have taken counsel's opinion on the subject; this confirms the conclusion previously formed from reported cases, that, in the event of the Council deciding to discontinue the present deposit on the ground of its being a nuisance or injurious to the health of the neighbourhood, it is in their power to

order the removal of similar deposits and to prevent the recurrence of the nuisance. Your Committee are decidedly of opinion that the only sound and safe method for disposing of noxious refuse, is its destruction by heat, and it is for the Council to determine whether the proper time has arrived for the introduction into this neighbourhood of a system which is finding increasing favour with sanitary authorities, and which can now be carried out at a less cost than was previously contemplated, owing to the improvements which have been perfected as the result of longer experience. Your Committee annex a report which has been drawn up by the Surveyor, and which shows that a satisfactory arrangement can be made at an annual cost not exceeding a rate of ¾d. in the £. A great incidental advantage connected with such a plan would be the facility afforded for the destruction of offal and other offensive matters which tradesmen now find it so difficult to deal with, and which when allowed to remain even for a short time in the neighbourhood of dwellings, are both offensive and injurious to health."

This portion of the report was "received," and its consideration postponed.

Appointment of Overseers.

At the meeting, on March 16th, Messrs. R. Peill and D. Payne were re-appointed Overseers for the parish, with the addition of Mr. D. Grinsted.

Incorporation.

At the same meeting, letters were received from Messrs. W. H. Bosanquet and E. S. Harris, protesting against the Urban Council taking any part in the movement for the incorporation of the town. On the motion of Mr. Davis, the Council resolved to reply that they did not propose to take any part in it.

"Patience Rewarded."

A special meeting of the Council was held after the ordinary meeting, on March 16th, to consider a motion of which Mr. Peill had given notice, as follows:—"That the following resolution in reference to Chatterton-road, which was passed at a meeting of the Council held on Nov. 26th, 1895, be revoked, viz.: 'That no further action be taken in connection with this motion, until the road has been made up to the satisfaction of the Surveyor.'" Mr. Peill remarked that since he last brought the matter before the Council a largely signed requisition from the ratepayers had been received, and the Council had also taken over a road under the same conditions upon which Chatterton-road was rejected.

Mr. Worley seconded, remarking that he did so because the majority of the owners had paid or entered into agreements to pay their contributions.

The motion was carried.

Tenders for Horse Hire.

At the special meeting on March 23rd, the following four tenders were received for horse hire for the removal of house-refuse, the charges for one horse and set of harness per day being:—

Messrs. Peill and Son, 4s.; Mr. J. Murray, 3s. 2d.; Mr. E. Price, 4s. 9d.; and Messrs. Tuff, Ltd., 3s. 5d., the latter making a condition that if both their tenders were accepted the price would be 3s. 4d. per day.

The other tenders, for horse hire for the cartage of road materials, &c., were as follows:—Messrs. Peill and Son, 4s. per day for one horse and harness; Mr. J. Murray, 3s. 2d.; Messrs. Tuff, Ltd., 3s. 5d.: and Mr. E. Price, 4s. 1d.

In reply to a member, the Surveyor said Messrs. Tuff had carried out the work very satisfactorily for the last two or three years.

The Clerk remarked that Mr. Murray lived at 5, Cross-street, Woolwich, and he gave the necessary references.

Mr. Lawrence questioned whether it was possible to do the work at 3s. 2d. per day per horse?

In answer to Mr. Gilbert, the Surveyor said Messrs. Tuff's prices were about the same as last year.

Mr. Dickins said, in view of the fact that the Council had power to terminate the contract, he would move that the lowest tender be accepted.

Mr. D. Payne seconded.

Mr. Worley asked how many horses were employed?

The Surveyor said about twenty-five each day, ten for dust and the remainder for road-watering, flushing, &c., but sometimes they employed as many as thirty in the summer. He added that the charge of 3s. 4d. was, he considered, cutting it remarkably fine, and he did not know whether the horses would suffer in their provender.

Mr. Davis moved, as an amendment, that Messrs. Tuff's tender be accepted.

Mr. McIntyre seconded the amendment.

Mr. Peill supported the amendment, stating that even 3s. 4d. seemed too low a price.

After some further discussion, the amendment was put to the meeting, and carried by a majority of two, the voting being as follows:—For: Messrs. McIntyre, Peill, Bond, Davis, Hutchings, and Worley. Against: Messrs. Dickins, Lawrence, Gilbert and D. Payne.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

Meetings of the above Authority were held on Feb. 22nd and March 8th, 15th and 22nd.

Raglan-road School Extension.

At a special meeting on March 15th, the Clerk read a letter received from the Education Department approving of the plans for the enlargement of the Raglan-road School, which would afford accommodation for 360 junior mixed scholars and 344 infants, and also sanctioning the loan of £8,400 to carry out the same, the repayments to extend over fifteen years. At the same meeting the seal of the Board was attached to the Contract with Messrs J. C. Arnaud & Son, for executing the works in accordance with the accepted tender.

The Enforcement of Discipline.

In the Report presented at the meeting on Feb. 22nd, the School Management Committee recommended that an entry in one of the teacher's log-books be expunged.

Miss Heppel remarked that she strongly protested against expunging anything from the log-books. Miss Evans had put something in the log-book which the Committee disapproved of.

The Chairman said it would be within the recollection of the members that that head teacher refused to admit a child because either the child or its parents refused to apologise. They wrote a letter to her, pointing out that the code did not give her any power to refuse admission, and that there were the ordinary methods of correction, which she could resort to, but that expulsion from school was not one of them. They referred her to the code, whereupon she made an entry to the effect that the Board having deprived her of the power of enforcing

discipline in the school, had placed her in a position which rendered her powerless. The Committee asked her to expunge that entry, and Miss Heppel objected because she thought it would be restricting the freewill of the teachers.

Miss Heppel said her ground was that an entry in the log-book could not be expunged.

Mr. Loly said it was exactly on parallel lines with the log-book of the House of Commons, in which entries could be expunged from time to time. They maintained that that lady was not justified in putting the entry in the log-book, not because they wished to restrict her; but they had asked her to expunge an illegal entry.

Mr. Judd was also of opinion that the entry referred to was illegal.

The Chairman said there was no intention on the part of any member of the Board to do anything to embarrass that lady in the administration of her school, but rather to encourage her in every way. He then moved the adoption of the Committee's report which was carried.

Closing of Schools.

A letter was read from the Medical Officer of Health, at the meeting on February 22nd, enclosing notices referring to the closing of the Board Schools for a fortnight, in consequence of the prevalence of scarlet fever.

In reply to the Chairman, the Clerk said the Voluntary Schools in the town were also closed.

Mr. Gomer remarked that an opinion was abroad that it was the Board who closed the schools.

Bad Language.

At the same meeting Mr. Bragg said he thought they ought to take immediate steps to have the waste piece of land, belonging to the Board, in Raglan-road, fenced in. At present a number of lads congregated at the spot and their language was abominable.

Mr. Judd said a similar complaint had been made to him.

Mr. Loly said they should request the Urban District Council and the Metropolitan Police to take some steps with reference to the language used in Bromley generally. There was, he said, no discipline at all.

Half-Yearly Estimates.

At the meeting on March 15th, the School Management Committee reported that they had prepared the estimate for the ensuing half year, the amount being £3,256, requiring a levy of 4½d. in the £.

The Chairman remarked that he considered the ratepayers had cause to be satisfied with the manner in which the business had been conducted, and ought to congratulate themselves on the very efficient Clerk they had.

Mr. Loly endorsed the Chairman's remarks, and said he was glad the Chairman had mentioned their Clerk, whose work had been very hard.

Suggested Aid for Board Schools.

At the meeting on March 8th, the Clerk read the following circular letter from the National Education Association.

"As you are aware, the Education Bill now before Parliament is limited to Voluntary Schools, and gives nothing for the assistance of Board Schools. But the Government have declared their intention of bringing in a measure to give further grants to necessitous Board Schools, which is to be passed into law, we are told, if time permits. In the interests of the ratepayers, who pay far more for the local support of schools than do the inhabitants of districts where there is no School Board, and in the interests of education, which would undoubtedly be improved in many cases if School Boards did not shrink from increasing the already heavy burden on their constituents, it is important that the same measure of aid should be extended to the School Boards, as is proposed by the Bill now before Parliament to be given to Voluntary managers. As the Bill for School Board aid is probably already drafted, no time should be lost by your Board in making prompt representations both to the Government, and to the Member of Parliament representing your district, to secure equal and adequate treatment for Board Schools."

It was decided to refer the letter to Committee.

Tuition of Pupil Teachers.

At the meeting on March 8th, several of the members and the Chairman emphasised the desirability of the Board satisfying themselves that the pupil teachers were receiving proper tuition.

The Chairman pointed out that one of their bye-laws provided that all pupil teachers should keep a diary for their tuition, and it might naturally be assumed that books like that would be laid before the Board, showing the amount of time devoted to the tuition of the pupil teachers, in accordance with the rules.

Mr. Gomer considered it an important point.

The Chairman said each pupil teacher had a report book in which his or her work and attendance were entered.

Mr. Bragg: Let us call for them.

Miss Hepnel: Have the teachers these bye-laws?

The Chairman said every teacher had a copy. Was it, he asked, the pleasure of the Board that the Clerk should write to the head teachers urging them to press on the tuition of the pupil teachers?

The Board agreed to this course being adopted.

Agricultural Rates Act.

At the meeting on March 22nd, a letter was received from the Local Government Board stating that the amount payable to the Bromley School Board under the above Act is £44 1s. 2d.

In reply to Mr. Judd, the Chairman remarked that the Board would be £40 better off. The revision of the assessment, he stated, for the purposes of that Act, had cost this district nearly £100, and they had not yet done. They had now to make alterations which would cost £100 or £150, and then the total grant for the seventeen parishes in the Union would amount to about £400. It was like breaking a fly on a wheel, and was ridiculous. There had been no end of fuss made about that Act, but it was of no earthly good to anybody.

The Chairman, referring to the matter later in the meeting, said they had to undo something they had done. In accordance with previous decisions they had decided that land covered with glass, used for horticultural purposes, &c., were buildings and not land; whereas, under the old system any glass put up was assessed as land. Under that system, however, the Government Authorities lost the value of the buildings, so they struck it out, but by a decision made on appeal, by Worthing, that had been upset, and in consequence they had got to revise the whole assessments throughout the Union again. It would, he remarked, in reply to Mr. Judd, make a serious difference at Bromley Common and other parts.

The Rainfall.—The rainfall for February, as measured in Bromley, amounted to 2.07 inches. Rain fell on 14 days, the largest amount registered in one day being .63 inches, on the 1st. For the corresponding month last year, the fall was 0.33 inch, in 1895, 0.22 inch, and in 1894, 1.53 inches.

QUEEN'S REIGN COMMEMORATION.

A meeting of the Bromley Committee was held on March 1st, when there were present Messrs. Coles Child (chairman), J. Wheeler Bennett, Dr. Chatterton, Messrs. Thos. Davis, W. H. Dodgson, Dr. H. J. Ilott, Messrs. Wm. McKewan, J. Howard Moore, A. C. Norman, Major C. Satterthwaite, Messrs. John Scott, junr., Wm. Thursfield, and F. H. Norman (hon. secretary).

The following recommendation was submitted by the sub-Committee, and unanimously adopted:—

"That the Committee be recommended to abandon the scheme for providing and endowing a Convalescent Home and to adopt the alternative scheme embodied in their resolution of the 22nd instant, viz.: That of appealing for funds to maintain as many beds as possible in existing Convalescent Homes to be approved by the Committee, and that the proposed appeal be drafted accordingly."

It was unanimously resolved that Mr. A. C. Norman be appointed Treasurer to the Fund, and Mr. F. H. Norman (Clerk to the District Council), was unanimously appointed Hon. Secretary.

A form of appeal was agreed to, and it was referred to the sub-Committee to make the necessary arrangements for circulating such appeal, which is as follows:—

"The subjects of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria in all parts of Her world-wide Empire are rejoicing this year for the blessings of a reign without example in our history for its length and without parallel for the growth of national prosperity, but especially for the varied efforts put forth with Her Majesty's most cordial sympathy and support for increasing the comfort and happiness of the people and ministering to the relief of every form of sickness and suffering.

"We feel persuaded that the inhabitants of the Town and neighbourhood of Bromley will desire to perpetuate the memory of these 60 years of beneficent rule, and knowing, from Her Majesty's own lips, that nothing will be in greater harmony with her feelings than the making of better provision for the relief of sickness and suffering amongst the poor, we are of opinion that the most suitable way in which we can keep alive the memory of Her Majesty's reign will be by raising a fund which shall enable those recovering from sickness or accident to complete their cure by providing ready means of admission to such Convalescent Homes as may be suitable to their particular cases.

"To do this, it is essential that the sum of at least £5,000 should be raised and invested, it being estimated that the income thus produced would maintain annually five beds for the constant use of patients from the Bromley Hospitals and other suitable cases approved by the Committee of Management, but it is hoped that a much larger sum may be raised, so as to increase the number of beds.

"The Committee now appeal with confidence to all the inhabitants of this district who have the cause of the sick and suffering poor at heart, for funds which shall enable them to carry out this project on a scale worthy of the occasion, and thereby to establish a permanent and beneficial local memorial of the unique reign of our Gracious Queen.

"Contributions, large or small, will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, A. C. Norman, Esq., at 8, Bishopsgate-street Within, London, E.C., or by any member of the Committee, or may be paid to the London and County Bank for the credit of the 'Queen's Reign Commemoration Fund, 1897.'

"Collecting cards may be obtained on application to the Honorary Secretary, or any member of the Committee."

The following contributions have already been paid or promised:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr. and Mrs. J. Wheeler Bennett ...	262	10	0
*Mr. and Mrs. P. Henwood	200	0	0
Mr. John Scott, junr., J.P.	100	0	0
Mr. A. C. Norwan, J.P.	50	0	0
Mr. Thos. C. Dewey	50	0	0
Mr. J. Howard Moore	25	0	0
Mr. Coles Child, J.P.	20	0	0
Mr. E. F. Duncanson	25	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Davis	20	0	0
Mr. Thomas C. McIntyre	20	0	0
Mr. William McKewan J.P.	20	0	0
Mr. W. H. Dodgson	10	10	0
Mr. Edward Packe	10	0	0
Dr. W. Chatterton...	5	0	0
Mr. D. Grinsted	5	0	0
Dr. E. M. Madden	5	0	0
Dr. D. T. Playfair	5	0	0
Major C. Satterthwaite...	5	0	0
Dr. H. J.Ilott	3	3	0
Rev. A. G. Hellicar	2	2	0
Mr. F. H. Norman	2	2	0
Mr. William Thursfield	2	2	0
Mr. Hugh Wyatt	10	10	0
Mr. F. Medhurst	3	3	0
Mr. Thomas Dunmall, junr....		2	6
Rev. J. P. Faunthorpe	5	5	0
Mr. R. Hellier	1	1	0
Mr. E. Latter	5	0	0
Mr. G. Jessop		1	0
Mr. L. Page		1	0
Mr. H. J. Helm	5	5	0
Sir S. Scott, Bart.	25	0	0
Mrs. Krabbe	2	0	0
Mr. F. W. Lucas	2	2	0
Mr. J. Howard	2	2	0
Mr. and Mrs. J. Thomson	3	3	0
Mr. M. H. Hodder	5	0	0
Miss Hesketh	1	1	0
Mr. G. H. Whitehead	10	10	0
Mr. A. Withers	5	5	0
Mrs. Chase Parr	1	1	0
Mr. C. Hodgkinson	3	3	0
Mrs. E. Isard		2	6
Lady McCulloch	25	0	0
Mr. T. S. Stericker	1	1	0
Mr. J. Dalton	5	5	0
Mr. H. Moore		5	0
Mr. H. Gask	5	0	0
Mr. Eley Soames	50	0	0
Miss E. M. Rush		10	0
E. and J. Kenward		2	6
Mr. and Mrs. T. Dunmall		5	0
A. Kenward		5	0
Mr. P. Howlett	1	1	0
Mr. R. S. Morgan	1	0	0
Mr. E. Jones	1	1	0
Dr. A. F. G. Codd	5	0	0
Messrs. E. Clarke and Son	1	1	0
Dr. Morris	5	0	0
Mr. J. Sedgwick		2	6
Mr. G. Zwilgmeyer	1	0	0
Mr. Charles Lepine	10	10	0

*Mr. Henwood has also undertaken to collect a futher sum of £50.

Sir Samuel and Lady Sophie Scott were the guests of Lord and Lady Derby, at Knowsley, for the Liverpool Race Meeting. Sir Samuel's horse History won the Union Jack Stakes.

Bromley's new General Post Office, which is situate in West Street, just at its junction with East Street, was opened for business on March 1st.

BROMLEY HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

The eighth annual meeting of the Phillips Memorial Homœopathic Hospital and Dispensary took place at the Hospital on Friday, February 26th, when the chair was occupied by the President, Mr. W. Murton, C.B., who was supported by the hon. secretary, Mr. J. M. Wyborn, while there were also present Drs. Madden and Thomas, and Messrs. Duncanson, Beddow, Churchill, Chas. Bell, Lindsay Bell, Aylwin, Avis, and others.

The annual report as read by Mr. Wyborn, the secretary, was as follows:—The close of the year 1896 has afforded the Committee of Management an opportunity for presenting their eighth annual report. In fulfilling this obligation they are again in a position to congratulate the governors, donors and subscribers upon the maintenance of the work done in connection with the Institution and its progressive development, more especially in one direction, namely, that of providing medical aid by visits to patients at their homes. During the year, 83 in-patients have been treated, of whom 56 were discharged cured, and 20 improved in a greater or less degree. The number of visits paid to patients at their homes amounted to 1,665, showing a considerable increase above those of the previous year, which numbered 1,399. Notwithstanding this increase, the out-patient attendances at the Dispensary have been maintained at about the same level as those of the preceding year, and have amounted to 1,719. In this department, 327 new patients were attended. The operations performed numbered 35. It is satisfactory to record the fact that not a single death occurred during the past year, although several dangerous and critical cases were received, including typhoid and others, in which the services of the honorary consultants—Drs. Dyce Brown, G. H. Burford, and C. Knox Shaw—were obtained. During the year under review the daily average number of beds occupied in the wards was 5·26. The average duration of the patients' stay was 23 days. The districts from which in-patients were received are the following:—Bromley 36, Shortlands 10, Bromley Common 5, Chislehurst 5, Widmore 5, Plaistow 5, Beckenham 4, Bickley 2, London 1, Grove Park 1, Orpington 1, Sevenoaks 1, Southend (Lewisham) 1, Sydenham 1, Anerley 1, Norwood 1, Woolwich 1, Luton 1, and Reading 1. From the estimated total ordinary expenditure incurred by the in-patients' department, including establishment and other charges, such as rates and taxes, repairs, fuel and lighting, salaries, printing, &c., it is calculated that each in-patient has cost £1 14s. 5d. weekly, which, the Committee wish to point out, would be considerably diminished if a larger number of beds were available. This, however, is impossible until the new Hospital is provided. The total ordinary income of the year from all sources, has maintained the general level of the past three years, having amounted to £556 17s. 9d., while current expenditure during the twelve months has been £577 2s. 11d., or £20 5s. 2d. in excess of income, in spite of the fact that £75 per annum, formerly paid in rent, has been saved by the purchase of the premises. The annual subscriptions have again furnished little more than two-fifths of the amount of the total ordinary expenditure, leaving the Committee to rely on other sources for the larger portion.

The report was adopted, and the Committee and other Officers re-elected.

PROPOSED INCORPORATION OF BROMLEY.

A public meeting, called by the Chairman of the Bromley Urban District Council, in response to a numerously signed requisition, was held at the Drill Hall, on Feb. 26th, to consider the proposal to apply for a Charter of Incorporation for the town. The chairman of the Council (Mr. D. Grinsted, J.P.) presided, and the meeting was largely attended, among those present on the platform being Messrs. Mallett, Dickins, Podger, Lawrence, A. C. Norman, J.P., Gilbert, F. H. Norman (Clerk to the Council), C. W. Gedney, Dunn, May and others.

Mr. Dickins, in the course of a lengthy speech, in favour of the proposal, said he was glad it had been clear that that was not a meeting for any party purpose. He then proceeded to mention various facts and figures, similar to those contained in his speech at the District Council Meeting, reported in our last issue, and concluded by moving a resolution in favour of Incorporation.

Mr. G. Smith seconded the resolution.

Mr. Norman remarked that he came there as a resident in the outlying portion, Bromley Common, which was a rural parish, although included in the Urban District. It seemed to him that whether the incorporation of Bromley resulted in a greater or less expenditure to the ratepayers, the inhabitants of his outlying district would certainly participate in the expense and would participate in none of the benefits. He did not expect the scheme would meet with any very strong support from that end of the town.

Mr. Harris asked whether the present Urban Council had not power to issue stock?

The Chairman: That is so; they have that power, but they cannot go into the market with such good credit as a corporation would.

Mr. Harris: That being the case, where does the advantage arise?

Mr. Nye opposed the proposal.

In answer to several questions, the Chairman and the Clerk pointed out that the old loans extended over various periods, some for 20, 30 and 40 years. The Cemetery loans were borrowed in 1876, or 1877 for 30 years at 4¼ per cent. The amount of loans consolidated in July, 1895, was £24,000, and the interest charged was 3¼. They were borrowed for about 35 years.

Mr. Lawrence said Mr. Dickins had not quite done justice to the old Local Board, for he had not stated that at that time money could not be borrowed at such a low rate as at present.

A number of further questions were asked, and Mr. Dickins replied on the whole discussion.

The Chairman then put the resolution to the meeting, and it was carried by a large majority, a considerable number of ratepayers not voting.

Upon the proposition of Mr. Dickins, seconded by Mr. Podger, Mr. Grinsted was chosen Chairman of the Incorporation Committee.

On the 15th ult., a meeting of supporters of Incorporation was held at the Parish Room, West St., when Mr. F. Medhurst was appointed Hon. Treasurer of the fund to be raised for forwarding the movement, and Mr. Dickins was appointed Hon. Sec. It was agreed that a General Committee should be formed consisting of all subscribers to the fund.—Over £20 has already been raised and a petition praying for the charter has been drawn up. This month the Committee propose to ascertain the wishes of the ratepayers on the subject, by taking a poll of the parish.—On the 17th ult., Mr. W. H. Bosanquet presided at a meeting held at Plaistow to oppose the grant of a Charter, when resolutions against the proposal were carried by a large majority.

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DIARY.

FEBRUARY.

25th—Sir Robert Ball lectured before a crowded audience at the Bromley Grand Hall, on "An Evening with the Telescope."—Half-yearly meeting of the Bromley Gas Company, at the "Bell" Hotel, when the usual dividends were declared, and the retiring directors re-elected.—Mons. Tivadar Nachez's violin recital at Camden House, Chislehurst.

26th—Mr. W. Murton, C.B., presided over the annual meeting of the Bromley Homœopathic Hospital, at which the report on the past year was considered very satisfactory.—Mrs. Vause addressed a well-attended meeting at the Farwig Wesleyan Mission, under the auspices of the Bromley and District Temperance Union.—Town's meeting held at the Bromley Drill Hall to consider the question of applying for a Charter of Incorporation for Bromley, the voting showing a large majority in favour of the change.

27th—Bromley Musical Society's third concert of the season, at the Drill Hall.

MARCH.

1st—Queen's Reign Commemoration Fund Committee for Bromley decided to appeal for funds to maintain beds in existing Convalescent Homes, for the use of local patients.—Visit to Bromley Grand Hall of Dyson's Gipsy Choir.—Meeting of St. Luke's Burial Board, at which a letter from Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P., was read expressing his readiness to endeavour to get the hardship inflicted upon Burial Boards by their omission from the Agricultural Rates Act removed.—

3rd—Rev. R. Stewart Fleming lectured on "Tennyson," at the Elm-road Lecture Hall, Beckenham.

4th—Delegates of friendly societies in the Beckenham and Penge district met and decided to form a Medical Institute, failing a satisfactory arrangement with the local doctors.—Miss Grace Campbell's mandoline concert at the Parish Room, Bromley.

5th—Annie Clare, a young woman, of Bromley Common, died suddenly from heart disease, after leaving the Bromley Grand Hall.

6th—Special mission, conducted by the Rev. F. C. Spurr, at the Bromley Baptist Chapel, commenced.

8th—Bromley Cycling Club decided to form a ladies' section, "rational" dress to be tabooed.—Inquest at Locksbottom, on a Chislehurst coachman, named A. Dabner, who was drowned in a pond at Broad-street-green. "Suicide during temporary insanity" was the jury's verdict.—Bromley's new General Post-office, in West-street, opened for business for the first time.

9th—Local Veto meeting in connection with the Bromley Temperance Society, at the Congregational School-room, addresses being given by the Rev. C. F. Aked, Mr. Robert Whyte, junr., and others.

10th—Bromley Licensed Victuallers' Society's annual dinner at the "Bell" Hotel, Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P., presiding.

11th—Metropolitan Police Minstrels have their annual entertainment at the Drill Hall, Bromley.

12th—Annual meeting of the Bromley Camera Club, Mr. S. B. Webber being re-elected president.—Performance of "Rose Maiden" by the Bromley Philharmonic Society, at the Drill Hall.—Death of the Rev. J. E. Clapham, a well-known Wesleyan minister, at Beckenham

15th—Business meeting of supporters of the Incorporation movement, at the Parish Room, West-street, Bromley, at which a subscription list was opened.

16th—Address at the Bromley Co-operative Hall, by Lord Radstock, on the Indian Famine.

17th—Meeting against the Incorporation of Bromley, at the St. Mary's Club-room, Plaistow, at which Mr. W. H. Bosanquet was the principal speaker. Resolutions protesting against the proposed change were adopted.—United gathering of the local Christian Endeavour Societies, at the Bromley Congregational Church.—Annual meeting of the Chislehurst Liberal Club.

18th—Annual parish meetings for the election of Parish Councillors, in the Bromley Union; polls were demanded at only Chislehurst and Knockholt.

20th—Private view of pictures by Mr. Thomas Ireland, R.B.A., and Mr. Taylor Ireland, at Camden House, Chislehurst.

23rd—Concert by the students of the Bromley School of Music, at the Bromley Grand Hall.—Annual meeting of the Beckenham Liberal Club.

24th—Sixth annual meeting of the Bromley, Beckenham and District Mutual Building Society, at the Parish Room, West-street, Bromley.—Twenty-fifth annual meeting of subscribers to the Beckenham Cottage Hospital.—Annual meeting of the Beckenham Provident Dispensary.

25th—Vocal and instrumental recital at Bromley Parish Church, in aid of the Choir Fund.

26th—Meeting at Chislehurst in support of the candidature for the Parish Council of Sir Patteson Nickalls, and other "progressive" candidates.

The Bromley "Bell" Hotel.—The following is a list of the tenders sent in for the erection of the New "Bell Hotel," Bromley, for Reid's Brewery Company, Limited, Mr. M. T. Saunders, architect:—

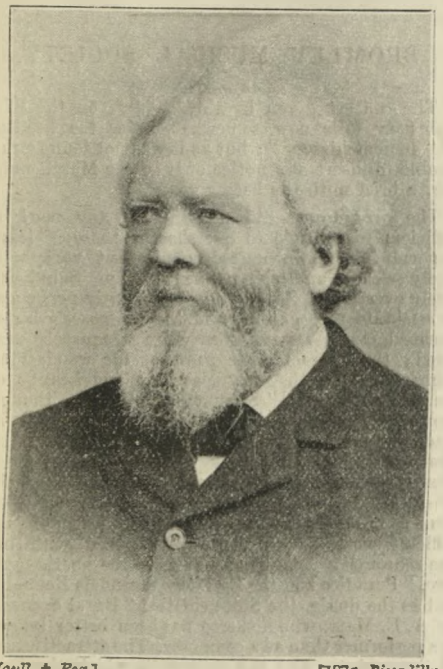
Wood, F. and T. J., London	£21,098
Maides and Harper, Croydon	20,485
Wall, C., Chelsea	20,400
Shurmur, W., London	19,890
Higgs, F. and F. H., London	19,480
Arnaud and Son, Bromley	18,970
Downs, W., London	18,690
Crossley and Son, Bromley	18,450
Patman and Fotheringham, London	17,851

RECORD PORTRAITS.

No. XVIII.—Mr. H. C. FISCHER, C.M.G.

Among the different men of eminence in various walks of life, whose careers have been sketched in this column, month by month, the Controller of the Telegraph Service of this country, Mr. H. C. Fischer, must necessarily find a place, and we have much pleasure in presenting our readers in this issue with a few particulars concerning the life of this distinguished civil servant, and the work with which he is so closely associated.

Mr. Fischer is quite an old resident of Bromley, having lived in the parish for over twenty years, and his career in the telegraphic service of this country extends over a period of some forty years. Few men, therefore, possess a more thorough knowledge of the practical working and development



Maull & Fox.] [187*a*, *Piccadilly*.

Mr. H. C. Fischer, C.M.G.

of the system, and a more modest or genial public official could hardly be met. In the interview which it was our privilege to have with Mr. Fischer, we gleaned some facts and figures which conclusively prove the amazingly large concern which has sprung up, under his organisation and supervision, out of businesses of very small dimensions, as was the case when the telegraphic facilities of the Kingdom were in the hands of several different companies; but before presenting these to our readers, some particulars of Mr. Fischer's life will be read with interest.

Born in 1833, Mr. Henry Charles Fischer received his education in Hanover, and in 1852 he entered the Hanoverian Government Telegraph Service. In 1856 he came to England, and entered the service of the Electric and International Telegraph Company, where he quickly rose to the position of Superintendent of that Company's Foreign Department, and in 1860 the London Inland Telegraph branch was also placed under his charge.

Some time before the transfer of the Telegraphs to the State, in 1870, Mr. Fischer was deputed by the Postmaster-General to draw up proposals for the organisation of the new Central Telegraph Office, and at the transfer he was appointed Controller of that important office.

Mr. Fischer's task of organisation was, as may be easily imagined, greatly complicated at the outset, by the curious fact that the Telegraph Companies which he was required to amalgamate had, most of them, different manipulative methods; for instance, the employees of the Magnetic Telegraph Company were totally unacquainted with the apparatus and alphabetical signals used by the Electric and International Company, and vice versa. By steady perseverance, however, these troubles were gradually overcome, and the staff was soon sufficiently trained in the use of all classes of telegraph apparatus to be able to cope with the largely increased business which immediately began to present itself after the transfer, consequent upon the reduced tariff and the opening of hundreds of new telegraph offices all over the country.

Under Mr. Fischer's able Controllership, the Central Telegraph Office has grown from comparatively small proportions to its present magnitude, and is now by far the largest and most important telegraph centre in the world. The following figures will give some idea of its size and growth. Dealing with the great Metropolis first, separately, we may mention that at the time of the transfer to the Government, London local telegrams, that is to say, messages emanating in one part of London or the suburbs, for delivery in another part of London or suburbs, numbered barely 300 daily, while in September, 1885, when the lowest charge for a message was one shilling, they had reached a total of about four or five thousand a day. The introduction of the sixpenny telegram on the 1st of October, 1885, brought about a far more remarkably large and sudden increase, the public in London beginning immediately to send some eight or nine thousand local "wires" daily, and from that time the number has steadily increased, until, to-day, London local telegrams only, reach a total of over twenty-five thousand a day, and occasionally rise to thirty thousand. The Central Telegraph Office is the principal transmitting centre for the whole kingdom, and about fifty per cent. of all the messages of the United Kingdom pass through this building; it being reckoned that one hundred and forty thousand telegrams are dealt with at this office every day, in addition to an enormous amount of press work. For the carrying on of this stupendous business, a staff of about four thousand persons is employed, and between eleven and twelve hundred wires and instruments are constantly in use, distributing news from and to all places at home and also between London and the great Continental cities. Not only have the public, too, gained an advantage in cheapness, compared with their position under the old regime, but likewise in range and the immense acceleration of service. Under the system of the private companies, the price of a message of twenty words and the address varied from one shilling to five shillings, according to distance, the average cost being estimated at 2s. 2d. per telegram, whereas, the average cost of a message, since the sixpenny rate was introduced, is given at about 7¾d. Before the transfer, the number of messages dealt with in Great Britain was between six and seven millions annually, while over seventy millions are now despatched in the course of a year; and the number of telegraph offices has increased from three thousand, before Mother State took over the control, to nearly ten thousand.

Press messages, of course, form a very large item in the work, particularly when Parliament is in full swing, and the enormous numbers of words sent to newspapers on special occasions are almost incredible. For instance, when Mr. Gladstone's Home Rule Bill was introduced in April, 1886, a "record" of 1,050,500 words was made, and when the second

reading and division on the Bill took place, the total of telegraphed words was 863,700. There are, more or less, "big days" every year, and great races always make a very large increase in the daily average. The method of utilising a single wire to send a number of messages simultaneously has been more and more perfected, it being now possible to transmit six messages over one wire at the same time, and telegraphic speed has also been vastly improved, as is shewn by the fact that before 1870 the rate of automatic speed at which telegrams could be transmitted a minute, was 70, whereas it is now over 400 words per minute. Special arrangements are, of course, frequently made for the despatch of news matter; and as showing the extent to which telegraphy is used in press work, it may be mentioned that over two dozen wires are worked nightly as "private wires" into the offices of provincial newspapers from their London offices, while a number of Continental wires are also "lent," at a fixed charge, every evening, communicating with Paris, Berlin, and other large centres.

The Government cable circuits communicate with the principal towns in France, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Austria and Italy, and this traffic ranges from fourteen to eighteen thousand telegrams a day. There are also two telephone circuits working between London and Paris, the number of telephone conversations between these towns averaging about two hundred daily, while the charge is eight shillings for three minutes' "parley." It was on July 16th, 1895, that the system of Government Trunk Telephone lines to the provinces was opened to the public, and about forty such circuits are now worked between the Central Telegraph Office and various towns. There are also no fewer than forty pneumatic tubes connecting the Central Office with the principal Branch telegraph offices in the City, and extending west as far as the House of Commons, some of the offices having two such tubes, one for forwarding telegrams to the Central Office, and the other for receiving messages from it. The telegram forms, containing the messages, are rolled up and placed in a "carrier," which is then put in the tube and driven through it by a current of compressed air, while telegrams are received in the reverse direction by connecting the tube with a vacuum. Everything, in short, that scientific skill can devise to facilitate and improve the telegraph system is provided at the Central Office.

The method of signalling time is also interesting. Two chronofers are fixed in what is known as the Provincial Instrument Gallery, from one of which Greenwich time is distributed to all the principal towns in the United Kingdom at 10 a.m. daily, and the other supplies a time signal to certain selected towns at 1 p.m. daily. The clocks throughout the Galleries at "T.S."—as the Central Office is known on the wires—are electrically controlled, so as to be synchronous, thus securing the uniform timing of telegrams throughout the different parts of the instrument rooms.

Apart from his control of this huge and complicated machinery, a number of important special duties have at various times been entrusted to Mr. Fischer. In 1877, he went, in conjunction with Mr. W. H. Preece, the Engineer-in-chief of the telegraphs, on a special mission to America, for the purpose of reporting upon the American Telegraph System, while, in addition to serving on various departmental committees, he has been deputed by the Postmaster-General to conduct negotiations with several foreign Administrations. He has also acted as one of the British delegates to the International Telegraph Conferences, which are held every five years, and which are attended by representatives of the Telegraph Administrations of the world, viz., at St. Petersburg in 1875, London 1879, Berlin 1885, Paris 1890, and more recently at Buda-Pesth last year, at which he was the doyen of the Conference.

In 1895, Mr. Fischer was made a Knight of the Order of the Dannebrog, by His Majesty the King of Denmark, and on January 1st, 1896, Her Majesty conferred upon him the honour of a Companionship of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, which was communicated to him in an autograph letter by Lord Salisbury. In addition to congratulatory letters from the Duke of Norfolk and other notabilities, Mr. Fischer was the recipient of several hundred letters and telegrams from his colleagues and friends throughout the United Kingdom, as well as from the heads of telegraph departments in all parts of the world. His residence—St. Helier's, Masons-hill, Bromley—abounds with curios and many interesting specimens of old and new productions of telegraphic invention.

BROMLEY MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The concert given by this society, on the 27th February falls now somewhat under the heading of "ancient history"; but as it was not found practicable to insert any notice of it in the March number, a brief notice is here given.

The programme did not include any work of sufficient magnitude to overshadow those of lesser importance, but promised a pleasant variety of nicely selected and well arranged items. Schubert's lovely overture, "Rosamunde" (evidently performed to celebrate the centenary of the composer's birth) charmed, as it always does when adequately rendered; the characteristic passages for wood wind being played with great clearness and beauty of ton. The "Jupiter" Symphony of Mozart, though brought forward with but slight preparation, in place of Grieg's "Pianoforte Concerto," which Miss Read was prevented by illness from giving, was also much appreciated, and it speaks most highly of both the conductor and performers that such a finished reading of the difficult work should have been given with but one rehearsal. The band also gave the poetic overture, "Paradise and the Peri," by Sterndale Bennett; and as the finale, the Suite entitled "Rural Scenes," by A. E. Matt, who hitherto has been better known as a performer than as a composer. The attractiveness of these pieces and the skill with which they are orchestrated, give promise of even better work. The vocalists were Miss Katherine Alston and Mr. B. H. Latter. The former possesses, in addition to a very pleasant and well-trained voice, great powers of expression, which enabled her to give with admirable effect "The sands of Dee"; Kingsley's well-known poem, and the appropriate music by Frederic Clay, both affording ample scope for sympathetic treatment. She also sang two quaint songs called, "The Water of Tyne," and "The Keys of Heaven." Mr. Bertram H. Latter sang with splendid dramatic effect Benedict's "Rage thou angry Storm," with full orchestral accompaniment, and also a well-written song by Capel, "Love could only tell thee." Mr. W. C. Hann contributed 'cello solos, which were greatly appreciated; but the flute solo by Mr. M. Donnawell was unworthy of being presented before a Bromley Musical Society audience, it, however, served to show the performer's technical skill. Altogether, the evening was a very enjoyable one, and when Mr. Thomas came forward to announce that in the April concert the programme would include several items having a special bearing on the Queen's "Record Reign," he was greeted with enthusiastic applause, which, probably had as much reference to the work of the past as to the promise of the future.—Fortissimo.

"EN ROUTE TO CHINA."

(By a Bromley Lady.)

(*Continued from page* 44)

Aden was not allowed the honour of our company. The ship was anchored some way from the shore, and we were told that it would take three-quarters of an hour to get there. As we only had three or four hours we thought it would hardly be worth while. Also, the sea looked rather excited, and the little boats which came to take passengers on shore danced about in a most unpleasant manner. Very few people went on shore, merely to see the place, but some few left the ship here, and several new passengers came on board.

Of course, we were boarded by men from Aden, bringing wares for us to purchase. Turkish Delight was offered us at about three shillings a box, we would offer sixpence and probably get it for a shilling, though one clever bargainer really did get a box for sixpence. Curious wooden boxes and baskets of wonderful shapes were also exhibited to us, but the principal commodity for sale was feathers, single feathers, black, or white, or natural colour, were eagerly displayed, and thrust into our faces, and long feather boas were offered us at "two pown' ten." A great deal of bargaining went on, but not many things were bought, the feather-sellers were obstinate, and reduced their prices very slowly.

Our next excitement was athletic sports, which were most amusing. A good many people nobly made themselves look very ridiculous to amuse the rest, and ran obstacle races, wriggling through wind-sails, and scrambling over seats and through loops of cord, tied themselves up in sacks, and madly hopped, scrambled after potatoes ranged in line, and funniest sight of all, let themselves be folded round poles with hands tied before their knees, and charged each other, trying to knock each other over, wearing all the time the most solemn and intense expressions. The ladies ran races with potatoes delicately balanced in spoons, or with needles in their hands, which a row of men waited to thread for them before they could return, or else lit cigarettes for impatient gentlemen, who had to run each with a lighted cigarette between his lips.

The sports took place on Friday and Saturday, and on Tuesday we arrived at Colombo quite early in the morning. I had been told that it was possible to smell the "spicy breezes" as the ship approached Ceylon, but I did not notice any particular odour in the wind, it seemed much the same as usual. Our party went on shore before eight o'clock, as we had been invited to breakfast with different missionaries. We were put into boats, and rowed to shore by scantily clothed natives, and after passing through the noisy custom-house, were packed into little carriages, the local "cab," I suppose, in which we sat back to back as in a dog-cart, with the driver in front. A roof of black oil-cloth kept the sun from our heads, and there were triangular curtains, which could be let down, if necessary, on each side. We drove along past funny little native shops, rather like sheds with one side open to the streets, and then by a long red road close to the sea. How delightful looked the green grass on either side, after seeing nothing but a wide expanse of water for so many days. Our eyes feasted on the wealth of colour all around with a sense of pleasure which I cannot describe.

At last we reached a picturesque little church, Galle Face Church, I think it is called, and drove past it to the door of a house beyond. I say "door," but there was no front door, no hall, no passages, and no stairs. A square looking house, it was, surrounded by a wide verandah with steps leading into the garden. We went up the steps across the wide verandah and straight into the drawing-room, which had two wide doorways on to the verandah. Behind this drawing-room, separated only by a screen and curtains was the dining-room, and through that one came to the verandah on the other side, so that the two rooms were really one large apartment, occupying the centre of the house. Other rooms opened out of each side of the two living rooms, but screens on hinges seemed to take the place of doors, so that the air could come freely through the house. The kitchens, &c., were, I think, in out-buildings. To us, coming from our close quarters on board ship, the house seemed a perfect palace, the shady verandah, with its plants and ferns, the cool drawing-room filled with home-like furniture, and vases of flowers on tables and brackets called out many expressions of delight.

We were taken to see the girls' school in a building near, but though the distance to the school was so short, we were adjured to take white-covered umbrellas as well as to wear our sun hats, which seemed to us, in our ignorance, rather absurd. The funny little Singhalese girls were delighted to see us, and showed their white teeth in broad grins, most of them wore cloths of coloured material wrapped round them, reaching from waist to ankles, and above that a very short white muslin jacket, only a few inches long, but one or two had frocks of English pattern, much outgrown, and exhibiting a length of brown leg below. We heard them repeat texts, though, of course, we could not understand very much.

After breakfast, a meal of several courses, we were taken for a drive through Colombo. There were so many strange sights to see that we hardly knew on which side to look. Here would come a bullock-cart, a couple of sturdy little bullocks yoked to a cart with perhaps a man lying asleep inside under a roof of branches, or a more solidly made cart full of some merchandise or other. Then would pass a couple of rickshaws, each with a white helmeted Englishman inside, drawn by a wiry-looking native in scanty attire. Next, our attention would be attracted by a tree covered with flowers of brilliant scarlet, purple, or yellow, and then we should be shown a Buddhist temple, or the little house built on piles in the lake, where the Buddhists go to meditate. A turn in the road, and we passed a banyan-tree with a crowd of natives beneath, standing chatting, or crouching on the ground, near piles of fruit for sale. It seemed strange to be taken to English shops afterwards, and to be served by English men and women, but the punkahs reminded us that we were still in the East, and the prices of some of the things were a rueful reminder, ginger-bread nuts at half-a-crown a pound were quite beyond our purses.

Some of the people we met in the street were most amusing in appearance, over the long native cloth might be worn an English black coat, this surmounted by a turban, and a white umbrella held over head. Some were in complete native dress, some in complete English attire, a good many affected a compromise, and the remainder wore next to nothing, a very undress uniform. We saw a second school before we left Colombo, this time for Tamil girls. Their dress was rather different, and they wore a great deal of jewellery, rings on their toes, and ornaments in their ears, both fixed at the top, and put through the lobe. Some had five or six rings in the lobe of the ear, the skin of which hung down in a long loop on their neck, looking most repulsive. These girls sang us a Tamil lyric, which seemed from the air to be of a very melancholy nature.

Geography is a science of which I have always been very ignorant, but I am getting a few facts into my head now. I never realised, for instance,

that Penang was an island, I thought it a town, but I know now that it is an island off the Malay Peninsula, it is about fifteen miles long, and its large town is called Georgetown. Georgetown ought to be Malay, but it looks a Chinese sort of place. The streets are full of Chinese, and I was told that the Malays will not keep shops, and will not do hard work, like pulling jinrickshas, so the Chinese do all that, while the Malays live chiefly by fishing and agriculture. We only stopped off Penang for a few hours, on a Sunday, so we really saw very little of Georgetown. I went on shore with a friend to the six o'clock service in the English Church, and we only went to the church and back.

As soon as we got off the landing-stage and into the street a crowd of 'rickshamen charged for us, grinning and shouting, and quite surrounded us. Each man dragged his jinricksha behind him, and they formed a barrier all round. Fortunately, we had a gentleman with us, and he flourished his umbrella and drove them off, so that we could cross the road, but several followed us some way.

We passed a queer old fort with a moat round it; it looked rather tubledown, but most picturesque. There were trees each side of the street, along which we went, and pretty, cool-looking houses, covered with creepers, standing for the most part in gardens. We passed a cricket-ground, too, before we reached the church, most uncared for and ill-kept in appearance. In the very short glimpse of Georgetown that I had, it seemed to me a picturesquely untidy place. Every house wanted a little paint, every garden needed to be looked after, here a gate was half off its hinges, there the road required mending. The place made me think of a lady who comes down to breakfast in a crumpled dressing-gown, with her hair in curling-pins, she may be a very pretty lady—but—— Still this is the merest impression, and is worth very little.

Chinese, Malays, Eurasians, English, passed us in gharris and jinrickshas, and clad in all manner of costumes, of which the funniest were the swell Chinamen, in their brilliant silks, with an expression of satisfied pride on their smooth yellow faces. The Coolies wore only loose dark blue drawers, and, for the most part, had wrinkled weather-beaten faces and bent backs.

In the church, punkahs were waving overhead, and many people had fans as well. The pews had cane seats and backs; about five people sat in each pew, and each place had arms to divide it from the next, something like a first-class railway carriage. I wish we could have some such plan at home, to prevent the vergers from crowding the pews too full. There were both Chinese and Eurasian boys in the choir; pigtails look very funny over surplices. The singing was not at all bad, but we thought the choir rather too ambitious, and not quite up to a full choral service, which was what they attempted.

We left Penang on Sunday evening, and arrived at Singapore early on Tuesday, our shortest run between two ports. Oh, how hot it was at Singapore. I began to understand the expression "the sun blazed down," when I found a white covered umbrella and a sun-hat so slight a protection from its rays.

The P. and O. Wharf is a long way from the town, and we had to take gharris to go to the Botanical Gardens. We had a grand altercation with the gharrimen, they refused to take us for less than four dollars, when the fare was two for the whole day, because it was Chinese New Year's Day (2nd of February). We harangued and they harangued, and we marched off, and then came back, and finally agreed to give three dollars for the day. A gharri is the Singapore substitute for a hackney-cab. Four people are supposed to get into one, but it is a close pack, and one's knees have to be fitted in carefully, or dovetailed with those of the opposite people. Fain I sitting in a gharri with three tall folk! There are windows all round, or rather window-frames, and venetian shutters, which draw up and down, so that you can be open to the air on the side away from the sun, if you like. We drove along lovely roads, between avenues of trees, and we became quite tired of saying and hearing, "How pretty," or "How lovely," at sight of some flowering tree or picturesque glimpse of the sea, and decided that a special vocabulary of English adjectives ought to be compiled for people visiting foreign parts for the first time. In the Chinese quarter all the people looked very smart and clean for their New Year holiday, and the houses were decorated with red drapery and paper scrolls.

We left the gharris outside the Botanical Gardens, and strolled through them very slowly, stopping here and there in the shade of some tree to cool a little. I will not describe all the wonderful trees and plants we saw, because, in the first place, I can only remember a few, and in the second, if I were reading an account like this, instead of writing it, I should skip over the part describing trees. Suffice it to say, that the Botanical Gardens are very pretty and most interesting, and every tree and plant is carefully labelled with a long Latin name. We saw the animals, too, in their cages, monkeys quarrelling violently, huge snakes curled up for a snooze, an active little mongoose or two, each trotting about its cage, a honey-eating bear, with a most human expression, and several more queer creatures, with gaping Chinese surrounding every cage.

A friend and I strolled off into the fernery, and had a long talk with the Mohammedan overseer of the gardens, who explained his religious views to us with much emphasis and gesticulation, in very curious English, while my friend explained how our religion differed from his. "No God punish His Son," he said, "No, no! man sin, man be punished, then man be saved. For every sin I do, I be punished when I die, then, if I good Mahommedan, I go to heaven. God no punish Jesus, Jesus no die. Jews run after Jesus, Jesus run into a cave with a Jew. God take Jesus up to heaven, and put His likeness on the Jew. Other Jews take that Jew and crucify him, he look like Jesus, but he no Jesus, Jesus gone to heaven, God no let Jesus die."

However, in spite of his vigorous declamations, he accepted my friend Miss Power's pocket Bible, and promised to read it, and then accompanied us to our gharri with much politeness, and many hopes that he would see us again.

We wanted to go to an English store, but it was closed because of the holiday, and the schools, which we much wanted to see, were also closed, and all the girls away, so we went next to an hotel for tiffin, and for a rest. We lay in long chairs, and fanned ourselves, and drank iced-lemonade, lazily watching some men playing billiards at the other end of the large hall. On the opposite side of the road was the English Church or Cathedral, I do not know which, it is a large church or a small cathedral. Some of the party went to see the interior, and reported that it was chiefly punkahs, so I did not go, but contented myself with standing on the steps of the hotel, making thumb-nail sketches of the jinrickshas and their trotting coolies, which pass in a continuous stream.

After tiffin, which was served by solemn Chinese waiters, we went out and did some shopping in the native shops, dark little places with one side open to the streets. The shop-keepers accepted English money, and understood, "How much?" and a few other English words. We bought tins of biscuits made in English factories, English hair-pins, English hats, and medicines, &c., all in these funny little shops, served by a dirty-looking brown man in

a greasy-red turban, with two or three more standing by to help him, and a crowd of Chinese assembled ouiside to observe the proceedings.

As we were returning we passed the cricket-ground, where a cricket-match was being played between Singapore and some other place, and a crowd of English was looking on. How they could play in such heat I cannot imagine.

Almost every Englishman we saw in Singapore was dressed in white drill, I hardly noticed one in anything else, of all the numbers we met. Men looked much nicer in white than black, but such attire would hardly do in smoky London, even in summer.

When we left Singapore, we seemed to leave summer behind us, the days got gradually cooler, and, six days after, when we arrived here, at Hong Kong, we plunged into winter again. A fire was a welcome sight, and in my thickest clothes I often shiver. I do not suppose that it is really so cold as in England, there is no frost, but I think it must seem colder because of the sudden change. I have never been hotter than I was a week ago.

We are spending six days here in Hong Kong. The P. and O. ship does not stop at Foo-chow, so we are going on from here by a small steamer, which does not start until next Sunday. Our party is divided up between three or four different missionary houses, and our hosts and hostesses are very nice to us, and we are having a good time now that we have got over the headaches left as part of the effects of rough sea between Singapore and Hong Kong.

Death of Mr. Robert Crowhurst.—We regret to announce the death of Mr. Robert Crowhurst, of Sussex Lodge, Bromley Common, which took place on Tuesday, March 23rd. Mr. Crowhurst, who was in his eighty-second year, had been laid up for some four or five months, but he did not become seriously ill until quite recently. He was one of the oldest inhabitants of Bromley, having first come to the town in 1839, when he opened a place of business in the Market-square, giving it up to his sons in 1884. A man of a naturally retiring disposition, he sought no public or official positions, but he was widely respected by all who knew him, whether among his numerous business acquaintances, or in the closer circle of his friends and relatives. The funeral took place on Saturday afternoon at the family grave in the Bromley Parish Churchyard.

Death of Mr. Henry George Cooper.—We regret to announce the death of an old and much respected tradesman of Bromley, in the person of Mr. H. G. Cooper, butcher, of Widmore-road. The deceased, who was 52 years of age, had been ill for about a fortnight with enteric-fever, and was attended by Dr. Madden and a specialist from London, but on Saturday morning, at five o'clock, Mr. Cooper passed peacefully away. He had been in business in Bromley thirty years, starting with a small business at Farwig, but later, he removed to the Widmore-road, and has for many years carried on a very extensive trade there. Mr. Cooper was much respected by his fellow tradesmen, and the public generally ,and his kindness to the young was one of the most prominent traits in his character. He had been married twice, but outlived both wives, and leaves a family of four daughters and two sons to mourn his loss. The funeral tok place yesterday (Wednesday) at the Bromley Cemetery. The coffin, which was of oak with massive brass fittings, was covered with many beautiful floral tributes, and bore the following inscription:—"Henry George Cooper, died March 27th, 1897, aged 52 years. —The mourners were:—Mr. George Cooper and Master Edward Cooper, sons; Miss Nellie Cooper, Miss Florrie Cooper, Mrs. Cleaver and Mrs Pamflect, daughters; Mr. James Cooper, brother; Mr. Thomas Cooper, uncle; Mr. Bray, uncle; and Nurses Olive Simkin and Emily Jones.

Under a new bye-law made by the Kent County Council, all animal-drawn vehicles must carry a light during the period between one hour after sunset and one hour before sunrise.

The muzzling of dogs will again become compulsory on April 6th, by virtue of an order issued by the Board of Agriculture. Wire-cage muzzles are the type specified.

The will of Mr. William Tipping, of Brasted Park, Sevenoaks, has just been proved, the personal estate being of the value of £102,566 4s. 1d.

The annual encampment of the 2nd Vol. Batt. Royal West Kent Regiment has been fixed to take place at Chatham from July 31st to August 7th, with the regular forces.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Homersham Cox, the late County Court judge of this district, which took place at Tonbridge last month, at the age of 75.

Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., and Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P., have been taking part in the Parliamentary Golf Handicap.

Mrs. Tiarks, of Foxbury, Chislehurst, has generously presented a piano to the Bromley Union Workhouse.

We regret to record the death of the Rev. James E. Clapham, a prominent Wesleyan minister, which took place last month, at his residence, Crescent House, Beckenham, at the age of 54.

Father Maturin who was to have preached a a course of sermons at Beckenham Parish Church this Lent, has joined the Church of Rome.

Dean Farrar has left Canterbury for a trip to Rome.

Mr. Willis, Q.C., who lives at Lee, has been appointed County Court Judge of the Norfolk Circuit. He is a brother of Mr. Alfred Willis, general manager of the S.E. Railway Company.

Canon Murray, the rector of Chislehurst, is staying at Hastings, and is in much improved health.

Col. Sir John Farnaby Lennard, Bart., has been re-elected Chairman of the Kent County Council.

Mr. R. B. Martin, M.P., suffered a double bereavement last month, losing both his father and his brother, Mr. John Biddulph Martin, within two days of one another. Mr. J. B. Martin was a partner in Martin's Bank, Ltd.

Plaistow Lodge, for many years the seat of the late Lord Kinnaird has been purchased by Mr. Loly, for the purpose of becoming the home of Quernmore House School.

Bromley residents will be glad to hear that Mr. F. Lewis Thomas announces a grand evening concert for May 11th, to be given in the Grand Hall, when they will have the rare opportunity of hearing Mr. Santley. The other artistes engaged are Madame Clara Samuell, Madame Marian Mackenzie, Mr. Herbert Grover, Mr. Bertram H. Latter, Mr. A. W. Payne (violin), Mr. Sidney Brooks (violoncello). The conductor will be Mr. W. Henry Thomas, while Mr. F. Lewis Thomas will himself give pianoforte solos. Tickets may be obtained from the "Bromley Chronicle" Office, 14, Market Square, on and after April 5th.

BROMLEY GAS COMPANY.

The ordinary half-yearly general meeting of the Bromley Gas Comoany was held at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, on Thursday, Feb. 25th, when there were present:—Mr. A. Dickson (chairman), Messrs. Bertram H. Latter (deputy chairman), H. S. Hughes, A. S. Gedge, A. E. Willett and S. J. Wilde (directors); W. W. Baynes and A. S. Hicks (auditors); C. T. Burtt, Edgar Soames, Rev. R. T. Verrall, Messrs. G. Weeks, J. Hadden, D. Grinsted and H. Robinson (shareholders); W. W. Woodward (engineer); H. W. Amos (secretary).

The report of the directors for the half-year ended Dec. 31st, 1896, was submitted as follows:—

"The quantity of gas made, in comparison with that of the corresponding period of 1895, shews an increase of 12 millions cubic feet, or more than 12 per cent.—though the weather was not less mild and bright—and is 14 millions cubic feet in advance of the quantity made in the half-year to Midsummer last. The sales of Coke, Sulphate of Ammonia, and other residuals, had to be effected at low prices, but more recently some of these have shewn a slight tendency to improve.

"During the year £10,200 of 4 per cent. mortgage loans have been paid off, and replaced by the issue, at a premium, of a similar amount of 3½ per cent. debenture stock. A further authorised amount of £2,400 of the like debenture stock has been issued—the premiums on these issues amounting to £1,406, or a little over 11 per cent. These premiums are spent for capital purposes, and consequently benefit both consumers and shareholders to the extent of the profits they earn, as the profits of the Company above the standard dividends are divisible between shareholders and consumers under the sliding scale in the Company's Act, in the following proportion, viz.:—for every quarter per cent. of dividend to the shareholders above the standard dividends there must be a reduction to the consumers in the price of gas of one penny per 1,000 cubic feet below the standard price fixed by the Act.

"The directors who retire by rotation at this meeting are Mr. A. E. Willett and Mr. A. S. Gedge, and being eligible, they offer themselves for re-election. Mr. A. S. Hicks is the auditor retiring by rotation, and being eligible, he also offers himself for re-election.

"The profit and loss account shews a balance of £6,817 3s. 11d. The directors recommend the continuation of the following dividends, viz., at the rate of 11½ per cent. per annum upon the Ordinary, 10 per cent. Shares and 8½ per cent. per annum upon the Ordinary 7 per cent. Shares, which will absorb £5,892 10s. and leave a balance of £924 13s. 11d. to be carried forward to the next account."

The Chairman proposed the adoption of the report in an able and interesting speech, and it was unanimously adopted, and the retiring directors and auditor were re-elected.

Local Elections.—Nominations for candidates for the Urban District Council of Bromley, closed on March 18th, when it was found that a poll was necessary in three out of the five wards. At Plaistow, Mr. Hutchings was re-elected unopposed, and the same good fortune befel Mr. R. S. Mayne at Sundridge. At Bickley, Mr. T. C. McIntyre, for the third year running, has to fight for his seat, his opponent being Mr. H. Lord, a carpenter, who stood last year. In the Town Ward, Mr. J. Fielding, the retiring member, does not seek re-election, and the two gentlemen aspiring to succeed him are Dr. A. E. Price, medical practitioner, and Mr. M. Lloyd, of the "White Hart" Hotel. In the Bromley Common Ward, Mr. J. Wheeler Bennett does not desire to be re-elected, and Mr. W. H. Smith, a carpenter, and Mr. E. J. Harris, fruit-grower, are to fight for the vacant seat. In accordance with the wish expressed by the Urban Council, the County Council has fixed Saturday, April 3rd, as polling day.—The triennial election of the Bromley School Board will also take place next month, the polling-day having been fixed for Saturday, April 24th. It is certain that a majority of the members will not seek re-election, but no reliable list of candidates is yet obtainable.

Will of the Late Sir John Brown.—The will and three codicils of the late Sir John Brown, of Nervion, Shortlands, Kent, and formerly of Endcliffe Hall, Sheffield, who died on December 27th, have been proved. The value of the personal estate has been sworn at £16,784 by the executors, Mr. John Devonshire Ellis, of Worksop, and Mr. Charles Edmond Vickers, of Sheffield. After making a few bequests, he gives his residuary estate as to one half to his nephews, John Brown and Samuel Brown, and the other half to his nephews, Arthur Brown, Wilson Henry Brown, Roger Brown, and the Rev. Samuel J. M. Webb.

BECKENHAM.

The total amount collected in Beckenham for the Indian Famine Relief Fund was £1658 7s. 7d. This is the largest sum yet contributed by any town in the county.

The annual report presented by Dr. George Carpenter, the Medical Officer of Health to Beckenham, on the health of the parish for 1896, is very satisfactory. The death-rate was 9·7 per thousand of the population, being 1·3 lower than for any previous year, and comparing with 13·1, which is the average of the outer ring of London. Diphtheria, scarlet fever and measles caused only 8 deaths between them, while neither small pox nor typhoid could claim a single victim. The improved sanitary condition of the parish is no doubt chiefly responsible for its favourable position among healthy neighbourhoods.

CHELSFIELD.

The annual parish meeting for the election of the Chelsfield Parish Council was held on March 15th, when Mr. Miller-Hallett presided. Ten candidates were nominated for the nine seats, but Mr. W. T. Groom withdrawing, the following nine were declared duly elected: Rev. H. B. Barnes, Messrs. William Bailey, P. Bowen, J. Crafter, J. Dowler, W. Hughes, E. Norman, E. Rider and G. Staples.

CHISLEHURST.

The anuual parish meeting for the election of the Chislehurst Parish Council, was held on March 18th, when Mr. A. F. Nussey presided over a good attendance. Twenty-four candidates were nominated for the fifteen seats, including all the members of the retiring Council, with the exception of Mr. Bartlett. After the show of hands, a poll was demanded by five electors, and will accordingly be held on April 5th. One of the candidates has since withdrawn.

CUDHAM.

The following nine candidates were elected at the annual parish meeting for the election of Parish Councillors held on March 18th: Messrs. *W. F. Foster, *J. T. Drew, A. Yates, *C. Smithers, F. Wheatley, *W. Blundell, S. Packman, W. Hallam, and *Rev. N. J. Freer.

* Signifies member of previous Council.

DOWNE.

The meeting for the election of the Parish Council took place at the Schools, the chair being occupied by Mr. G. Mitchell, and the following seven gentlemen were elected:—*Dr. Barry, *F. Capon, *E. Jessup, *J. Lewis, H. Lubbock, *A. H. Nicholls and *J. Snow. (* Signifies member of the previous Council.)

FARNBOROUGH.

The parish meeting for the election of Parish Councillors was held in the Board Schools, on Thursday, March 18th. But little interest was manifested in the proceedings, there being only about 25 electors present. Mr. H. Priter presided. Nine papers only were handed in, and as this is the number of Parish Councillors, the Chairman, after waiting the allotted time, declared these candidates duly elected, viz.: J. D. Aldridge, I. Ballard, T. H. Fox, W. Fox, John Goodchild, junr., Rev. F. J. Kelly, T. Paul, J. W. Stowe and Weatherley. The only difference in the new Council and the old is that Mr. J. D. Aldridge takes the place of Mr. T. Child, who did not seek re-election.

FOOT'S CRAY.

The Rev. C. Birch presided over a large gathering of electors in the Congregational Hall, Hatherley-road, Sidcup, on the occasion of the meeting for the election of Parish Councillors, and considerable interest was taken in the proceedings. The number of seats to be filled was thirteen, and twenty-four nominations were received, and on a show of hands the voting resulted as follows:—Elected.—*H. J. Clark, 78; *E. J. Elgood, 70; *A. Sharp, 68; *H. Snelling, 65; *J. C. Pillman, 64; *Dr. Shapley, 64; *R. H. Hale, 60; T. Knight, 60; *H. Booker, 59; J. Edward, 57; *W. Ironmonger, 57; *Captain Vansittart, 56; G. E. H. Beckwith, 53. Not elected.—R. G. Marchant, 52; R. Laidler, 50; *S. Smith, 48; W. Watson, 48; *H. Cooper, 45; *H. R. Pettman, 44; Dr. L. Burrell, 40; Francis, 36; Dr. McCarthy, 36. A poll was not demanded. The asterisk denotes old member.

HAYES.

The meeting for the election of the Hayes Parish Council was held in the Schools, when there was a very small attendance. Seven candidates were to be elected, and as only seven were nominated, the Chairman declared the following gentlemen duly elected:—*Lord Sackville Cecil, *William Harrod, *Thomas Duncombe Mann, *James Russell, *Captain Torrens, Charles Septimus De Zoete and Noah Boxall.

KESTON.

At the meeting for the election of members of the Keston Parish Council, which took place in the Schools, Mr. Bonham Carter, presided. Ten nomination papers were handed in for the seven seats, and on a show of hands being taken the result was as follows:—Elected—*T. Haslett, 34; *G. F. Duck, 31; Rev. C. H. Wright, 30; J. D. Jehu, 27; Tom Gascoigne, 25; *W. C. Anderson, 23; and *James Barham, 21. Not Elected:—E. W. Pratt, 16; *William Sawyer, 16; G. Spurrell, 13.—The Chairman reviewed the work of the Council for the past year and the accounts were submitted and passed by the meeting. A vote of thanks was accorded the Chairman for his services, on the motion of the Rev. C. H. Wright, seconded by Mr. Wm. Haslett. The meeting was well attended, and considerable interest taken. * Signifies member of the previous Council.

KNOCKHOLT.

The annual parish meeting for the election of the Parish Council was held on March 18th, when 15 candidates were nominated for the seven seats, and a poll was demanded.

MOTTINGHAM.

The parish meeting for the election of the Parish Council of Mottingham was held on March 18th, and was attended by a goodly number of parochial electors. Nine seats were to be filled in the places of the following out-going candidates:—Messrs. C. T. Kingzett, S. Page, G. Edwards, G. Hyde, W. Bloomfield, H. Stone and G. Warman, and the voting by show of hands, resulted as follows:—*C. T. Kingzett 60, *S. P. Page 52, *W. B. Fitch 48, *G. W. Warman 43, C. C. Higgins 35, W. J. Miller 33, *G. Edwards 32, *G. Hyde 26, J. A. Findlay 24. No poll was demanded. (* Signifies member of the previous Board.)

ORPINGTON.

Mr. H. B. Howard presided over the annual meeting for the election of the Parish Council. The following 15 were nominated and duly elected: G. Eldridge, *J. T. Greenslade, *John Higgs, G. Ingarfill, *J. C. D. Jenkins, *W. Jones *J. Mansfield, *W. Mansfield, W. J. Mullins, *A Payne, J. Potter, S. Roots, G. W. Ruggles, *W Vinson, sen., J.P., and *W. Vinson, jun.

* Signifies member of the previous Council.

ST. MARY CRAY.

Only one change was made in the composition of the St. Mary Cray Parish Council at the annual parish meeting, over which Mr. Augustin Spicer, presided. The Council is now as follows: Messrs. *H. Algar, W. Beer, *L. F. Dolan, *W. Epsom, *W. H. Haines, *H. S. Heath, *E. H Joynson, *F. Stanger, and *H. Taylor.

* Signifies member of the previous Council.

WEST WICKHAM.

The West Wickham parish meeting for the election of the Parish Council was presided over by Sir John Lennard, and the following gentlemen were returned as members:—*Charles Clementson Bowman, *Arthur Barnes, *Henry Seaward Cowdell, *Joseph Durling, *Gustave Mellin, *Charles Oakley, *William Henry Stokes, A. W. Hennings and R. A. McAndrew, J.P. (* Signifies member of the previous Council.)

KENTISH CASTLES.

ROCHESTER—(continued).

The keep of Rochester Castle—the fine tower of massive masonry which rises high above the roofs and chimneys of the city, and dominates the surrounding district—is a building seventy feet square at the base, one hundred and twenty feet in height, and consisting of walls twelve feet, narrowing in the upper stages to ten feet, in thickness. The materials and labour employed in the construction of walls of such unusual thickness must have cost an enormous sum of money, but the object was an important one. Great strength of walling and a thickness sufficient to allow of a large number of mural chambers and galleries were very important considerations in a castle of this character.

The keep is pierced by many small openings. A tier of round-headed loops is in the basement. Square-headed loop-holes, somewhat larger in size, are inserted in the first floor level. The second or main floor is indicated by a line of small round-headed windows, whilst windows of larger size light the gallery. Above all, a line of rather larger windows, also round-headed, indicates the uppermost floor.

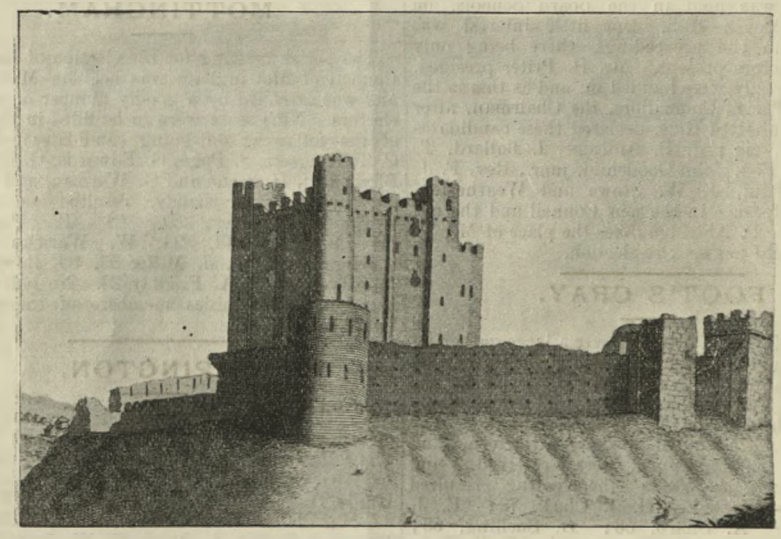
The windows in the main and topmost floors have been ornamented by carved stonework. This part of the castle was evidently devoted to the state-rooms. Its height above the ground level was sufficiently great to allow of windows of decent size being safely inserted in the walls.

The apartments on the different floors of the keep were divided across the middle by a cross wall east and west, more than five feet thick throughout, and rising to the roof of the keep. Thus, each floor was composed of a north and south chamber, one 21 feet and the other 20 feet broad, and each 46 feet long. In the cross wall, near its centre, thickened by a pilaster strip on each face, is the well, said to be sixty feet deep from the ground level, and to contain usually ten feet of water. It has an ashlar pipe, 2 feet 9 inches diameter, which seems to have been carried up to the roof, and was accessible by means of four small round-headed doors, one on each floor.

In Dover Castle it will be remembered that the well-pipe is carried only to the second floor, and as a matter of fact it is quite unusual for wells to be carried up higher than the first floor in keeps. The Rochester example, which, when the building was intact, reached quite to the battlements, is a very remarkable feature, and one which re-calls the period when during the times of siege, it was essential to have a good supply of water within the walls of the fortress.

On the north side of the keep are some considerable remains of the fore-building, covering the main entrance to the keep, which, as usual, in Norman castles, was on the first-floor level. This consists of three floors. The basement was a massively constructed apartment, probably used as a prison. On the first floor was a chamber with a flat timber ceiling, and this formed the vestibule to the keep. The third or upper floor of the fore-building was occupied by the chapel, an apartment divided into two parts, a nave and a chancel, by a plain round-headed arch.

Although there are some appearances which suggest that this fore-building is a work of subsequent



ROCHESTER CASTLE, KENT (STUKELEY'S VIEW, 1776).

date to the keep, there is even stronger evidence that it is part of the original plan of the fortress, and built up contemporaneously with the noble keep to which it is attached.

The question as to who was the builder of this castle is one of considerable interest. For a long time it was generally considered to have been Gundulf, which would make it of about the same date as the Tower of London, which it resembles in some of its arrangements, especially its mural gallery and fireplaces. Latterly, however, after a close inspection of the work, it has been found that this cannot be so, and that its more probable builder was Archbishop Walter Corboil, about the year 1126. It is considered probable, however, that a part of the curtain of the encircling wall around Rochester Castle was built by Gundulph.

The accompanying view of Rochester Castle from Dr. Stukeley's "Itinerarium Curiosum," a work published in 1776, is of great interest, as enabling us to see the state of perfection in which the castle and its encircling walls remained at that date. It is much to be regretted that the most shameful neglect and active violence have subsequently damaged its rugged and time-stained walls.

The story of Rochester Castle begins, as we have seen, with the period of the Roman occupation of Britain. It is not known to whom the fortress belonged before the Norman Conquest, but Earl Godwin had encroached upon the episcopal property and he probably held the castle also. Odo was one of the earliest lords of the castle of whom we have actual record. Gundulph, consecrated Bishop of Rochester in 1077, was another well-known name associated with the fortress.

When William the Conqueror died, there was naturally a good deal of anxiety among his survivors to secure Rochester Castle. Odo, the rapacious Bishop of Bayeux, seized it and held it for Duke Robert. Rufus quickly laid siege to Rochester, and having captured the strongholds of Tunbridge and Pevensey, forced Odo to demand the surrender of Rochester by his allies. The garrison understanding the sincerity of the demand, sallied out, captured their royal escort and their bishop, and installed him, nothing loth, in the government of the castle. Rufus converted the siege into a blockade of both castle and city, and finally, under the pressure of a pestilence, both were surrendered, and Odo was finally banished.

Rochester Castle, having been taken by siege in 1088, seems to have remained one of the possessions of the crown until 1126, when Henry II. granted to Archbishop William de Corboil and his successors the perpetual charge and constableship of the Castle of Rochester. It was upon that occasion, doubtless, that the keep was built.

The value of a fortress of this stamp was far too great for the possession of it to remain long unchallenged, and so, on the occurrence of a vacancy in the See of Canterbury, and at other times, the Crown seized it. In 1202 it was given up to Stephen Langton, and towards the latter part of the reign of King John, Langton placed the castle in the charge of William d'Albini, to be held in the interests of the barons, whose army proposed to march from London to its relief. John, however, interposed, and in 1215, after a severe siege of three months, it was surrendered.

During the course of this siege it was found impossible to produce any effect upon the castle walls by the military engines then in use, and the place was only taken by the work of the miners, who first undermined and then threw down the walls.

On the death of John, Rochester Castle fell into the hands of Henry III., who spent considerable sums of money upon its repair.

In the year 1264, this fortress was in the charge of the celebrated Roger de Leybourne, who had just taken part with the King. De Montfort was supposed to meditate an attack upon Rochester Castle, and Leybourne defended it with a strong garrison, and stored it with ample provisions. Just before Easter the barons laid siege, but a week's efforts were unable to make any impression, and they retreated in dismay. Leybourne and most of the garrison joined the King at Lewes, and took part in the battle.

The defeat of the King's party at that battle was followed by the surrender of Rochester Castle, but after the death of De Montford and the fall of Kenilworth, Leybourne resumed the governorship.

Edward III. carried out some extensive repairs, and the work was done under the supervision of Prior John of Rochester. Stone, for the purpose, was brought from Beer, Caen, and Reigate.

This brings to a close the most important part of the history of the castle. From that time downwards the place has been allowed to decay, and, indeed, upon one occasion, in the eighteenth century, an attempt was made to demolish the ruins. Fortunately for posterity, the builders had done their work so thoroughly and so well that the task of pulling them down was too difficult to be remunerative to those who had proposed to sell the building materials.

A marriage has been arranged between George John, eldest son of Mr. John Gilbert Talbot, M.P., of Falconhurst, Edenbridge, and Gertrude Harriet, third daughter of Mr. Albemarle Cator, of Woodbastwick Hall, Norfolk.

A committee consisting of distinguished county gentlemen, including the Lord-Lieuetnant, Earl Stanhope, Earl Amherst, Lord Sackville, Lord Hillingdon, Vice-Admiral Bosanquet, and Rear-Admiral Miller, has been formed at Sevenoaks, for the purpose of raising a testimonial to Lieutenant-Colonel Burn-Murdoch, in recognition of his brilliant services in the recent Soudan campaign. The gift will take the form of a sword of honour. Lieutenant-Colonel Burn-Murdoch's father is rector of Riverhead, Sevenoaks.

Professor Herkomer is very busy with his portrait of Lord Harris, which it is hoped will be finished in time for the exhibition at Burlington House. The portrait is to go to Bombay, where Lord Harris was Governor.

The Dean of Canterbury has received an official notification of the fact that leave has been granted for the removal of the body of the late Archbishop of Canterbury from its present place of interment in the Austin vault in the nave of Canterbury Cathedral to the Crypt.

New Map of Bromley and District.—A very useful map of Bromley and district, has just been issued from the Chronicle Office. It is on the 4-inch scale and has been prepared from the new Ordnance Survey and special surveys. The different parishes are coloured, as also are the various wards into which the town of Bromley is now divided, and the names of the streets and roads are clearly marked. It is strongly mounted on linen, and bound in a flexible cover, is suitable for pocket purposes. The price is one shilling, and it can be obtained of any bookseller, or at the Chronicle Office, 14, Market-square, Bromley, and Railway Bridge, Beckenham.

Births.

Ackermann.—On the 15th March, at 41, Beckenham-road, Penge, the wife of Alfred Ackermann, of a son

Ambler.—On March 17th, at Norwood Terrace, Sittingbourne, the wife of Frederick Ambler, of a son.

Hawkins.—On March 7, at Fern Villa, Clock House-road, Beckenham, the wife of L. W. Hawkins, of a son.

Manbey.—On Sunday, March 7th, at the Manor House, Beckenham-road, Penge, the wife of the Rev. G. H. Manbey, M.A., of a daughter.

Rudolf.—On the 23rd Feb., at St. Michael's Lodge, Chislehurst, the wife of Edward de Montjoie Rudolf, of a son.

Marriages.

Robinson—Dence.—On the 11th March, at the Congregational Chapel, Bromley, Kent, by the Rev. T. Nicholson, the Pastor, assisted by Rev. R. C. Gillie, of the Presbyterian Church, Willesden, Horatio Vincent Robinson, to Ellen Annie, daughter of Thomas Dence, Esq., of Kingsbury, Shortlands, Kent, and of Herne Bay, Kent.

Thomas—Carlton Maguire.—On the 27th Feb., at St. Luke's, West Norwood, by the Rev. W. S. Cooper, Una Kathleen, eldest daughter of H. Carlton Maguire, Esq., of West Norwood, to Felix John, second son of W. G. Thomas, Esq., of Shortlands, Kent.

Deaths.

Archer.—On the 7th March, at Bournemouth, suddenly, Thomas Archer, Junior, of Sidcup, and of Long-acre and Clerkenwell-road, aged 50. Friends will kindly accept this, the only intimation.

Barrett.—On the 22nd Feb., at Gwynfa, Beckenham, Emily, widow of Thomas Firman Barrett, of South-end-on-Sea, in her 64th year.

Clapham.—On the 12th March, at Crescent House, Beckenham, Kent, the Reverend James Ernest Clapham, aged 54. No cards.

Crowhurst.—On March 23rd, at Sussex Lodge, Bromley Common, Robert Crowhurst, in his 82nd year. No flowers, by his own request.

Hubbuck.—On the 22nd March, at 17 Upper Wimpole-street, W., Eleanor (Nellie), wife of A. G. Hubbuck, Elmstead Lodge, Chislehurst, in her 36th year.

Pohlmann.—On the 19th March, at St. Leonards, Emmy Caroline, wife of W. Pohlmann, of Northbank, Beckenham.

Tarrant. — On the 12th March, at Elmhurst, Beckenham, the wife of Walter Tarrant, of a daughter.

In Memoriam.

Nesbitt.—In ever loving memory of James, the dearly beloved husband of Mrs. A. Nesbitt, who was called to rest on the 20th March, 1895. "Until the day dawns."

Barrell.—In ever loving memory of Matilda, the beloved wife of Allen Barrell, who was called to her rest on the 12th of April, 1891. "To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die."

FUNERALS.—J. HUMERSTON, Undertaker and Appraiser, 17, East Street, Bromley; Upholsterer and Cabinet Maker. rc132

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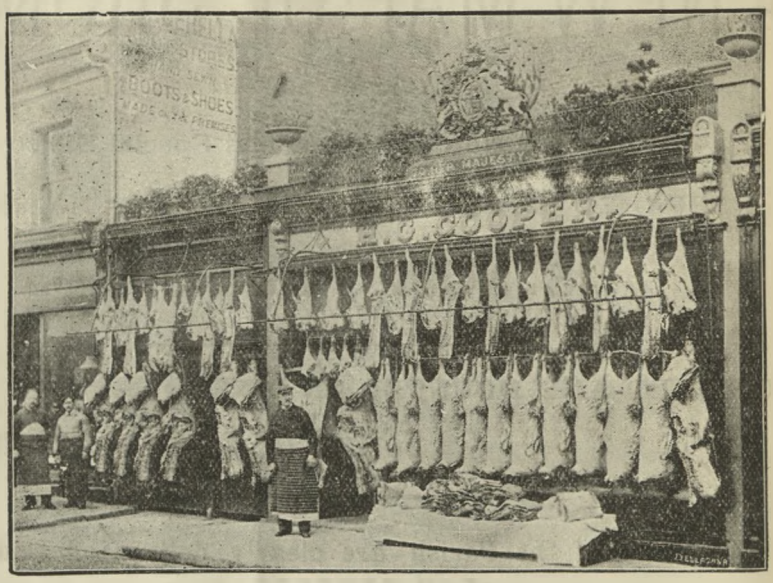

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MELLOW, SOFT AND WITH FINE FLAVOR.

G. PAMPHILON & SON,

WHOLESALE & FAMILY WINE MERCHANTS.

ILLUSTRATED REVISED CASH PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

Champagnes.

	per doz
Louis Pamphilon, Epernay 1889 Vintg.	60/-
Ditto ditto extra quality	78/-
Pol Roger ....1889 vintage	Market Prices.
Bollinger....1892 ,,	
Mumm. G. H. & Co.	
Louis Roederer....1892 ,,	
E. Irroy & Co. Carte D'or 1892 ,,	
Pommery & Greno ....1892 ,,	
Heidsiecks Dry Monopole 1889 ,,	
Perrier Jouet, P D.C.	

Specialites for Invalids.

Champagne in Quarter Bottles.

Louis Pamphilon, Cuvee Reservee..	18/-
Perrier Jouet	24/-

Other Sparkling Wines

Asti Spumante (Italian)	36/-
Saumur	36/-
Sparkling Burgundy, 1st Quality	60/-
Ditto Hock	54/-
Ditto Moselle	54/-

Half Bottles, 6/- per 24 extra

Single Bottles same rates.

Still Hocks.

	per doz. bot.	per doz. half-bot.
Laubenheimer	18/-	11/-
Nierstein	24/-	14/-
Erbacher	30/-	17/-
Hochheim	36/-	20/-
Liebfraumilch	42/-	23/-
Red Hock	36/-	

Australian Wines.

	pr doz.	pr bot.
Sauvignon	16/-	1/4
Branxton Cabernet	21/-	1/9
Tintara	26/-	2/2
Riesling (White)	24/-	2/-
Highercombe (White)	30/-	2/6

In Quart Flagons.

Red & White Burgundy	30/- 2/6
Tintara and Ophir	42/- 3/6

6d. each allowed for Flagons when returned.

Italian Wines

	pr doz.	pr bot.
Vino da Pasto	12/-	1/-
Valtellina	18/-	1/6
Chianti	24/-	2/-
Capri (White)	24/-	2/-
Vino Vermouth	36/-	3/-
Sparkling Asti	36/-	3/-

Chianti.

In Tuscan Flasks.

18/- & 36/- per doz. 1/6 & 3/- each.

California Wines.

Burgundy	18/- 1/6
Hock	30/- 2/6

Aerated Waters. per doz.

Schweppe's Soda, Seltzer & Potass	3/-
Ditto Lemonade and Ginger Ale	3/6
Soda, Seltzer & Potass	2/-
Lemonade & Ginger Ale	2/6
Syphons — Soda, Potass, Seltzer, Lemonade	4/-
Johannis's Appollinaris, Ginger Beer in Stone Bottles.	

Burgundies.

	pr doz.	pr bot.
Macon ....1893 vintage	20/-	1/8
Beaujolais ....1892 ,,	24/-	2/0
Beaune....1891 ,,	30/-	2/6
Pommard ....1889 ,,	36/-	3/0
Volnay....1884 ,,	42/-	3/6
Pommard, Superior, 1887 ,,	42/-	3/6
Chambertin....1881 ,,	72/	6/-
Chablis ....24/- to 36/-		

Half Bottles.

Macon 12/-	1/-
Beaujolais 13/6	1/2
Beaune 16/6	1/5
Pommard 19/6	1/8
Volnay....23/-	2/-

Ports.

Good Young 24/-	2/-
Fine old Tawny 36/-	3/-
Ditto well-matured 48/-	4/-
Superior old fine quality 54/-	4/6
Ditto Crofts No 1....60,-	5/0
Ditto, ditto Grand Wine 66/-	5/6
Ditto very choice 72/-	6/-
Ditto rare old wines ....84/- to 150/-	

Tarragona. pr doz.

Superior Wines.... 12/- 18/- & 24/-

Liqueurs. pr bot. pr ½ bot.

Curacoa ...	5/-	2/9
Maraschino	5/-	2/9
Chartreuse yellow	8/-	4/6
Ditto Green	10/6	5/9
Benedictine	7/-	3/6
Kirsch Wasser		3/6
Kummell Riga		4/-
Noyeau, Pink		2/6
Angostura Bitters		2/9
Heering Copenhagen Cherry Brandy	4/6	2/6

Cordials. pr bot.

Pamphilon's Cherry Brandy	3/-
Orange Bitters	3/-
Peach Bitters	3/6
Ginger Brandy 3/-	3/6
Rum Shrub 2/6	3/-
Peppermint 2/-	2/6
Cloves 2/-	2/6
Noyeau	3/-
Milk Punch	3/6
Lovage 2/6	

Bottled Ales, Stout, Etc.

	pr doz. Imp pts.
Pamphilon's Special Dinner Ale	2/6
Ditto Nourishing Stout	2/6
Light Dinner Stout	3/-
Bass Pale Ale (½ pints 2/6)	4/-
Bass No. 1 Burton in ½-pints	3/6
Pamphilon's Pale Ale	3/-
Pilsener Lager Beer (½ pints 2/6)	4/6
Guinness' extra Stout (½ pints 2/6)	4/-

Clarets. pr doz. pr bot.

Claret ...	12/-	1/-
Vin Ordinaire	15/	1/3
Vin de Medoc ....1893 vintage	18/-	1/6
St. Julien ....1893 ,,	24/-	2/-
Pauillac ....1891 ,,	30/-	2/6
Margaux....1890 ,,	36/-	3/-
Chateau Margaux 1889 ,,	54/-	4/6
Chateau Palmer ...1890 ,,	54/-	4/6
Ch. Lafite ....1893 ,,	60/-	5/-
Sauternes, Graves ....21/- to 36/-		

Stock in Half-Bottles.

Claret	9/- 9d.
Medoc	10/6 11d.
St. Julien	13/6 1/2
Pauillac	16/6 1/5
Margaux	19/6 1/8

Sherries.

Natural Sherry....16/-	1/4
Sherry 18/-	1/6
Light Sound Wine 24/-	2/-
Old-fashioned Brown 30/-	2/6
Pamphilon's Dinner Sherry....30/-	2/6
Nutty Character 36/-	3/-
Golden, Generous 42/-	3/6
Very Fine Brown 42/-	3/6
Pale old Dry 48/-	4/-
Ditto very Choice....54/-	4/6
Choice old Rare Wines.... 60/- to 100/-	

Marsala. per doz.

Ingham & Woodhouse ....18/- 21/- & 24/-

Madeira.

Various ....36/- to 60/-

Scotch Whiskies.

	pr gal	pr doz	pr bot
Good 15/-		30/-	2/6
Fine old....18/-		36/-	3/-
Superior 5 years old....21/-		42/-	3/6
Glenlivet Bd, 7 years old...22/-		44/-	3/8
Very fine Highland Malt ...22/-		44/-	3/8
Pamphilon's **VOS**, guaranteed 10 years old 24/-		48/-	4/-

Irish Whiskies.

Good 15/-	30/-	2/6
Fine old....18/-	36/-	3/
Superior old....21/-	42/-	3/6
Do. J Jameson's, old Bonded 24/-	48/-	4/-

Rum.

Jamaica....15/-	30/-	2/6
Old Jamaica 18/-	36/-	3/-
V. O. Jamaica....	3/6 and	4/-

Brandies.

Pale....18/-	36/-	3/-
Fine old Pale .... * ...24/-	48/-	4/-
Fine old Cognac.... ** ...27/-	54/-	4/6
Finest old Cognac ... *** ...30/-	60/-	5/-
Choice old Cognac ...**** ...34/6	69/-	5/9
Curious Old Cognac.... 100/-		8/6

Gins.

Cordial & Unsweetened 12/-	24/-	2/-
Fine old Tom....15/-	30/-	2/6
Ditto Finest. 16/-	32/-	2/8

Sloe, Orange, and Hop Gin.

CASK ALES.

OUR SPECIALITÉ F.P.A. BREWED FROM PURE MALT & HOPS

Per Kild., 18/- ; Per Firkin, 9/6 ; Per Pin, 4/9.

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Grand Evening Concert

AT THE ABOVE HALL,

ON TUESDAY, MAY 11TH, 1897.

ARTISTES:

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MADAME MARIAN MACKENZIE.

MR. HERBERT GROVER.

MR. SANTLEY.

MR. BERTRAM H. LATTER.

VIOLIN - - - - MR. ARTHUR W. PAYNE.

VIOLONCELLO - - - - MR. SIDNEY BROOKS.

SOLO PIANOFORTE - - MR. F. LEWIS THOMAS.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

BATCHELAR & SON beg to draw attention to their prices for

AXMINSTER CARPETS

WITH BORDERS,

12ft. × 9ft. 9in.	...	...	...	£4 18 6
13ft. 6in. × 12ft.	...	...	...	£6 8 6
15ft. × 12ft. ...	...	...	...	£7 1 6
18ft. × 14ft. 3in.	...	...	...	£9 14 6

The above Quotations are for our SPECIAL AXMINSTER CARPETS, **3/11 per yard**, Bordered made and laid complete.

LARGER OR SMALLER CARPETS IN PROPORTION.

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Lifebuoy

ROYAL . . . DISINFECTANT

Soap

Eminent Medical Men, Officers of Health, and Trained Nurses, recommend Lifebuoy Soap for use during Epidemics.

Lifebuoy Soap is a Disinfectant Soap, for use in the prevention of Sickness and the preservation of Health. Guaranteed perfectly pure and free from any injurious Chemicals.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths, 1s. each.

MOON'S CHANGES.—MAY.

New Moon, 1st, 8.46 p.m. | Full Moon, 17th, 1.55 p.m.
First Quarter, 8th, 9.37 p.m. | Last Quarter, 23rd, 9.35 a.m.
New Moon, 31st, 12.26 p.m.

The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

MAY, 1897.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

2nd—*Second Sunday after Easter.*
2nd—Foreign Missionary Services at the Bromley and Beckenham Wesleyan Chapels.
3rd—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30 a.m.
3rd—St. Luke's Burial Board meeting, at St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common, 8.15 p.m.
3rd—Bromley School Board meeting, at Council Offices, East-street, Bromley, at 8 p.m.
4th—Bickley Orchestral Society's conversazione, at St. Luke's Institute.
4th—Meeting of Bromley Urban District Council, Council Offices, Bromley, 7.30 p.m.
4th—Performance of "St. Cecilia's Day," by Bromley Philharmonic Association, in the Bromley Drill Hall.
5th—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne and Lepper, of Greenhurst, Grove Park, at the Mart, E.C., at two o'clock.
5th—Amateur Dramatic entertainment, at the Grand Hall, in aid of the Bromley Cricket Club.
5th.—Annual meeting of the Sevenoaks Division Liberal Council, at the Co-operative Hall, Bromley.
5th—Evening Race Meeting in connection with the Bromley Cycling Club, at Bromley.
6th—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne and Lepper of houses in Great Elms-road, and cottages in Weston-grove, Bromley, at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, at 8 o'clock.
6th—Bromley Bible Flower Mission, Parish-room, West-street.
9th—*Third Sunday after Easter.*
9th—Sacred concert at Bromley Grand Hall, 7.30 p.m., arranged by Mr. J. Fenton Walsh.
10th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30 a.m.
10th—Meeting of Beckenham Urban District Council, at Council Offices.
11th—Mr. F. Lewis Thomas' grand evening concert, at the Grand Hall; Mr. Santley and other well-known artistes will take part.
11th—Second anniversary of the commencement of the pastorate of the Rev. W. Holyoak, at the Bromley Common Baptist Chapel; public meeting at 6.45 p.m.
11th—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne and Lepper, of hay, at High Elms, Downe, and The Boundary, Orpington.
13th—Bazaar in aid of the Church Missionary Society, at Christ Church Schools, Chislehurst (and following day).
13th—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne and Lepper, of the jobmaster's stock, of Mr. C. Dudding, of 14, West-street, Bromley, at 3 o'clock.
14th—Monthly sitting of Bromley County Court, Court House, Bromley.
16th—*Fourth Sunday after Easter.*
17th—Annual sports of the West Kent Yeomanry, A Troop, at Sundridge Park, Bromley.
17th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30 a.m.
18th—Meeting of Bromley Urban District Council, Council Offices, Bromley, 7.30 p.m.
20th—Bromley Bible Flower Mission, Parish-room, West-street.
23rd—*Rogation Sunday.*
24th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30 a.m.
24th—Meeting of Beckenham Urban District Council, at Council Offices.
26th—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne and Lepper, at the Mart, E.C., of Springfield, Bickley Park, at 2 o'clock.
27th—*Ascension Day.*
29th—Chislehurst Golf Club's Spring meeting.
30th—*Sunday after Ascension Day.*
31st—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, 10.30 a.m.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

Two ordinary meetings and the annual statutory meeting of the Bromley Urban Council have been held since our last number, the first taking place on March 30th, at which several matters of considerable interest were discussed.

A REDUCED RATE

Was decided upon at this meeting, it being found possible to make a General District Rate of 1s. 9d. in the £ for the half-year, which was one penny less than that for the corresponding period of last year. After credit had been given for £1,839, the sum of £12,532 remained to be provided.

A CURIOUS BIT OF ROAD.

The question of taking over the length of road between Park End and Highland-road was brought up again, on the Highways Committee's recommendation to adhere to the previous decision, and not accede to Mr. S. Cawston's request to take the road over. After some discussion, the Committee's advice was accepted.

THE FIRE BRIGADE.

The Fire Brigade Committee reported the receipt of a letter from the Hon. Sec. of the Volunteer Fire Brigade ((Mr. W. H. Bosanquet), offering to hand the whole of the plant and apparatus, including the fire-engine, over for the use of the new Brigade — The offer was unanimously accepted.—At the same meeting, it was decided to accept Mr. M. Lloyd's contract, offering to provide horses for the fire-engine, including a driver, for £30 for the year.—Messrs. Mitchell and Son's tender for the supply of uniforms was also accepted, the prices being as follows:—Tunic of waterproof cloth, 30s. each; trousers, 16s.; cap, 2s.; officers' tunic, 32s. 6d.; officers' trousers, 17s.; officers' cap, 4s.

"A DEATH TRAP."

This was the description given by Councillor Dickins to a spot in Glassmill-lane, where a brick wall protrudes into the road at the bottom of the steep hill. He supported the suggestion contained in a letter from Mr. E. W. Hambleton, urging the Council to consider the question, and meanwhile to have another caution board erected at the top of the hill. It was mentioned that several serious cycling accidents had recently occurred..

Mr. Mallett felt that it was an improvement which would have to be made, for the bridge at the bottom was not only too narrow but in a bad position.

Mr. Lawrence contended that other places required widening far more than Glassmill-lane. For every vehicle that went down Glassmill-lane there were ten thousand that went up Masons-hill, and that was the place the Committee should consider.

Mr. Mallett said they had come to the conclusion that the widening of Masons-hill was undesirable, and he proposed that the question of Glassmill-lane be referred to the Highways Committee.

This was seconded by Mr. Dickins, who said it was the avoidance of a veritable death-trap that they desired.

Mr. Davis opposed the proposition; and eventually the motion was lost, the Council afterwards agreeing to fix another warning-board at the top of this dangerous hill.

THE TAKING OVER OF PRIVATE ROADS.

The question of taking over various private roads, which had been made up to the satisfaction of the Council, was brought forward by Mr. Fielding, who favoured the idea, and it was discussed at great length by the members. The roads affected by the resolution which Mr. Fielding moved were: — Martin's-road, Recreation-road, Chatterton-road, Newman-road, Great Elms-road, Wellington-road, Cowper-road and Newbury-road.

The Surveyor considered it unwise to take over the Martins and Recreation-roads, because of the defective bridge, which would involve a heavy expenditure of money.

Mr. Davis said he saw no reason why most of the roads should not be taken over, but he wanted some information as to their condition. Newman-road was not, he thought, a thoroughfare.

Mr. Worley asked whether the apportionments had been paid or not?

The Clerk mentioned that respecting Martins-road there were two items outstanding, amounting to between £10 and £11. There was an amount of £11 13s. 5d. outstanding on Recreation-road, and for Chatterton-road there were three items outstanding including one of £75 9s. 11d. These could be recovered, if the owners could be found. The other items could not be recovered, owing to the want of proof of service of the notices.

Mr. Fielding, referring to Chatterton-road, said there was not the slightest doubt about it, that whoever acquired the piece of land there, acquired it with the liability to pay for the road.

Mr. Lawrence seconded Mr. Fielding's proposition.

An amendment in favour of the matter standing over was proposed by Mr. Dickins, and seconded by Mr. Mallett, but this was lost by 8 votes to 5.

Eventually a second amendment, proposed by Mr. Davis, in favour of the adoption by the Council of Chatterton, Newman, Great Elms, Wellington and Newbury-roads, provided they were in a satisfactory condition, was carried.

WHAT TO DO WITH HOUSE-REFUSE.

The question of how to destroy house-refuse was the subject of a lengthy debate, Mr. Davis moving the following resolution:—"That with the view of reducing as much as possible any danger to the public health, from the accumulation of house and other refuse collected in the district, the Council do without delay arrange for its destruction by heat." After dwelling upon the importance of the question, he remarked that it had been under the Drainage and Sanitary Committee's consideration for two years, and they were agreed that the most efficient and the only efficient mode of destroying refuse in their neighbourhood, or in any other neighbourhood, was by the action of heat. The only point on which there might be some difference of opinion seemed to be whether the present time was the proper one for putting that action into force. Referring to the objection that the refuse was of great use to brickmakers, Mr. Davis pointed out that whereas the Authority used to be paid by contractors for the privilege of collecting it, the Council had now to pay for shooting the refuse on to their land, so little value being apparently attached to it. The separation of the refuse, so as to leave the cinders for brickmakers, could hardly be carried out without the provision of two dust-bins to every house, while he was afraid the sifting of the refuse before it was burned would give rise to the same nuisance and danger to health as at present existed. There was no objection, he said, to brickmakers importing, as was said would be done, harmless refuse, while if the matter imported was objectionable, the Council had ample power to order the nuisance to be discontinued. He drew attention to the Medical Officer's report on the question, in which he said that if the destruction of refuse by heat was not adopted at the present time, they might suffer from a very serious outbreak of disease in the not very remote future, and they would then have to adopt the system at a larger cost than it would involve at the present time.

Mr. McIntyre seconded the resolution.

Opposition to the proposal was first voiced by Mr. Dickins, who said the destruction of refuse by heat would not do away with dust, smoke and gases. The erection of a dust-destructor would mean an enormous expense, while some of its productions were very objectionable. He suggested a daily collection of all house-refuse, which would be more effective. He also thought the Committee should inquire whether land could not be obtained sufficiently removed from houses to which the material could be carted and be of some use and possibly profit for agricultural purposes.

Mr. Worley followed with an amendment referring the matter back to the Committee to see if some means of separating dust from the refuse could be adopted, and also steps taken to prevent importation of refuse from outside areas. Before they voted for an expenditure of £500 or £600 per year for a dust-destructor he wanted to be assured that they would get some benefit for their money.

The amendment was seconded by Mr. Peill, who did not think Bromley had got into such a position as to warrant the erection of a dust-destructor, which would be a great drain on the ratepayers pockets.

Mr. Lawrence sought to expose Mr. Dickins' attempt to pose as an apostle of economy, by remarking that the labour involved in carting the refuse on to agricultural land would cost more than double the amount of a dust-destructor.

Mr. Gilbert agreed that a better mode of destruction was desirable, but he could not support the resolution, because he was unaware of any large amount of sickness in the neighbourhood of their present depot.

Mr. Davis replied to the objections, pointing out that the produce of a destructor would be perfectly free from any source of danger. A daily collection of the refuse would, of course, involve greater expense.

Mr. Worley's amendment was rejected by 7 votes to 6, and upon Mr. Davis's resolution being submitted, it was adopted by a majority of 4, the voting being:—For: Messrs. Mayne, Fielding, McIntyre, Bond, Lawrence, Davis, and D. Payne (7); against: Messrs. Dickins, Peill and Worley (3).

At the meeting on April 13th the Drainage and Sanitary Committee recommended that "the Surveyor be instructed to prepare plans for a refuse-destructor in which arrangements shall be made for the separation of so much of the inorganic matter contained in the dust collected as may be available for use in the brickfields, with due regard to the public health."

Mr. Davis, in moving the adoption of the Committee's report, pointed out that with regard to the utilisation of the refuse by brickmakers, the Committee had agreed, in providing a destructor, to make arrangements for sifting out that portion of the refuse which was innocuous, in the hope that brickmakers would give the Council something which would compensate them for the extra labour and expense incurred.

Mr. Lawrence seconded.

Mr. Peill endeavoured to get the matter referred back to Committee, but

Mr. Davis contended that such a motion would mean rescinding the resolution passed at the previous meeting, and that could not be done without proper notice being given.

Mr. Lawrence also remarked that a resolution had actually been passed by the Council.

Acting on the Clerk's advice, the Chairman ruled that the matter could be adjourned, but not referred back to Committee.

Mr. Peill then moved an amendment adjourning the matter for six months.

This found a seconder in Mr. Dickins, who was of opinion that the longer the question was put off the further they would be away from adopting the expensive scheme proposed.

Mr. Davis called attention to the wording of the resolution deliberately passed by the Council, which read: "That the Council do without delay arrange for the destruction by heat," and remarked that to adjourn the matter for six months would not be acting on the resolution which had been passed.

Upon a division, the amendment—deferring the matter for six months—was carried by 7 votes to 5.

Mr. Lawrence questioned the Chairman's action in allowing the amendment, and remarked that he should take the opinion of the Local Government Board on the subject.

THE WATER QUESTION

Was brought up by the receipt of a letter from Messrs. Baker, Lees and Postlethwaite, pointing out the desirability of the outside authorities being represented before the Royal Commission, which was about to be appointed to consider the question of London's Water Supply.

Some discussion followed, but it was evident that the Council were still against incurring any further expenditure on this matter, Mr. Davis remarking that they could trust the Royal Commission to sift the whole question to the bottom, without spending any of the ratepayers' money.

Mr. Wheeler Bennett concurred in this view, stating that the Royal Commission had power to call for all the evidence they required.

Mr. Dickins thought it might be useful to the Commission to know that the Council were charged a higher rate for water than certain private individuals.

It was altimately decided to refer the matter to the General Purposes Committee.

A MUCH-NEEDED CROSSING.

The Council were informed, by letter, that the Morgan Trustees were disposed to agree to the Council's proposal to make a wooden pathway across the land in front of the "White Hart" Hotel, Bromley; and the Surveyor was instructed to try and arrange the matter with the interested parties.

REGISTERING CYCLES.

The Council were urged by a circular letter from the Beckenham Urban Council to support the agitation in favour of bicycles being registered, with a view to facilitate the identification of scorchers; and the proposition met with a very favourable reception, Messrs. Davis, Wheeler Bennett and Dickins expressing the opinion that some steps were absolutely necessary to check furious riding which had got quite alarming.—The Council agreed to support the Beckenham Council's recommendation.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHTING ORDER.

In a letter containing a curious mixture of references to Incorporation and electric lighting, Mr. E. S. Harris urged the Council not to affix their seal to the deed of transfer of their powers, under the Electric Light Order of 1891, to a private company, until after the prospectus of the latter had been published, so that the ratepayers might see whether it was proposed to allot the whole of the ordinary shares to the promoters and their nominees, to the exclusion of small local interests.

The Clerk stated, according to the arrangement made, the deed of transfer would not be sealed until the Council were satisfied about the formation of the company; and the letter was referred to Committee.

REVIEWING THE PAST.

At the end of the meeting on April 13th the Chairman reviewed the work of the Council during the past twelve months, stating that they could congratulate themselves on having had a very successful year. The prosperity of the town and neighbourhood had been maintained, and the general health of the district was remarkably good, as, notwithstanding an epidemic of scarlet-fever, their death-rate was only 11.4. He referred to the loans which had been sanctioned for the widening of Beckenham lane and High-street, the surface water drainage of Masons-hill, and for making-up Wharton, Haxted, Florence, Station, Glebe, Heathfield, and Southlands-roads, and Anns-place. They had been able to make a reduction of one penny in the rate, and it had been a record year of schemes for road widening, land for this purpose having been obtained from Mr. T. Ayling for Homesdale-road; the Cator Estate for Beckenham-lane; Mr. Whythes for Chislehurst-road; the College Trustees and Major Satterthwaite for College-road; the London Parochial Charities for Plaistow-lane; and land for widening the footpath in front of the 'Farwig Arms,', had also been given, while terms had been arranged with the owners of the "Crown Inn," Plaistow, to carry out an immense improvement almost adjoining Plaistow-station. With the arrangements made in the erection of the new shops at the top of High-street and the widening of the road near the "Bell," the Council had made a start towards carrying out what, in his opinion, was the most needed improvement in Bromley, namely, the widening of the upper portion of the High-street. They had also made arrangements for the sewer extension in Crown-lane and in Southborough-road, the British Land Company having agreed to pay a portion of the expense. With regard to the Gas Company and the lighting of the town, they had made experiments with the incandescent burners, but it was too early to give the result of the trial, and to see whether the increased light would justify

them in continuing it or not, and they had obtained a promise from the Gas Company that they would erect a new photometer. In addition to that they had taken over the Fire Brigade with the whole of the staff, and they had also pledged themselves to the purchase of a new fire-engine and the erection of a suitable house for it. Since those arrangements were carried out, they had had given to them, by the old Committee, the old engine and plant, and though they were told they should not look a gift horse in the mouth, he could not but feel that if they had had the old engine given them before they might have saved the ratepayers some hundreds of pounds for a few years. He wished some arrangement had been made for making their place of meeting more convenient and comfortable. In conclusion, he said they ended the year in peace with their neighbours, there were no law-suits pending, but they had had two, one of which ended most disastrously for the ratepayers, and the other ended in a most eminently satisfactory compromise with Mr. Coles Child. Those acquainted with the widening of Homesdale-road and the Masons-hill improvement would see what an immense improvement it had been, but it was a matter of regret that the whole of the scheme had not been carried out. Mr. Grinsted expressed his indebtedness to the whole of the officers for their loyal support, especially to Mr. Norman for his guidance, and the great care he had always bestowed on the preparation of all documents.

The Annual Meeting

Of the Council was held on Thursday evening, April 22nd, when all the members attended, the Council being now constituted as follows:—Town Ward: Messrs. D. Grinsted, D. Payne, G. H. Payne and Dr. Price; Plaistow Ward: Messrs. Hutchings, Mallett and Dickins; Sundridge Ward: Messrs. J. Davis, R. S. Mayne and H. C. Bond; Bickley Ward: Messrs. McIntyre, Gilbert and Worley; Bromley Common Ward: Messrs. Lawrence, Harris and E. Peill. The principal business was to decide as to the election of Chairman, and Mr. Lawrence proposed the election of Mr. T. Davis, who, he said, was well-known to them all. He was well versed in all points of order and would make a most capable and impartial Chairman.—This proposition was seconded by Mr. Worley, who remarked that Mr. Davis had well earned the honour of presiding over the Council.—Mr. Peill proposed Mr. D. Grinsted, the late Chairman. Mr. Dickins seconded.

Upon these two names being submitted, Mr. Davis was elected by a majority of 5 votes, the numbers being 8 for Mr. Davis and 3 for Mr. Grinsted.

Mr. Davis briefly returned thanks, stating that he would do his best to justify their choice.

Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Mallett was unanimously re-eletced Vice-Chairman, Mr. McIntyre, whose name was proposed by the retiring Vice-Chairman, declining to accept the office.

Committees.

The Council then proceeded to appoint the various Committees, one member for each ward, as far as possible, being placed upon each Committee. Messrs. Lawrence and G. Payne and Dr. Price were elected as delegates to the West Kent Main Sewerage Board, while Messrs. Lawrence and G. Payne were again deputed to represent the Council on the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board.

This concluded the business; and the Council meet again, for the transaction of ordinary business, on Tuesday, May 4th.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

Once only have the members of this educational authority been summoned together in public since our last issue, and though the life of the old Board was fast approaching its end, very little of interest transpired at the proceedings. The meeting was held on April 8th, when the

Clerk of the Works

For the Raglan-road School extension was appointed, at a weekly salary of three guineas, the fortunate candidate being Mr. T. Hutcheson, of Florence-road, Bromley.

Fee Grants

Amounting to £149 12s. 6d., consisting of £89 7s. 6d. in respect of the Raglan-road School and £60 5s. for the Valley Schools were received. The question of

Teachers' Salaries

Was mentioned, two assistant-teachers named Miss Fanny Bacon, of Wharton-road School, and Miss L. Bryant, of the Valley Infants' School, making application for increases, and these, together with the question of increasing the salaries of the head-teachers at the Raglan-road Girls' and Infants' upon the completion of two years' service, were referred to the School Management Committee.

The Vicar's Retirement

From the Board was alluded to in regretful terms by Mr. Gomer, who expressed the pleasure the members felt at the presence once more of the Rev. A. G. Hellicar, and expressed their sorrow at his approaching retirement from the Board at the triennial election.

Death of Mrs. J. Gedge.—We regret to have to record the death of Mrs. J. Gedge, an old and highly respected resident of Bromley, which occurred on April 27th, at her residence, Ivy Lodge, Palace-grove. The deceased lady, Marianne Thomas, was the widow of Mr. Johnson Gedge, of Bury St. Edmunds, and has been for more than thirty years resident in Bromley, since the death of her husband in 1863. Mrs. Gedge, who was eighty-six and a half years of age, was remarkable for her extraordinary mental vigour, having kept abreast of all matters of religious and literary interest up to the time of her death, not only reading very largely but being ready and able to discuss the questions that have interested the generations succeeding her own. She leaves four sons, the eldest Mr. C. J. Gedge being resident in America, while the second son is the Rev. J. Denny Gedge, vicar of Methwold, J.P., and the third, Mr. Alfred Gedge, of Bromley, the fourth being the Rev. Edmund Gedge, rector of Cleeton, St. Mary, Salop, and two daughters, the elder of whom is the wife of the Very Rev. the Dean of Manchester, and the second daughter is unmarried and resided with her mother. Three others—two sons and one daughter—are deceased, of whom Mr. Joseph Gedge, M.B. Camb., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. Eng., a well-known physiologist, was head of the medical and scientific staff of Sir Samuel Baker, and lies buried at Khartoum. The interment took place in the family vault at Bury St. Edmunds.

Miss Alice Borton, of Bickley, has received the distinction of being invited to contribute a selection of her published musical compositions to the Victorian Era Exhibition. Each group of compositions is to be accompanied by a signed photograph of the composer.

Sir Horace Farquhar, M.P., and Lady Farquhar have returned from the Riviera.

MRS. WESTON'S GRANDCHILD.

BY LADY VIOLET GREVILLE,
Author of "Nurse Cicely's Renunciation," "The Lost Letter," &c.

"Well, I think you are entirely in the wrong." John Weston spoke to his mother in a decided and angry tone.

"I can't help it. I feel I'm right, and I don't consider it quite dutiful of you to ask me to sell my old home."

"Why isn't one house as good as another o live in? And we shall never, probably, have such a good offer again."

Mrs. Weston hesitated a moment; then she dropped her knitting and looked full at her son with keen, clear eyes.

"Your father left me the place for my life, i trust for you; the trust is sacred, and I mean to keep it." Her eyes had a faraway look, as though she were registering a promise made to someone in a spiritual world. "You would not have me break my word—you, a good man of business yourself? To sell an ancestral home seems to me almost like selling one's own flesh and blood. I couldn't do it. Don't ask me."

John sighed impatiently. "Mother, you are hopeless," he said. "We are in great need of money. I want money to make my business pay; you want money to live on. That kind of sentimental idea is exploded long ago. It is not practical life."

The old lady looked round at the faded furniture, the worn carpet, the curtains which hung limp from age and perpetual cleaning, and all the evident signs of poverty—that genteel poverty which is so pathetic.

"I am contented," she said quietly.

"Oh, yes," he continued warmly; "you may be. You are old; you have learnt not to care; but I am young, I have my way to make in the world, I must marry and have a family; and what good is an old musty home like this to a pushing, busy man, who wants to get on in the world?"

"It is the home of your fathers."

"By your obstinacy you are ruining me, and you don't seem to understand. Once more I ask you, mother—will you sell the place.

"I will not," said the old lady firmly. John walked to the window and looked out. The park lay stretched out before him, damp and desolate. A few sheep grazed delicately on the rank grass; the paths were ill-kept and overgrown with weeds; but the timber was magnificent, the old oaks and elms towered towards the sky, and spread their wide umbrageous branches generously.

"At least let me cut down the timber," he said presently.

"No timber shall be cut down while I possess this place." Mrs. Weston's eyes glowed resolutely, and she took up the knitting which lay in her lap. The needles clicked merrrily, and out on the staircase the old clock struck four in wheezy tones.

"I have only just time to catch my train," said John Weston, coming back from his survey at the window. "Shall I send Mr. Parchment to talk to you? Perhaps he can explain matters better than I can."

"No lawyer would persuade me to sell the place," said his mother firmly. Mother and son faced each other. They had the same straight nose, the same square chin, the same dark grey eyes; only the son had a quick, impatient way of speaking, while the mother let her words fall quietly and precisely. Mrs. Weston looked a gentlewoman from the tip of the picturesque cap, trimmed with old lace, which crowned her abundant white hair, to the slender white fingers which handled the knitting needles so deftly. She was the product of many generations of civilisation, but she had the strong will of her barbaric forefathers. John was determined also, and the result was a clash and collision between the two strong wills.

"You have no affection for me, mother."

"My son, it is because I care for you that I try to do my duty. This house will be yours some day, and, please God, I will keep it intact for you."

"I do not want it," her son said petulantly. "I shall never live here—never set foot in the place from this day!—I swear it—unless you consent to sell it!"

"And you will never come and see me?"

"Never!" The old lady's face twitched, but she made no remark.

"And how you intend to exist, I know not. Your income is barely sufficient to keep up the place. Hitherto I have helped you, but now I shall do no more. I must think of myself—of my future!"

"And yet I am your mother!" Mrs. Weston spoke with suppressed feeling.

"I don't forget it, though you almost force me to do so. When you change your mind and listen to reason I will come back to you. Till then, good-bye." He put out his hand towards his mother, then withdrew it as by an afterthought and left the room. Mrs. Weston sat motionless. When the door closed with a great slam, a tear rose slowly to her eye. She wiped it away with her handkerchief, bent her head for a moment as though thinking, then with an effort she rose and rang the bell. The white-haired butler answered it. Her servants had grown old beside her; the maids, the cook, the butler, had all spent years in her service. Long service was a part of her religion, like the ancestral memories.

"Is Mr. John gone?" she asked.

"Yes, m'm. He is riding down the avenue."

"There will be some changes here, Turner," she said. "Times are bad; I shall have to economise. I can no longer afford to pay you such high wages. You are at liberty to leave if you like."

"I prefer to stay, m'm, even if the wages are lower."

"Very well, Turner, then I shall be glad; but you must tell the other servants I do not intend to keep so many. All those can leave that like to do so." Turner bowed and withdrew, and the establishment dispensed from that day with the services of coachman, kitchenmaid, under-housemaid and footman. A new cook was engaged, whose principal merit consisted in thriftiness. Another person might, possibly, under the circumstances have sold some of the fine old family plate and consented to dine off china. Not so Mrs. Weston. Even if it consisted only of a potato and a piece of cheese, her dinner was rigidly served on silver, and old Turner took a pride in polishing the plate till you could see your face in it.

John Weston never came near the place again. From time to time news of him reached his mother. He was prospering; he was working hard; he was going to be married. But he never offered to bring his wife to see her, and she asked nothing. She knew this was her punishment, and she was too proud to complain. Little by little, as matters grew worse and the food and fire scantier, the new servants left one by one; but Turner stayed, and his rugged old face softened sometimes with an expression of unspoken pity as he looked at his mistress. Her pride was unshaken, but his kindly eye noticed that her firm, elastic gait grew feebler, her voice lower, her energy relaxed. "Some day," he thought, "I shall write to Master John." But time wore on, and he did nothing. The gardener had long ago

been discharged, but Mrs. Weston, with the aid of a boy to do the rough work, managed it herself. She might be seen on summer evenings in her shady black hat and a big coarse apron, tying up, watering, pruning and budding. She was proud of her carnations and roses; they seemed to grow better than in the days of her grand gardener. Things flourished in a kind of wild, wasteful way; the creepers now covered the whole front of the house, the magnolia tree annually put forth fragrant flowers, and the Provence roses climbed and blossomed in luxuriant clusters. The old sun-dial stood on the terrace as it had stood for centuries, with its quaint motto: "Gather ye roses while ye may," engraved in coarse characters upon it, and all around the air was sweet with the smell of roses. Within doors things looked more melancholy. The state bedchambers stayed unlived in from one year to another; occasionaly a fire warmed the cold chimney, but coals were dear, and Mrs. Weston practised the strictest economy. In winter she never allowed a fire in any room but the small drawing-room where she sat, and in the kitchen. The tapestry flapped loosely against the wall in the draughty halls and passages, and the paper began to peel off in some of the rooms. Poverty was written in large letters on everything, from the moss-grown stable-yard and the empty stalls, to the bare larders, and the skimpy fires in the old house. Yet Mrs. Weston was not unhappy. Thanks to the paucity of servants, she had plenty to do. She was surrounded by the emblems of the position she clung to, and supported by a sense of right-doing.

Occasionally neighbours came in to see her—the clergyman's wife or the squire's lady from a distance—though Mrs. Weston never encouraged visitors; she considered them an unnecessary expense. But when they did come, she ordered the big silver teapot to be brought in, and the best old china, and delicately-cut bread and butter bountifuly spread, so that people said Mrs. Weston always did things well, and was a perfect lady in her ways. Once Mrs. Chasuble, the vicar's wife walked in, her kind matronly face wreathed in smiles.

I'm so glad, my dear Mrs. Weston," she said, wringing her friend's hand warmly.

"What is it?" asked the old lady, vaguely wondering what could have happened.

"Why the baby—the grandchild, of course! I read it in the paper this morning, and I said to my husband: 'I must run over and congratulate Mrs. Weston, she will be so pleased; her only son's first child.'"

Mrs. Weston kept silence. It was in the paper, then, but of course she had not seen it; she never took in a newspaper; that was one of her petty economies.

"Are you not glad, dear Mrs. Weston? And how is the young mother?—of course you have heard from your son—he naturaly would write to you first."

Mrs. Weston recovered herself. She gulped down a strange sense of sorrow and injustice that seemed to be crushing her, and managed to say in her quietest tone: "Of course we are all delighted. The mother is quite well." She longed to inquire the sex of the child—if it were a boy or a girl—but she dared not. To do so would have been to expose her own ignorance.

Mrs. Chasuble stayed some time chatting and asking questions; she was the mother of a large family herself, and took a lively interest in babies. Mrs. Weston sat on hot coals till she took her departure. Even the appearance of the tea-tray, with its brightly polished silver, scarcely served to withdraw the lively lady's attention from her favourite subject. As soon as she had left, amid a shower of final recommendations and good wishes, Mrs. Weston rang the bell. "Turner," she said, "if you are going into the village and could get me a newspaper, I should be obliged." When the paper was brought her she carried it to her room and scanned it eagerly. "On the 10th instant, the wife of John Weston, of a son." So it was a son. He would inherit the place—live here some day. A flush overspread Mrs. Weston's pale cheek. How right she had been not to agree to sell it. If John did not care for his old home, his child would. That was certain. He should come here, learn to love it from his earliest infancy, appreciate the fine timber, admire the beautiful sweep of park and the stately halls and bedchambers. Perhaps then the latter would be refurnished, painted and repaired, as she had never owned the means to do. Into a happy day-dream the poor lady drifted. She saw the chubby faces of her grandchildren filling the old house with light and laughter; she heard the patter of their merry feet, their clear high-toned voices chattering to the honoured and beloved grandmother who had kept their heritage intact. Suddenly, into the midst of this happy vision, shattering its ravishment, came the thought of her estrangement from her son. "He will never come here," she thought; "he will never let his children come. I must live alone till I die." Then warm tears began to gather in the dim eyes, and taking up the miniature of her son as a child, which stood on her dressing-table, she covered it with kisses, and allowed herself to sob piteously.

But externally she never relaxed from her attitude of dignity. Summer faded into winter, and no news ever reached her of her son and the new grandchild. She longed to know if it was alive, if it was well, whom it resembled. She remembered what a pretty child John had been, with blue eyes and curly hair, and she wondered if the baby's eyes were blue. The winter was the most trying time of all the year. The cold nipped the old lady and seemed to freeze her aged blood. Her bed-chamber was like an icehouse, and sometimes she could not sleep for the cold at night, even though she piled blankets and a heavy wadded quilt over her shivering limbs. Then the days were short and cheerless, and the long winter evenings seemed interminable, while she sat knitting by the light of one lamp, the rest of the room lying bathed in dark and melancholy shadow. Hitherto she had kept up her prestige as lady of the manor; the usual charities were doled out, bottles of port wine and coals and blankets at Christmas. This was a part of her fixed rule, that whatever she suffered herself, her dependants should still look to her as the Lady Bountiful, the dispenser of food and warmth. But the resources of her cellar were giving out; the bin containing the port wine was nearly empty, and she had scarcely any money at the bank. To run into debt, even for others, was impossible to this sturdy old lady, and bitterly she realised that this year her Christmas charities would fall far short of their usual munificence. To add to her misfortunes, Turner fell ill. The old servant, who had ministered to her so faithfully, seemed likely to leave her for ever. He had caught a cold, going an errand to the village in the snow and had kept his bed ever since. The vicar's wife urged her to engage another servant, but Mrs. Weston, true to her principles, would not sanction such an expense. She did not give that as the reason, however. She merely said she could not endure new faces about her. So her loneliness deepened, and through the long winter evenings she sat silent uncheered by Turner's quiet and unobtrusive attentions. She visited the old man in his room, a low, whitewashed garret, hung round with cuttings from the illustrated papers. The grate was empty, and the cold intense. "You had

better have a fire, Turner," she said kindly.

"No, m'm,' he answered firmly, "not while my mistress does without."

Mrs. Weston made no reply. Stoicism was a part of her nature, and she scarcely thought it strange that her servant should practise the same virtue. After all he was neither as lonely nor as uncared for as herself. So every day she mounted the stairs to the garret, and inquired of the old man how he did, and every day he cheerfully replied: "Better, m'm, thank you." But at last one day he did not answer when she spoke to him, and his eyes looked queer and wandering. Mrs. Weston got frightened. What if he should die—her old Turner, who had lived in her home and served her dinner carefully for forty years! She decided to send for a doctor, and when the cook started to fetch him, remained alone with the invalid. She felt very sad. Probably Turner would die and then after a bit she would die, and be buried in the little churchyard under the yew tree, and perhaps then John would stand beside her grave and mourn for her. How unforgiving he was! Through all these years he had given no sign of regret or affection. He had married a woman who was a stranger to his mother; his child she had never seen. Then her heart yearned tenderly towards him, and she cried out like David, stretching her arms before her: "My son, O my own Jonathan, come back to me!" But only grim silence answered her, and the old man stirred feebly on his bed.

When the doctor arrived he ordered poultices and hot drinks, and a fire, and plenty of care and food. Then, his visit to the sick-room ended, he went to pay his respects to the lady of the house downstairs. Mrs. Weston stood tall and erect, with her back to the fireplace, her grey hair primly pushed back under her cap, her worn black silk dress hanging round her in limp folds, dignified and well-bred as usual. "How do you find him, doctor?" she asked, with a transparent attempt at cheerfulness.

"He is very ill," the doctor said gravely, scrutinising the brave old face. "He wants care—but so do you. You are all alone. I will send in a nurse, and then she can attend to you both."

"I will have no nurse," said Mrs. Weston decidedly. "I am quite well, and there are servants to do what is necessary." She used the plural, though the cook alone made up the rest of the establishment. "Turner can have anything he requires."

"You must be very lonely," the doctor continued. "If I were you I should send for your son and his wife to pass Christmas with you. It is not good for you to be so solitary; and the winter has begun sharply."

"I did not ask your advice about my affairs,' and the old lady lifted her head proudly, "but only to prescribe for my servant. Will he get well?"

"Oh, yes; but he is old, you know, very old; and old people can't expect the health and strength of youth."

Then the doctor took his departure, and drove off in his dog-cart to visit the rest of his patients. The snow was falling softly, looking as though it meant to stay. Mrs. Weston watched the wheels of the carriage disappearing in the distance, and her heart sank within her. The solitude was terrible. All day long she should not hear another voice nor see another face. She must spend her Christmas alone, no one caring if she were alive or dead. For a moment her indomitable spirit quailed within her. What if she sent for her son, told him she was ill and alone, and sorry she refused to do his bidding? Then they might all be happy together. But then there was the baby. She could not strip the poor little thing of its inheritance. No; she must endure to the end, and remember the trust her husband had reposed in her. He was a good man; he would not have asked her to do what was impossible. So she took out her knitting and sat down as usual.

The next day was Christmas Eve. She saw from her window the school children wending their way through the falling snow armed with branches of holly and laurel, for the decoration of the church. If this weather continued, she would not even enjoy the mild excitement of attending public worship. Without a carriage she dared not walk alone and unattended through the soft and treacherous snow. At her age the fireside was the only possible place. She had outlived affection, happiness, gaiety, but she clung still blindly to her strained feeling of duty. Then began a period of terrible mental struggle for the old lady. In her heart she questioned if she had done right after all. Might she not have yielded to her son's wishes, and let herself be guided by his reasons? The price offered for the place was a large one; they could have lived on the proceeds of the sale in comfort, whereas now the old place was a terrible drag on her resources. But then she had promised her husband, and promises were sacred. Her head ached, her thoughts seemed all in a muddle. How cold it was! The cheap coals raked together in a small heap in the middle of the large grate gave out no heat; her hands and feet were almost numb. "And yet I loved John!" she murmured. "I loved him. I did it all for the best—all for the best." The church bells rang out a merry chime. She almost fancied she heard the sound of the Christmas hymn being practised in the church. When she was young she had sung in the choir and taken an interest in the music. It would be warm in the little church with the lights and the hum and buzz of merry workers. There would be white chrysanthemums on the altar and bright red holly berries in the form of a cross. She had sent no flowers this year; the fires in her hothouses were long ago extinguished; she was as poor as any villager. She winced at the thought.

Then she remembered that there was no turkey, mince-pies, or plum-pudding for her dinner tomorrow. Not that she cared for the food, but times were changed since the old hall resounded to the noise of song and laughter, and the wassail bowl was handed round. Now all was silence, solitude and gloom. Even Mrs. Chasuble was not likely to look in. She would be busy with the Sunday School, and the poor people's gifts, and the two services. The old lady's severe self-possession was failing her at last. She longed with a heart-sick, inexplicable childish longing for the clasp of some strong, kind hand, the touch of a loving kiss upon her faded cheek. If the baby had been here, now—that mysterious baby which filled her dreams by night, her waking thoughts by day, and which she felt certain that she was never destined to see! That baby was her stumbling-block, the more so that her absence from it was voluntary. What hindered her from going to her son? Her box was quickly packed, she wanted so little—some linen, her black silk dress, and a clean cap—she could pack it herself, and the cook could fetch a fly from the village. She half rose, quickened with a pleasant sense of excitement; then she remembered the cold, the snow, her age, and, more important than all, her ignorance of her son's whereabouts. No; she must wait. After all these years it would be foolish to change, to undo her long and weary work, the pitiful list of weary economies. Some day the baby would bless her memory, and if she did long for her son—well, she supposed she would get over it. No one yet ever died for want of a few caresses, but the day was long and *so* cold.

She must have slumbered. The fire had died

down; the lamp stood on the table, where the cook had evidently placed it while she slept; the Christmas bells were still ringing, and Mrs. Weston raised herself, alert and lively. What was that sound? The back door must be open. She heard voices! Surely the elderly cook was not entertaining company against her mistress's express orders? It was a man's voice—a man's step—it advanced nearer—nearer——

"John!" Mrs. Weston gave a cry, at once hoarse and triumphant. "John, John—my son! His arms were folded round her and she lay on his shoulder sobbing. The unexpected happiness had broken down her hardly-strained composure. John soothed her. It was pleasant to cry in his arms.

"Don't cry, mother," he said, patting her gently as one does a child. "Don't cry. It's all right; we've come to spend Christmas with you."

She lifted her tear-stained face and looked vaguely round. A young woman approached timidly.

"Not the—the baby?' Mrs. Weston gave one hungry look at her, then turned away. The young woman pulled back her shawl and showed the face of a little child placidly sleeping. Mrs. Weston put her finger timidly on its chubby cheek.

"Are its eyes blue," she asked wonderingly.

"Quite blue; they say its the image of me," and John laughed in the hearty voice which seemed to bring a whiff of warm vibrating life into the shadowy room, so full of sad memories. "How cold it is here," he continued, battering manlike with the poker on the dingy embers. "You're starved, mother; your hands are like ice!"

"It's—it's the pleasure," she whispered gratefully. "I didn't expect you."

"No; the doctor wrote and told me you were lonely and Blanche thought you would like to see the child, and so we've come to stay."

"Oh!" An expression of ghastly despair came into his mother's eyes.

"What is it? You are not ill?" John's conjugal experience had taught him care for women's illness.

'No—but——" gasped out Mrs. Weston—"I haven't a Christmas dinner!"

"You poor, silly, blessed dear!" Her son dropped the poker and took both her hands in his "How wretched you must have been all by yourself! Never mind the dinner; I'll arrange all that."

Mrs. Weston sank back in her chair with a sigh of relief. She was feeling very tired. Emotions were exhausting she supposed. John went out to give orders and take the management of everything. Mrs. Weston no longer grudged it him; it was pleasant just to sit still and look at that dear baby sleeping so peacefuly, with the long lashes drooping over its blue eyes. A boy—and blue eyes! Heaven had been good to her.

Presently John returned. "Why, mother, I can't think how you have been living! There's nothing in the larder, and hardly any coal in the cellar! I'm glad I came. Why, you would have been starved—why, you might have died! I've sent off the garden boy with a long list, and I made the cook light a roaring fire in the kitchen."

"But——" Words of objection rose to Mrs. Weston's lips.

"Let me have my own way to-day, mother, and spend our Christmas as I choose. We've been parted too long." John's tone was masterful still, but his mother listened gladly. "I'm rich enough now to spend what I like."

"Then you don't want to sell the place?" She asked the question tremblingly, fearing that all this blissful vision, the calm, buxom woman before her, the little baby on her lap, the manly son, firmer and more manly than ever she remembered him, would fade away into a phantasmal creation of her fancy.

"You were right, mother, and I was wrong," said John, laying his strong hand tenderly on her shoulder. 'We will keep the place, and baby shall live here some day."

Mrs. Weston stretched out a thin hand. 'John," she said, "John, you've made me so happy. I tried to do my duty and keep my promise, but it's been hard—you don't know how hard—for I loved you always—loved you best—you and the baby."

[THE END.]

CHISLEHURST.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION.—The poll for the election of Parish Councillors on the Chislehurst Parish Council, took place on April 5th. Not much interest was taken in the contest, and the polling was slow. Concerning the candidates, it will be remembered that there were twenty-three contesting the fifteen seats on the Council, and the election has resulted in the defeat of only one old member, Mr. Douglas White. Two other old members—Messrs. Bartlett and Flegg—did not seek re-election, and consequently three new members were required, and these vacancies have been filled by Messrs. Charles Balme, Booker and Charles Dabner. The chief difference between the results given by the show of hands and the poll is that at the latter more representation was obtained by the inhabitants of the Lower Borough, Sidcup.. *Elected*—*Sir Patteson Nickalls 309 votes, *J. Stockbridge 263, *Rev. Canon Murray 251, *Henry James Clark 245, *John Otway 244, *Nettleton Balme 241, *H. J. Willis 233, *W. Campbell Russell 229, Charles Balme 225, *Alexander Travers Hawes 221, *H. F. Tiarks 221, *R. Brown 219, *J. C. Pillman 216, Charles Dabner 202, Henry Booker 194. (The asterisk denotes old members of the Council.)

A Dramatic performance by local amateurs in aid of the funds of the Bromley Cricket Club is announced for May 5th, at the Grand Hall, under the direction of Mr. M. L. P. Crozier. The pieces to be presented are the farcical comedy, "Bubbles," a one-act sketch entitled "Twilight," and the laughable farce, "My turn next." The success attained by former entertainments in connection with this Club is well-known, and there is no doubt that all who secure seats on this occasion will spend a very enjoyable evening.

There are alterations in the local train service this month of both railways .

Sir John Lennard has again been elected Chairman of the Bromley Board of Guardians and Rural District Council.

Sir Samuel and Lady Sophie Scott are among the guests at the Viceregal Lodge, Dublin, where the Earl and Countess Cadogan are entertaining a large party for the Punchtown races.

An article by Sir John Lubbock, "On Bank Holidays—and a Plea for one more," appears in the current number of the *Nineteenth Century*.

The death took place, at Beckenham, last month of the Rev. H. E. Brooke, formerly minister of Christ Church, Bromley Park.

Mr. Thomas Lewis, of Bromley Common, who has just retired from the Secretariat of the Western Kent Sunday School Union, after 18 years service, was, on Good Friday last, presented with an illuminated address, together with an album containing photographs of the officers and ministers of the various schools connected with the Union.

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DIARY.

MARCH.

29th—Lecture by the Rev. J. Haslam at the Parish-room, West-street, Bromley, in aid of St. Mark's Building Fund.

APRIL.

1st—Annual meeting of the Bromley division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, at St. Luke's Institute. — Confirmation service at the Church of Annunciation, Chislehurst, conducted by Bishop Speechley.

2nd—Distribution of prizes and certificates by Miss Rose Kingsley to the pupils of the Bromley High School for Girls.

3rd—Bromley Urban District Council election, the successful candidates being: Town Ward—Dr. A. E. Price; Bickley Ward—Mr. T. C. McIntyre; and Bromley Common Ward—Mr. J. E. Harris.

5th—Election of Chislehurst Parish Councillors, Sir Patteson Nickalls being returned at the top of the poll.

6th—Annual meeting at the Bromley Parish-room, West-street, of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

7th—Annual tea and presentation of prizes, in connection with the Bromley P.S.A. Brotherhood, at the Farwig Wesleyan Mission.

8th—Lecture by Dr. Fleming, on the Rontgen Rays, at the Bromley Grand Hall.—Meeting of the Bromley Liberal Association, at the Club, East-street, for the election of delegates to the Sevenoaks Division Liberal Council.—Photographic exhibition, arranged by the Bromley Camera Club, in aid of the local Jubilee Commemoration Fund opened.

9th—Annual meeting of the Bromley Association of the London City Mission, at the Co-operative Hall, Bromley, Mr. Theodore Howard presiding.

12th—Anniversary meeting in connection with the Shortlands Congregational Mission.—Thirteen candidates nominated for nine seats on the Bromley School Board.

14th—Annual concert of the Bromley Swifts Football Club, at the Co-operative Hall.—Performance of Sir J. Stainer's oratorio "The Crucifixion," at Bromley Parish Church.

19th—Easter Monday Entertainment at St. John's Parish-room.—Sudden death at Bromley Common of a married woman named Elisabeth Hills, aged 55.

20th—Vestry meetings for Bromley, St. Luke's and Holy Trinity parishes.

21st—Concert, under the auspices of the Bromley Ambulance Corps, at the Bromley Common Village Hall, and presentation of a handsome marble clock, to Mr. Yolland, the honorary surgeon.

22nd—Vestry meetings for Bickley parish and St. Mary's parish, Plaistow.

23rd—Annual meeting of the Chislehurst Parish Council, Mr. A. Travers Hawes being re-elected chairman.

24th—Polling for the Bromley School Board election, the candidates returned being as follows: Messrs. G. Loly, W. Judd, W. Gomer, H. W. Amos, G. Weeks, junr., C.W. Gedney, Miss M. L. Heppel, Rev. R. Silvey and Mr. F. Packham.—Death of Mr. F. Pollard, late Poor-rate collector of Beckenham, from injuries received in a trap accident at St. Mary Cray, on Easter Monday.

26th—Annual meeting of Beckenham Urban District Council, Mr. W. H. Lendon being elected chairman.

27th—Annual meeting at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, of the Bromley Town Cricket Club.—Bromley Musical Society's fourth concert of the season, at the Drill Hall.—Beckenham Choral Society's concert at the Public Hall, Beckenham.

28th—Marriage of Miss L. J. C. Powell, daughter of Mrs. F. Powell, of Wardley, Chislehurst, and the Rev. L. Fisher, at the Parish Church, Chislehurst.—Performance of Barnby's "Rebekah," at the Bromley Baptist Chapel.—Bromley Football Club won the championship of the 2nd Division, London League, by defeating Stanley by one goal to nil.

TO OUR READERS.—In our June number we shall commence publishing a new story, entitled "Iva Kildare," by Mrs. L. B. Walford, the well-known authoress of "Mr. Smith," "Cousins," and many other equally popular works of fiction. The same issue will contain an article specially written for the RECORD on the "Progress of Bromley and district during the Queen's Reign."

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.—On Saturday, April 24th, the fourth triennial election of the Bromley School Board took place. There were thirteen candidates for the nine seats, five of them being members of the old Board, all of whom were returned. Roughly speaking, the total number of electors is 4,700, but of these only about 1,970 recorded their votes, being very considerably less than one-half. The counting took place at the District Council Offices on the following Monday morning, when the result was declared as below: — *Elected*—*Gustave Loly 2,239, *W. Judd 2,191, *William Gomer 2,143, Henry William Amos 1,983, George Weeks, junr., 1,840, *Charles Wm. Gedney 1,320, *Mary Heppel 1,074, Robert Silvey 975, F. Packham 972. *Not Elected*—William Green 810, Frederick Sutton 669, Elijah Brown 578, Albert Griffin 558. (* Signifies a member of the old Board.)

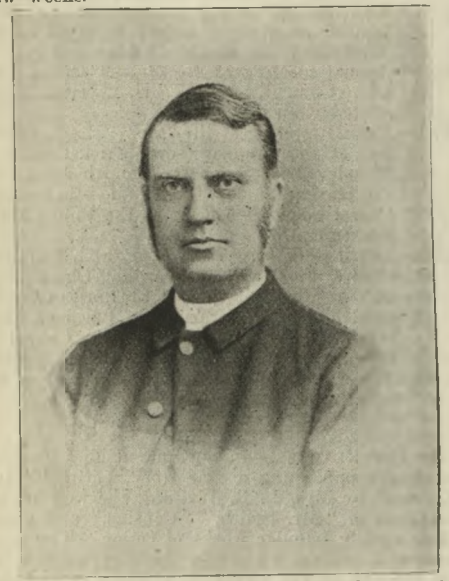
BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS.—But little interest appeared to be taken in the election of Urban District Councillors for Bromley, on Saturday, April 3rd. Contests took place in but three out of the five wards, in Plaistow and Sundridge wards, the retiring members, Messrs. J. Hutchings and R. S. Mayne being respectively re-elected without opposition. In the wards in which there were contests there was only one candidate who had before had a seat on the Council—Mr. T. C. McIntyre—and he, it will be seen, was re-elected. The polling resulted as follows:—Town Ward—Dr. A. E. Price 254, Mr. M. Lloyd 178, majority 76; Bickley Ward—Mr. T. McIntyre 145, Mr. F. Lord 128, majority 17; Bromley Common Ward—Mr. F. E. Harris 225, Mr. W. H. Smith 181, majority 44.

RECORD PORTRAITS.

No. XIX.—THE REV. C. MOINET, D.D.,

PRESBYTERIAN MINISTER FOR BROMLEY.

This month we have much pleasure in presenting our readers with a short biographical sketch of the Rev. Charles Moinet, D.D., pastor of St. John's Presbytery, Kensington, who is soon to assume the pastorate, in response to a hearty and unanimous invitation, of the Presbyterian Church in Bromley. The date of his induction has not yet been fixed, certain formalities having to be gone through, but it is expected that the subject of this sketch will commence his duties at Bromley in the course of a few weeks.



Debenham and Gould] [Bournemouth.

THE REV. C. MOINET, D.D.

The Rev. Dr. Moinet was born and educated in Edinburgh, where he graduated after completing the usual Arts curriculum at the University, and after a summer in Germany he devoted himself for more than two years to the study of law, the historical side of which has always had for him a very strong attraction. He was led, however, to abandon the profession which he originally looked forward to entering, and having decided to enter the ministry of the Presbyterian Church he studied theology for four years in the New College, Edinburgh, where he had for his contemporaries Robertson Smith, Dr. John S. Black, and several others who subsequently made their mark in various departments of theological literature. After being licensed as a preacher Dr. Moinet acted as assistant first in Campbeltown to the Rev. H. McNeill, who ministered to a large and attached congregation, and then at Regent-square, London, where he joined Dr. Dykes. It was his connection with Regent-square that led to Dr. Moinet's final settlement in England, for he had not been able to see his way to undertake the pastorate of a church recently built in Withington, a suburb of Manchester, his intention having been to devote his life to the work of the ministry in Scotland. Previously to coming to London he had been earnestly invited to accept the invitation. Overtures, however, were again made to him when at Regent-square, and were of so urgent a nature that he decided to accept the unanimous and enthusiastic call. Being the first minister of the church, its organisations and building-up devolved entirely upon him, and though at starting there was but a small number of worshippers, the congregation in a few years was one of the largest and was the most influential in the Presbytery of Manchester.

When Dr. Moinet left Manchester in 1882 the demand for sittings was in excess of the accommodation. At that time the pulpit of St. John's, Kensington, became vacant. The church was nearly empty also, and the buildng was in a most unsatisfactory condition and burdened with a considerable debt. The same happy result followed Dr. Moinet's labours in Kensington as at Withington. Within a few years the church filled up, the debt was paid off, and the building was improved at a cost of several thousand pounds. Mission premises were also purchased and became the centre of active agencies which proved a source of blessing to many in the neighbourhood of Earl's Court. Now the congregation is and has been for some time one of the most influential in the Presbytery of London North, containing several well-known members of Parliament, and subscribing handsomely to all denominational and general purposes. For several years the contribution from St. John's to the Hospital Sunday Fund has been the largest from the Presbyterian Church in London, and Dr. Moinet's ministry has given the church a position in Kensington which it never had before, and which it may find it somewhat difficult to maintain.

During the earlier years of his ministry in London, Dr. Moinet took an active part in the work of the Y.M.C.A. at Exeter Hall, and he is now one of the chaplains of the Royal Scottish Corporation, and also one of the directors of the West London Hospital. In 1895 the University of Edinburgh did him the honour of conferring upon him the degree of D.D.

Besides contributing many articles to various periodicals, Dr. Moinet has published a volume of sermons entitled "The Great Alternative" (Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton), which received the warmest welcome and the highest praise from critics of such different tendencies as Dr. Marcus Dods and the late Rev. C. H. Spurgeon. Shortly afterwards at the request of Messrs. Sampson, Low, Marston, and Co., Dr. Moinet wrote a volume for the series of "Preachers of the Age," which includes contributions from many of the most distinguished divines of all Christian denominations. This volume has, if possible, received still more favourable notice than its predecessor.

The congregation of the Bromley Presbyterian Church are certainly fortunate in having the ministry of a preacher of such power and capacity as Dr. Moinet undoubtedly possesses, and, under his guidance, a useful and prosperous future for the Church seems assured.

We would remind our readers that Mr. F. Lewis Thomas's grand evening concert will take place on May 11th, in the Grand Hall, when they will have the rare opportunity of hearing Mr. Santley. The other artistes engaged are Madame Clara Samuell, Madame Marian Mackenzie, Mr. Herbert Grover, Mr. Bertram H. Latter, Mr. A. W. Payne (violin), Mr. Sidney Brooks (violoncello). The conductor will be Mr. W. Henry Thomas, while Mr. F. Lewis Thomas will himself give pianoforte solos. Tickets may be obtained from the *Bromley Chronicle* Office, 14, Market-square.

The Bromley Fund for the Queen's Reign Commemoration amounted, up to April 28th, to £1,339 17s. 9d.

Mr. W. J. Gibbs, the devoted hon. sec. of the Farwig Wesleyan Mission, has so far recovered from his recent serious illness as to be able to journey to the sea-side.

"EN ROUTE TO CHINA."

(BY A BROMLEY LADY.)

(*Continued from page* 61)

Six days in Hong Kong. Our longest stay on dry land since we left England. How delightful I found it to sleep in a bed that kept still, which did not jerk or throb or shiver, and to have feather pillows, instead of huge things like blocks of wood covered with calico. I don't think they can contain anything so soft as flock, perhaps it is straw.

Hong Kong Harbour is said to be the prettiest in the world, except, I think, Sydney. Ships have to pass between islands to enter it, some covered with trees, and a few like huge rocks. All round the harbour,as one comes in, are high hills, covered on the Hong Kong side with trees, and at first the town at the foot appears quite small, merely a bundle of houses dropped into the space between the hills and the sea, but as the ship gets nearer the shore, the town seems to increase relatively in importance, and one notices the imposing-looking buildings near the quay, and the houses behind climbing gradually higher and higher, the whole town sloping upward from the harbour. When we came in, the hills on the opposite side, where Kowloong lies, had their tops shrouded in clouds, but yesterday and today they stood up boldly against a clear blue sky. The harbour is thick with shipping, from huge men-of-war to little Chinese sampans. Launches puffing busily about, row boats manned by bluejackets pulling swiftly in perfect time, fishing boats and boats of every imaginable shape and size. English, French, Germans, Japanese, Chinese, Malays mingle on the quays, and I noticed the flags of four different nationalities on launches which steamed up in one quarter of an hour.

We went up from the harbour through the town in jinrickshas, a sort of large perambulators on two wheels with long shafts in front, between which the coolie trots, his pigtail wound into a little knot behind, and his loose blue calico clothes flapping in the wind. We thought ten cents each (about twopence halfpenny) a very moderate charge for the long way we had to go to the house where we were to stay.

We passed through street after street of shops, first the larger English shops and then small Chinese shops about three stories high, all as close together as they could be. The shops are quite open to the street, no such thing as glass to be seen in the windows. The verandahs of the two upper stories make a roof over the path, and the pillars supporting these divide the side paths from the road. The verandahs of each house look just like a room of three sides, the fourth side open to the air with only a low railing in front. From a distance these verandahs give the houses a bare, staring appearance, as though they were all empty. At first I thought that each little house belonged to the man who kept the shop, and that his family lived in the upstair rooms, but that was a great mistake. I was told that there might be 16 or 18 families in each house. Each floor would probably be divided into six cubicles, and a whole family would be living in each little cubicle, or a small family might even sub-let half its cubicle. Three or four more would take lodgings on the verandahs, and probably the shopman and his assistants would sleep and live in the shop.

At a census taken a few months ago the population of Hong Kong was found to be 228,000 Chinese and 8,000 Europeans, not including soldiers or sailors. I believe that this includes English Kowloong on the mainland of China on the opposite side of the harbour. This tremendous predominance of Chinese over English in an English colony is rather curious. The first sight for strangers visiting Hong Kong is the Peak, and thither we were taken in due course. We went through the town in 'rickshas, a long train of nine, and then climbed the steps to the tram station, and took our places in the tram. Up the hill we went, now tipped backwards, while the tram climbed a piece of the hill almost as perpendicular as a wall, now almost on a level again. The hill is covered with trees on each side of the tram line, and now and then a break in rocks and trees gives a lovely glimpse of the harbour far below and the sea washing round the islands farther in the distance. When we got out of the tram at the top we had a magnificent view all round, but there was a cutting wind and we could not stand still long to enjoy it. We followed one of the roads which wound up and down and round about, passing bungalows here and there, and a hospital, and a hotel. Most of the English residents go up the Peak I think in the hot weather, and the missionaries have a sanatorium there which we went to see. Most of the rooms were shut up, but the coolie in charge of it appeared and opened the shutters, and insisted on giving us tea all round. We did not at all object, for a drizzling rain had come on, and we were all very cold. The view from the verandah of the bungalow must be splendid on a fine day, and even under a grey and cloudy sky the mountains on the mainland and the distant islands looked very picturesque.

Another delightful expedition was to the Happy Valley, and this time we had a lovely day, and used our umbrellas to keep off the sun instead of rain. The road wound along the side of a hill or rather hills, about half-way up, and we had trees above us on one side and below us on the other. Here and there were grassy banks rising up sheer from the side of the road. A little further on was a rocky gorge with a little stream rushing over the stones, and making a succession of waterfalls. A few yards on, and the rocks became a fernery, graceful ferns drooping over the ledges and tiny fronds appearing in every crevice, mingled with plants and wild flowers of unfamiliar form and hue. Right down below on the left lay the Happy Valley, with its succession of cemeteries, Parsee, Mohammedan, Chinese, English, and several more; rows of white stones breaking the green, and dotted about irregularly amongst trees and bushes. Again beyond that the harbour, with its guardian mountains on the farther side. We counted the battleships lying at anchor, and had it pointed out that the islands were used to store ammunition. Almost in one view were pictured peace and war—the dead lying in the Happy Valley, the huge ships of war on the sea beyond.

I believe there is a moral somewhere there, but we did not stay to moralize, but sat down on the grass in a merry group, and consumed sandwiches, cakes, and tea with voracious appetites. Then on again to where the reservior water pours out of stone gates from under the hills, and afterwards back by the lower road through the valley.

When we left Hong Kong we had to make the rest of our voyage in a very small steamer, the motion of which we all found exceedingly trying, and I think that our last day on the sea was almost the most miserable of all. The day we left Hong Kong was bad enough, but the day we arrived at Foo-chow was awful, for the sea played battledore and shuttlecock with us as we lay groaning in our berths.

The voyage from Hong Kong to Foochow is calculated to take about three days and three nights, but the excited condition of the sea as we

neared Foo-chow hindered our progress, and we took four days and three nights. The best of this little voyage is that it is twice broken, and we had two whole mornings on shore, first at Swatow, and then at Amoy, while the ship was taking cargo. How nice it would have been if we could have stopped somewhere every day at the beginning of our voyage from England, and have seen some of the towns on the coast of Portugal, &c. On the "Namoa" there were only Chinese stewards, and no such thing as a stewardess, but we found them a great deal pleasanter than the stewardesses we had had on the other ships. They knew nothing about "the ship's regulations," their only "regulation" was to do everything we asked, and bring everything we wanted at any hour of the day or night when we chose to call "Boy." One stewardess, if we asked for beef tea would declare we must have an order from the ship's doctor; if we demanded toast she would march off to the head steward, and declare on returning that toast could not be made until after nine o'clock. She would have gone mad, I am sure, if we had shouted for her at about six a.m., and demanded an orange and a banana, as my cabin companion did on the "Namoa." and if we had asked for hot water at all hours of the day she would have asked the captain to lock us up. The stewards on our two first ships were much better—far more obliging than the stewardesses, but they had their regulations, and would not do anything at any hour. The one difficulty with the Chinese men was the language, but they understood pigeon English, and we soon picked up enough of that for our purposes. We found it rather hard to distinguish the different individuals in blue calico who moved about so swiftly and noiselessly in their cloth-soled shoes, but as the name "Boy" did for all, that was of no consequence.

We did not see much of Swatow, though we were several hours there, for we spent our time with the members of the Presbyterian Mission, and hardly left their compound the whole time. There is no Church Mission in Swatow, but the Scotch missionaries are doing good work. We were shown the schools, but all the boarders were away for the Chinese New Year holiday, and no pupils were on view, except some tiny girls in a day school.

This mission has an excellent printing press, and the working of the different machines was explained to us, while the two or three Chinese who were setting type looked on with amusement, and attended very little to their work. Most of the mission houses had lovely flower beds, and the verandahs had pots of mignonette, roses, &c., a strange sight for February. Here in Foo-chow, which is further north, roses are blooming in the open air, and summer vegetables are to be had. The reason is, I think, that except very rarely, there are no frosts. It really is not so cold as at home, and out-doors one is quite warm when walking, but indoors I find it colder than a winter's day at home. The houses are built for hot weather, with very thin walls and numerous French windows, and in building it is a great object to be able to get a draught through a room, but if the windows do not quite fit one gets a cold breeze through when it is rather undesirable. The house in which I am living is really a Chinese house, and the stairs are on the verandah, and most of the passages are on the verandah too, so when the door of the room is left open it is not quite the same as it would be to leave a door open into a passage at home.

But I have rather wandered from my point, which was the flowers which grow in the winter tra la. We went back to the ship with large bouquets of violets to adorn the saloon table. We hardly liked taking so many, until our hostess told us that however many she picked there would be as many out again by next morning in the violet beds.

We did not see much of Swatow except the English Consulate, some more English houses, and a row of little native shops with numerous children and black pigs running about, and Chinese of the coolie class, who stood in a gaping row to watch us. As steamers stop at Swatow every day, and there are also English living in the place, I should have thought that the novelty of foreigners would have worn off.

At Amoy we had a delightful time; the captain took us for a walk, and we went right round the island. The town of Amoy is on the mainland, but the English community live on an island which is part of Amoy. Of course numerous Chinese live there too, but large houses standing in gardens take up a good part of the island, and these are occupied by Europeans. The road wanders about in a most curious way, now over a rocky hill, now through a grove of trees, and now turns into a path through a field. The sea shore is very rocky and picturesque with charming little bays and stretches of sand between the rocks. I love the sea when I am on shore, and the sound of the waves on the shore was very homelike. I have heard it nowhere else since we left England.

We climbed to the top of a hill which was like an enormous pile of huge boulders, and at the top came upon a sort of platform, on which was a Buddhist temple. There was a little crowd round the chief altar, some children burning incense sticks, men and women who had just brought offerings of food apparently looking on. We went right up the steps to the altar, and the captain pointed to the different little plates, and told us what the curious looking eatables were. Then the priest hurried forward with a teapot and insisted on giving us each a tiny basin of tea. Of course there was no milk, but as each basin only held about a tablespoonful, we did not hurt his feelings by refusing, but endeavoured to hold our little basins in both hands while we drank, according to Chinese etiquette.

Later on we were taken to the Amoy dairy, an English innovation, for the Chinese never use milk and have to be taught to manage cows. There we had a glass each of real milk, and afterwards duly admired the cows. But when we were called upon to admire the buffalo cows, we could not manage it, for they look more like huge black pigs than anything, and their skin, instead of being hairy looks like the hide of a rhinocerous. Amoy is very pretty, but I should not like to live in a place which only had one walk, and that three-quarters of an hour or an hour long. Golf, tennis, and hockey form part of the Community's recreations, but still I think they must wish the island were a little larger.

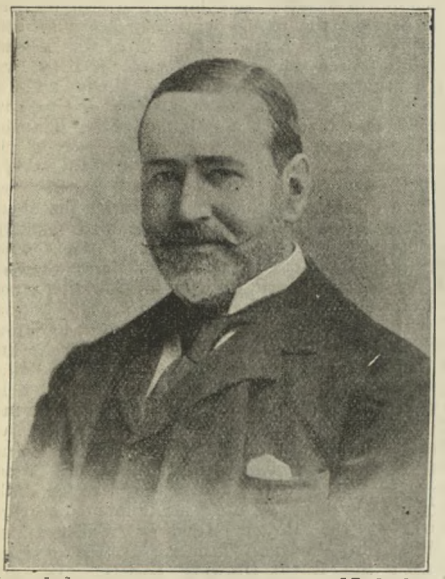
THE RAINFALL.—The rainfall for March as measured in Widmore-road, Bromley, amounted to 4.04 inches. Rain fell on 17 days, the largest amount registered in one day being .81 inch on the 2nd. For the corresponding month last year the fall was 3.18 inches and in 1895 1.36 inch. The total rainfall for the first three months of the year measures 7.87 in., as against 4.06 in. for the first three months of last year.

Mr. Lendon has been elected Chairman of the Beckenham Urban District Council for the ensuing year, and the Council at their last meeting, resolved to petition the Lord Lieutenant of the County to have the name of the late Chairman, Mr. A. H. Baker, placed upon the permanent Commission of the Peace for the County.

THE NEW CHAIRMAN OF BECKENHAM URBAN COUNCIL.

SKETCH OF MR. LENDON'S CAREER.

The saying that the busiest men are the ones who find most time to do anything has passed into a proverb, and within this category must be classed, Mr. Wm. Henry Lendon, the newly-elected Chairman of the Beckenham Urban District Council, whose portrait we have great pleasure in reproducing this month. Mr. Lendon, in the midst of an unusually busy week was good enough to spare half-an-hour to our representative at his residence, Holmleigh, in the Copers Cope-road, and in that short period gave a number of particulars con-



Lavender] [*Beckenham.*

MR. W. H. LENDON.

cerning himself, which cannot fail to be of great interest to our readers. Comfortably ensconced in his snug library, he obligingly answered the queries with which he was plied, somewhat liberally, and the result follows. Mr. Lendon is an old resident in Beckenham, but claims Greenwich as his native place, having been born there in 1850, and is naturally proud of the fact that he is a native of Kent. He was educated at the Maidstone Grammar School, which in those days ranked very high under the headmastership of the Rev. G. M. Gould. Mr. Lendon is too pardonably proud of having served his articles with the late Mr. Frederic Scudamore, who held nearly all the public appointments in that part of Kent, such as Clerk of the Peace and County Solicitor, and who was a very well-known figure in County affairs.

In process of time Mr. Lendon migrated to London and joined the present well-known firm of Layton, Sons and Lendon, of which he is now the senior partner. He took up his residence in Beckenham during 1874, and for a number of years was so busy in his profession that, whilst all the time doing more or less public work, the date of his taking any really active part in public life was not until 1882 or 1883. He was appointed Rector's Churchwarden by the Rev. Henry Arnott in 1885, and still holds that position. In this connection his greatest work relates to the erection of the stately new Parish Church, in which he took a very active and, indeed, leading part. In passing, it may be mentioned that the outlay on the building up to the present has been upwards of £25,000. For his services in this direction he was presented with a handsome silver salver. He hopes to see the time when the tower will be finished and the interior decorations of the edifice completed. It is noteworthy that the recent Easter vestry was the first one Mr. Lendon had missed for 20 years, and he was then detained by indisposition. This forms a reliable criterion of the active interest he has taken in matters ecclesiastical. Speaking of vestries, Mr. Lendon said, with a merry twinkle in his eye, that he had been at peaceful ones and rowdy ones, and enjoyed them both. He has been for seven years a director of the Public Hall Company, and for a long time past been a trustee of the Parochial Charities. Mr. Lendon was first elected to the old Local Board in 1889, and has continued a member of that board and its successor, the District Council, to the present time. After being Chairman of various Committees, he was elected to the chair in 1893-94, and re-elected for a consecutive term in 1894-95, preceding Mr. A. H. Baker, who has been Chairman during the past two years. By the unanimous vote of the Council on Monday, Mr. Lendon was elected for the third time to the premier position on the local authority, an honour which may be the more highly appraised, inasmuch as it comes in the year which will be rendered for ever memorable as witnessing the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. Mr. Lendon may be trusted to see that Beckenham commemorates that auspicious event in a worthy and commendable manner.

Having apparently exhausted inquiries strictly relating to public duties, a diversion was made to the topic of sport, upon which Mr. Lendon is always at home. He founded the Maidstone Rugby Football Club in 1866, and took a very active part in the formation of the Beckenham Rugby Club three years ago. His preference is for the handling code, but he left off playing in 1872, when he appeared for the Gipsies, a leading London club. In that year the team defeated Tonbridge, Marlborough Nomads, Blackheath, Richmond, Cambridge University, and other crack combinations. Mr. Lendon played forward mostly, but occasionally went to half back. He still evinces a keen interest in the sport and is well represented in the Beckenham fifteen by his son. Cricket does not appear to have been such a favourite game with him, but he remembers winning a match for the married against the single of the Beckenham Club some ten or twelve years ago. Going in eleventh man he made the winning hit in the last of the married v. single matches played by the club. It is not in the least surprising to learn that one with so versatile a nature has taken a prominent part in the excellent productions of the Beckenham Amateur Dramatic Club, and Mr. Lendon's principal impersonations have been as "Reuben Haines" in "Dan'l Druce"; "Our Mr. Jenkins" in the "Two Roses"; "Uncle Gregory" in "The Pair of Spectacles"; "Briginshaw" in "Liberty Hall," and "Dr. Delaney" in "Sweet Lavender." Of these "Uncle Gregory" and "Our Mr. Jenkins" were selected by Mr. Lendon as his two favourite parts and the latter seemed to provide very pleasant recollections for him.

The next topic introduced was the dangerous one of politics, but here, as elsewhere, Mr. Lendon was refreshingly frank and described himself as formerly a Liberal, now a Liberal Unionist with a strong dash of Conservatism, feeling distrust of change more and more as time goes on. He did not pretend to be a great politician, as it would be inconsistent with his position as Returning Officer at elections.

Mr. Lendon has passed the chair at the Beckenham Social Club and is recognised by all his acquaintances as a jolly good fellow, with a liking for a good joke and an equal readiness to take a sally in

good part. He has been not inaptly described as the wit of the Council, and that is a qualification which is often more useful than some would suspect. In all his humour, however, there is a total absence of anything approaching to malice, and many of his timely witticisms have been appreciated and enjoyed by his fellow Councillors in much the same way as members of the House of Commons, in the midst of the most serious debates, enjoy such amusing little episodes as the perpetration of an Irish "bull" or a mixed metaphor. Many of his *bon mots* will survive in the recollection of his colleagues when the musty records of dry-as-dust discussions have fallen into deserved oblivion.

BROMLEY MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The promise made at the February concert, that the programme of its successor should be arranged with a special reference in the Diamond Jubilee, was abundantly fulfilled on the 27th ult., when the last concert of the season was given. The first part was entirely devoted to appropriate and patriotic pieces, with the result, that while doubtless fully in accord with the prevailing sentiment, there was not as much variety, nor, perhaps, did the character of the music present quite so many features of interest as we are accustomed to at these concerts. Of course, the programme opened with the National Anthem (as effectively arranged by Sir Michael Costa), in which the audience were invited to join. Handel's "Occasional Overture," which came next, is too well known to need detailed notice; it was well played, the oboe solo being exceptionally good. The "Coronation Anthem" of the same composer needs a large body of singers to give it full effect, and failed, therefore, to produce any very profound impression, but the familiar and sonorous Coronation March from "Le Prophete" was thoroughly enjoyed, and received an encore. The same compliment was paid to the song "Red, White and Blue" sung by Mr. Walter Head, and accompanied by the composer, Miss Alice Borton. The "Queen's Song," the words of which, by Sir Edwin Arnold, are an admirable specimen of "Telegraphese," is made very effective by the music of Mr. Eaton Faning, and was sung with much spirit by the choir.

The second part consisted of three numbers only, each however interesting in its way. "Phaudrig Crohoore" (produced at the Norwich Festival last year), is a rollicking Irish ballad, which, in its theme inevitably recalls "Young Lochinvar," though Mr. Le Fanu's racy style, with its Irish brogue, differs as widely as possible from the polished verse of Scott. Mr. Stanford evidently found a congenial task in composing the music for this extremely vigorous and unconventional rhymed story, and by giving portions of the narrative to each of the four parts in turn, has produced some very striking effects. The rhythm, however, being somewhat irregular, though it would not present any serious difficulty for solo voices, renders it extremely hard for the members of a choir to preserve perfect accuracy, and a slight want of unanimity was occasionally noticeable in consequence. The piece was sung with much spirit and greatly enjoyed, though an ardent patriot might have discerned a fresh instance of "Injustice to Oireland" in the occasional softening of the brogue into something more akin to the Saxon tongue. Mr. Head chose for his second song, Miss Aylward's "Beloved, it is Morn," which is not only beautiful in itself but is well adapted to his voice and style, and accordingly made an excellent impression. In the overture to the "Merry Wives of Windsor," the band was heard at its very best, the performance being in all respects admirable; so that Mr. Thomas may be congratulated both on having successfully accomplished a very difficult task as regards selection in the first part, and on having finished the season with one of the best performances his Society has given.—FORTISSIMO.

BROMLEY HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.—On Friday, April 2nd, Miss Rose Kingsley, a daughter of the late Charles Kingsley, distributed the prizes and certificates to the pupils of the Bromley High School. Mr. W. Bousfield, chairman of the Girls' Public Day Schools Company, presided, and after a musical programme had been successfully rendered by the pupils, he delivered an address of an encouraging character, referring to the change in the education of girls that had taken place since the Queen ascended the throne. He introduced Miss Kingsley as the daughter of one whose name would ever be honoured by English men and women.—Miss Rose Kingsley, who, on rising, was loudly applauded, gave an able address on "Patriotism." She remarked that they each had three important duties to discharge, firstly, to the family to which they belonged; secondly, to society; and thirdly, to their country. She believed the reason why they heard so little of patriotism in England nowadays, was because English people were too comfortable. They lived in a country where they did not know what it was to have a war at close quarters and to have their homes invaded. Continuing, Miss Kingsley said it was the duty of every girl to keep up the credit and honour of her school, and to leave it with the knowledge that they had done their best to help others. In the report read by the Headmistress (Miss Heppel), reference was made to the death of the late Chairman of the Council (Mr. Stone) and to that of Miss Emily Sherriff. As regards the work of the students the report was of a highly satisfactory nature. The London Matriculation Examination was passed in June, 1896, by Ethel Worters and Alice Hentsch, and in January, by Evelyn Rogerson, The London Intermediate Examination was passed in July by Ivy Woodward, Marianne Tanner, and Florence Richards, Ivy Woodward obtained Third Class Honours in French. In December the Examination of French Professors in England was passed by Ethel Worters, who gained the prize for Philology. A bursary of £30 per annum for three years, at the Royal Holloway College, was awarded to Marianne Tanner. In the examination of the Royal Drawing Society, 112 girls gained certificates, 46 of these being in honours. Kate Walker received the full Honour Certificate for obtaining honours in every division. A Bronze Star was awarded to Kate Payne for her drawing from the cast. 37 girls took the examination of the London Institute of Needlework, all of whom obtained certificates. The school was examined in July by the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board. The Council's certificates were awarded to six girls in Forms V. and VI.: to Ethel Worters for distinction in Arithmetic, Algebra, History, Chemistry, Latin, French; Catherine Walker, Arithmetic, Algebra, History, Chemistry, Latin, French; Evelyn Rogerson, Arithmetic, History, Chemistry, Latin, French; May Burls, Arithmetic, Algebra, History, Latin, French; Helen Draper, Arithmetic, Chemistry, Latin, French; May Bartholemew, Arithmetic, History, Algebra, Chemistry.

Mr. Yolland, the honorary surgeon to the Bromley Common branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, was, on April 21st, presented with a handsome marble clock and cricket utensils, in recognition of his valuable services to the Corps. Mrs. Gerard Norman undertook the presentation, which was made during an enjoyable concert at the Village Hall.

A short story from the pen of H. G. Wells, a native of Bromley, who is achieving considerable literary fame, appears in this month's number of the *Woman at Home*.

BROMLEY'S GENERAL POST OFFICE.

We have now the pleasure of presenting our readers with a view of Bromley's new General Post-office, which was opened a few weeks ago, and has already proved itself a great improvement on the old building. The site of the new building, as is generally known, is that occupied until lately by several cottages known as Centenary-place, just at the junction of East-street with West-street, and opposite the District Council Offices. The new Post-office is an imposing structure as it now stands relieved of all scaffolding and the other innumerable accessories of the builders, and marks a decided improvement in this part of the town.

Before entering upon a description of the new building, some little account of the old postal arrangements of the town will be of interest. Of a public service which dates back to the time of Charles I., much might, of course, be written respecting its gradual development, but this notice aims not at any review of the postal system in general. It is difficult to take a peep very far back into a condition of things of which no record was kept, save the few facts which impressed themselves upon the minds of those then residing in this district and narrated by them to their families, and so handed down; but as far back as 1820, one is able to glean some reliable facts. In that year the Bromley Post-office was situate at an old house where Mr. Pamphilon now carries on his business in the High-street, though that house has since been pulled down and re-built. Here Mr. John Acton was the postmaster, and he was assisted by Miss Hair, but the requirements of the town at that period, with its population of only 3,000, were naturally not very exacting, and Mr. J. Acton found ample time, in addition to his postal duties, to conduct the business of a wine merchant. The out-door work of collections and deliveries was then accomplished by a staff of two, one officer, Mr. Richard Colven, doing the Bromley round, while Mr. William Trusty attended to the postal service for the villages of Hayes, Keston, Farnborough, &c. There were two deliveries daily, and the mails, which were brought by coach from London were thrown out as it passed through Bromley on its way to Hastings. Upon the death of Mr. John Acton, the management of the Post-office passed to his son, the late Mr. S. P. Acton, and there are many stil living who recollect how customers had at that time to wait in the street while they were served with stamps, &c., through a small aperture—somewhat similar to the railway ticket-office window of to-day. Mr. S. P. Acton was assisted in these duties by Miss Poole. The residents must have welcomed the improved facilities—scanty though they were—afforded when the Post-office was transferred to the premises of our late townsman, Mr. J. B. Shillcock, chemist,

Cantuar Studio] THE NEW POST OFFICE. [*Bromley.*

in 1857, which were on the opposite side of the High-street, though the work was not then very extensive, as is shown by the fact that it was discharged by about a dozen postmen and one telegraph boy, these officials having to cover a very wide district, including the villages of Chelsfield, Downe, Farnborough, &c. Mr. J. B. Shillcock retained the office of postmaster until 1876, and it was during his period of service that money-orders, savings-bank business, insurance, and the issuing of licenses became prominent features of the postal system. All the mails were for a long time received and despatched by road, the first mail-cart arriving with the cross-post correrspondence from Croydon, &c., at about 5 a.m., when the driver announced his advent by blowing a horn, with which at that time all mail-drivers were provided. The work grew very much during Mr. Shillcock's postmastership, and the town deliveries were, during the latter part of the time, increased to three daily—at 8 a.m., 2 p.m., and 7 p.m. Telegraph business was also added. After Mr. Shillcock's the business was carried on at premises in the Market-square, now in the occupation of the Misses Earle, and eventually removed to the old building in the High-street. Later, the postmastership was transferred to Mr. William Hewick, who was more acquainted with modern postal resources, he having been chief clerk at Lincoln for some years. Owing, however, to his health becoming impaired, in consequence of his being shaken severely in several collisions while travelling in connection with his duties, he was compelled to retire in 1885, when he was succeeded by Mr. N. R. Dyer, who, in his turn, was transferred to Redhill in 1890.

Upon Mr. Dyer's removal, the present postmaster, Mr. W. Beale took over the office—on July 1st, 1890—and it may here be noted that many improvements have been effected during his charge. A number of additional post offices have been opened, to two of which the telegraph has been extended, and a number of additional letter-boxes erected to meet the increasing needs of the inhabitants. Mr. Beale has taken great interest not only in the development of the work, but also in the welfare of his officers and men, and seven or eight of the latter may be seen wearing one, two, or three badges, as evidence of their long and satisfactory service. He has, by his kindness and geniality, won the respect and esteem of all, and, as an instance of his kindly interest in those around him, it may be mentioned that during the great strain which is put upon the staff during the Christmas and New Year seasons, they are provided with refreshments, and invariably on Christmas Eve, after the last letter mail has been despatched, the officials conclude their toil by a hot supper, presided over by Mr. Beale, who takes the opportunity of addressing a few appropriate words to the company. These incidents are rarely chronicled, but they serve to show the harmonious working between all the departments, which helps to make toil pleasant even under trying conditions.

The postal work in Bromley has, of course, greatly increased of late years, and necessitated constant additions, both to the staff and premises. Among the improvements made during the last seven years may be included the 10 a.m. delivery, two extra despatches to London of parcels (10.45 a.m. and 10 p.m.), while five additional bags are received and four despatched. The telegraph system has also been extended to Bromley-hill, Masons-hill and Widmore, and connection established between the villages of Downe, Green-street-green and Halstead. Five money-order offices have also been added, and nineteen letter-boxes. At present there are five deliveries of letters and seven deliveries of parcels daily; and ten despatches of letters and eight of parcels each day to London and the provinces, the last despatch of letters being one hour later and that of parcels two hours later than formerly. Indeed, the work is carried on here on very similar lines to those adopted in the Metropolis, and as an illustration of its rapid growth during the present postmaster's term of service in Bromley we may point out that the increase in the letters for delivery in Bromley has been 40 per cent., the total being 60,809 per week; in letters for despatch from Bromley 75 per cent., or 51,900 weekly; in parcels delivered in Bromley, 60 per cent., or 76,850 per annum; in the number of parcels for despatch from Bromley, 78 per cent., or 68,742; and in telegrams, in and out, 63 per cent., or 85,679 yearly. The savings' bank transactions of 1896, compared with 1890, show an increase of 25 per cent., the total transactions during last year numbering 8,012. The issue of postal-orders also has risen at the rate of 19 per cent., the number dealt with in 1896 being 67,857; and money-orders have increased 15 per cent., with a total of 5,783 in the year. The increases in these departments are necessarily less than in the others, owing to the fact that five additional sub-offices in the town are provided, at which the public, to a large extent transact business of this character. These figures show a great development in every department, and to facilitate the parcel-department, Bromley has recently been put in communication with the London parcel-coach, which passes through the town every morning, and now calls at the Bromley office daily, except Mondays.

At the present time the staff includes fifteen officers, sixty-five postmen, seventeen telegraph-messengers, and a number of assistants, besides the postmaster (Mr. Beale), his chief clerk, Mr. Hulbert (who, by-the-way, is the compiler of that handy little leaflet sold at the Post-office, giving in a concise form the postal arrangements of the office and district), and Mr. W. Muncey, the inspector of postmen. With this great extension of business it must be obvious to everyone that the small premises, which of late years had had to serve as the chief office, had long been most inadequate and inconvenient. Attempts to meet this rapid development of trade were made by the addition of rooms, until no further expansion was possible. The crowding of the departments, and insufficent working space naturally made more irksome the proper performance of duty, as well as subjecting the workers to the additional drawback of working under unhealthy conditions. Despite these deficiencies, however, the work was efficiently carried on.

There is a striking difference between the old and new offices, whether in size, pitch or position, but one most convincing instance will probably astonish those even of our readers who are well acquainted with the two places. In the public office at the old premises the space available for the use of customers was exactly 96 square feet, while in the public-room at the new office this space amounts to 665 square feet—an increase of no less than 569 square feet.

It will be seen from the foregoing particulars that the difference between the accommodation provided at the old and the new offices is very great and further comparison seems hardly necessary. Indeed, it is surprising that this improvement has been so long delayed, but public departments usually move so tardily, that the public must feel thankful that this change has been at last effected. It is certainly an excellent move, and one that will be thoroughly appreciated on all sides. The site which has been in the hands of the authorities for some five years is also very suitable, being out of the busiest thoroughfares, while at the same time still in the centre of the town. It was on Jan. 23rd, 1896, that the contractors took possession, but operations were not commenced for some little time. When once a start was made, however, the

work was rapidly pushed forward. Upon the ground floor the public-office occupies the whole of the front part, save a wide passage, leading to the sorting-room, for the egress and ingress of hand carts. The public-office is a splendid apartment, furnished with a mahogany counter some 28 feet long. This room is supplied with three wrought-iron pendants, fitted with incandescent burners, while another bracket is placed over the telegraphing-table. Immediately behind, on one side, is situate the postmaster's room, and at the rear of this is the sorting-room, a remarkably light and airy apartment, with wood block flooring, fitted up with tables, &c., of the most improved type. They include four double sorting tables, 16 feet 8 inches in length, fitted with iron swing seats, which can be placed out of the way when not in use; two other sorting tables, postmen's wall tables, 27 feet long; newspaper sorting tables, parcel racks, &c., &c. At the rear, a spacious room has been provided for the postmen—fitted with a cooking-range—with lavatory accommodation still further back, and also room for the postmen's trucks, &c. On descending into the basement one sees the battery-room and another commodious room for the use of the clerks. Cellars for storage of baskets, bags, &c., are also provided. The largest room on the first floor is occupied by the telegraphists. It is a well-pitched compartment, fitted with plenty of windows, and the telegrams are despatched from the counter below by means of a pneumatic tube. Leading out of this room is a cosy apartment for the convenience of the lady workers; while adjoining the telegraphy department is another spacious room for the telegraph messengers. The second floor contains two bedrooms of capital size, a dining-room and scullery for the use of the caretaker.

The building consists of four floors. The street elevation is designed in a free treatment of Renaissance with red bricks and buff terra-cotta. Up to the first floor level the front is almost entirely of terra-cotta with the principal entrance forming a projecting porch with polished granite jambs, and with pediment over having the Royal Crown as an enrichment of the tympanum. Half-octagon pilasters or attached pillars, with a Gothic feeling divide the upper storeys vertically into four bays, crowned by a gable over the main entrance with an open balustrade on either side.

The architect was Mr. Henry Tanner, F.R.I.B.A., of H.M. Office of Works. The principal contract for the building amounted to about £5,000, and has been admirably carried out by Messrs. G. E. Wallis and Sons, of Maidstone. Messrs. Comyn, Ching and Co., of Long Acre, W.C., supplied the lighting arrangements, and the fittings were provided by Messrs. Elder, of Hayes, Middlesex.

THE OLD "BELL" HOTEL.

The well-known old hostelry, "The Bell," situate in the High-street, is now being pulled down, with a view to being re-built. But little is known of the history of the old house, but even in comparatively recent times, within its walls have been enacted many important functions in the life of the town, and it cannot be doubted that before railways had brought the great Metropolis so much nearer, it was a still more important rendezvous both for business and social purposes, and it was the chief posting-house in the town, affording accommodation for a large number of horses. The Royal coat-of-arms over the front-door seems to show that Royalty has at some time honoured the hotel by its presence, and the great Duke of Wellington, it is related was on one occasion a guest when posting through to Dover in the days of the great war. Of late years Sir Henry Irving and Miss Ellen Terry have been among its most frequent and noted visitors. Thirty years ago the premises periodically furnished a court of justice, the Petty Sessional Court having held its sittings there. The above illustration will serve to remind our readers of the exterior of the old building in the days to come, when the place of it shall know it no more.

THE OLD "BELL" HOTEL.

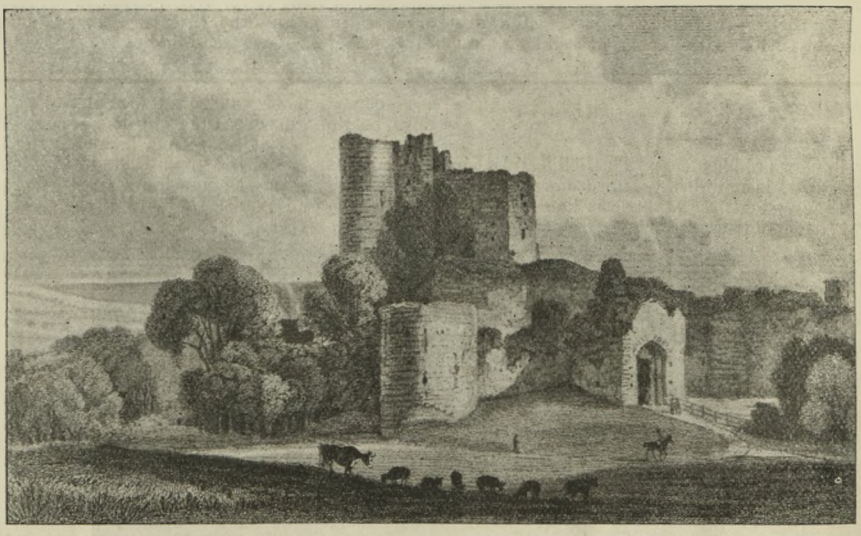
KENTISH CASTLES.

SALTWOOD.

It has been supposed by some authorities that Saltwood Castle dates back to a Roman origin, but the supposition (suggested probably by the contiguity of the Roman remains at Lymne)is entirely without foundation. Originally there was a castle of some kind at Saltwood in Norman times, and one of the existing towers of the outer wall is certainly of that date, but the main building is of later date, and there is reason to think that it was the work of Hugo de Montfort.

Although Saltwood Castle was in existence at the time of the Domesday Survey, there is no mention of it in that work, but this is explained by the fact that the Domesday Book was a record of lands, and took no account of buildings.

In Saxon times the manor of Saltwood seems to have been the property of the Church. Hasted, the historian of Kent, states that the Castle of Saltwood was re-built by Henry de Essex, Baron of Ralegh, and Standard Bearer to King Henry II.



SALTWOOD CASTLE, KENT.

From Matthew of Paris we learn that Henry de Essex was defeated in a trial by duel for cowardice, before the Welsh, and, although he was allowed to live, he was compelled to become a monk in Reading Abbey, and his possessions were escheated to the Crown.

These possessions were claimed for the Church by Archbishop Becket, and this brings us to the most prominent event in the story of Saltwood Castle. When Henry II. gave expression to his anger against Becket he was at Bur, near Bayeux, in Normandy. Four knights, or gentlemen of the bed-chamber, named Reginald Fitzurse, Hugh de Moreville, William de Tracy, and Richard le Bret, thereupon took it as a point of honour to rid the King of "this low-bred priest," and they immediately set out upon their journey with murderous intentions. They proceeded by different roads to the French coast, and crossing the sea on the following day, two of them landed at Dover, and the other two at Winchelsea, and all four arrived at the same hour at the fortress of Saltwood.

This castle was occupied at that time by Randulph de Broc, who was naturally not very well disposed towards the prelate who claimed his lands for the Church. Only three days ago Archbishop Becket had excommunicated de Broc, and while the smart of this indignity was still fresh in his mind, the four knights laid their schemes of murder before him, and he readily entered into the plot.

On the night of December 28th, 1170, the candles were extinguished in an apartment of Saltwood Castle, in order that the details of the murderous mission might be discussed without the conspirators seeing each others faces.

It would seem that every step had been satisfactorily agreed upon, for early the next morning the knights engaged some troopers in the King's name, and rode off hurriedly along the ancient Stone Street, which from the time of the Romans had been the direct road to Canterbury.

Once within the walls of the meteropolitical city they took up their quarters with Clarembald, the Abbot of St. Augustine's Abbey. In the afternoon they rode to the great gateway of the archiepiscopal palace, and leaving their weapons outside, and wearing gowns to conceal their mail, they sought Becket in his private apartment, where he sat with his monks after the three o'clock meal.

The four knights confronted him here, and roughly made demands in the King's name, which he put aside, and a violent altercation took place. Upon this the knights retired with threats, and passing through the palace shouting, "To arms," proceeded to take off their gowns and to arm themselves.

Meanwhile, Becket, though fully aware of his peril, but refusing to secrete himself, had been hurried by the frightened monks into the Cathedral, and he was ascending the stairs, which then as now, led from the north transept to the choir, in order to join in the vespers that had commenced, when the knights rushed into the transept, still known by its ancient name of "The Martyrdom."

The night was gathering in, for it was about five o'clock on the afternoon of the 29th December; the sacred building was only imperfectly lighted by a few lamps in the shrines, and in the gloom the knights could but just discern a few figures mounting the steps. "Stay!" shouted one of them. Another roughly enquired "Where is Thomas Becket, traitor to the King?" and "Where is the Archbishop?"

Becket calmly replied: "Reginald, here I am, no

traitor, but the Archbishop and Priest of God; what do you want?' So saying, he descended the steps and confronted his assailants. Here they closed around him, crying: "Absolve the bishops whom you have excommunicated." Then Becket turned towards Fitzurse, and demanded why he came armed into the church. Fitzurse pressed an axe against him and brutally cried, "You shall die—I will tear out your heart."

It would seem . a scuffle followed, in which Becket hurled Tracy to the ground. Fitzurse struck a blow which was intercepted by a monk and his arm fell broken, while the sword, grazing the head of Becket, fell on his shoulder. Two blows followed and the Archbishop fell on his face, upon which le Bret struck him as he lay a tremendous sword-cut, which completely severed the top of the skull, and the sword was shivered on the stone pavement.

The same night the murderers rode back in hot haste to the friendly shelter of Saltwood Castle.

The martyrdom of Archbishop Becket was undoubtedly one of the most important events of the twelfth century and its influence upon subsequent history cannot easily be over-estimated, but it is not possible to pursue this subject further in the present place.

The Castle and Manor o Saltwood were restored to the See of Canterbury in the first year of the reign of King John, and the Archbishops of Canterbury occasionally resided there until the time of Cranmer, who, in the reign of Henry VIII, exchanged them for some other lands of the Crown.

One of the principal features of Saltwood-Castle is the fine gate-house with the two flanking towers, built by Archbishop Courtenay, in the time of Richard II., and the arms of the builder are sculptured upon the front of the gate-house. This portion of the fortress was furnished with all the usual methods of defence, including portcullis, machicolations, and an arrangement of holes over the gateway, by means of which the assailants might be worried and injured by the discharge of missles.

The principal apartment of the gate-house is situated over the archway, and there are smaller chambers leading from it, situated in the turrets. Each of these contains a staircase and a garderobe, all skilfully arranged for economy of space. These chambers are all furnished with fire-places under flat perpendicular arches.

The area enclosed by the outer walls of the Castle is of elliptical shape, and for many years it was used as a farm-yard. The Castle is pleasantly situated on the side of a little valley, opening down to the sea, and is surrounded by a very broad and deep moat, the waters of which are derived from a brook flowing through the valley.

KENT ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The new volume of the publications of this Society—*Archæologia Cantiana, Vol. XXII.*—which has recently been issued, contains many contributions of interest to Kentish men, or Men of Kent, as the case may be, and some items of considerable value relating more especially to our own district.

The first paper in the volume on St. Martin's Church, Canterbury, by the Rev. C. F. Routledge, F.S.A., is published at an opportune time and will be read with appreciation by all who are interested in the thirteenth centenary commemoration of the Baptism of King Ethelbert.

A special interest attaches to Mr. George Payne's account of his researches on the site of the Roman villa unearthed at Darenth. A ground plan, for which the antiquarian world has long been waiting at length appears, showing a very remarkable arrangement of rooms of various shapes and sizes. A number of excellent photographic illustrations add value to the pape , especially as showing the precise construction of the hypocausts for the warming of the house in the chilly climate of Britain.

Mr. J. F. Wadmore contributes a chapter on "The Knight Hospitallers of Kent," which is full of important facts, and well illustrated. An account of Davington Priory is given by Rev. C. V. Collier, F.S.A.; and Mr. Leland L. Duncan, F.S.A., a well-known authority on ecclesiology, supplies a most valuable series of excerpts from a document in the Public Record Office, relating to "The Renunciation of the Papal Authority by the Clergy in West Kent." Among those of the secular clergy who signed the declaration that "The Bishop of Rome hath no greater jurisdiction committed to him by God in this realm of England than any other foreign Bishop," we find the names of Dominus Radulphe Tyleney, Curate of Bromley, and the rectors or parsons of Cudham, Footcray, Wilmington (Dartford), Deptford, Sutton-at-Hone, North Cray, Chelsfield, Farnborough, Lee, Horton Kirby, Chislehurst, Eltham, West Wickham, Rowxlay (Ruxley), Woolwich, Erith, Lewisham, Dartford, and Southfleet.

The death of the Rev. W. A. Scott Robertson, for many years the honorary secretary of the Society, is referred to on a separate slip of paper, the sad event having occurred too recently to be mentioned in the body of the text. The genial face and charming manners of Canon Robertson will long be a pleasant memory. His death will be a distinct loss to all who knew him, and it is very doubtful if the place be occupied in the affections of those who regularly meet at the annual congresses can ever be adequately filled.

It was not merely as the accomplished antiquary or the man of letters that Canon Robertson will be best remembered, although he was both; but it will be as the scholarly, picturesque, and lovable personage, brimful of life and sparkling with anecdote. We lament his loss as one of the greatest the Kent Archæological Society has ever sustained. G. C.

Births.

HEMING.—On the 4th April, at 10, Tweedy-road, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Francis C. Heming, of a son.

KNOTT.—On the 12th April, at Killarney, Lennard-road Beckenham, the wife of John W. Knott, of a son.

MARSHALL.—On the 8th April, at Erpingham, Chislehurst-common, the wife of Arthur Marshall, of a daughter.

TAIT.—On the 20th April, at Markham, Station-road, Bromley, Kent, the wife of John W. Tait, of a daughter.

Marriages.

HAMMERTON.—SHELLEY.—On the 10th April, at St. Nicholas Parish Church, Sutton, Surrey, by the Rev. H. W. Turner, Claud Hammerton, second son of Thomas Moy Hammerton, Beckenham, to Cordelia Willard, second daughter of Mrs. Shelley, Norfolk House, Sutton.

SOAMES—LA FARGUE.—On 22nd April, at Bromley Parish Church, by the Rev. J. M. Tamplin, cousin of the bride, and curate of the parish, Charles Ernest Soames, second son of Eley Soames, of Ravenscroft Bromley, Kent, to Angela Cecilia, fifth daughter o, the late George Herriot La Fargue.

WEDEKIND—BROWNE.—On the 29th April, at S. Bride's, Fleet Street, Richard Hamel Wedekind, of "Ferndale," Shortlands, to Tempe Stanley, widow of Lieut. H. M. Browne, 4th Sikh Infantry, and youngest daughter of the late Captain C. M. Drew, 24th Regiment. No cards.

Deaths.

ACKERMANN.—On the 13th April, at 30, Masons-hill Bromley, Kent, Henry Ackermann, late of 41, Beckenham-road, Penge, aged 69 years.

BROOKE.—On the 5th April, at 10, Cedars-road, Beckenham, Kent, the Rev. Henry Edward Brooke, aged 67 years.

COOPER.—On Saturday, 27th March, 1897, at 13, Widmore-road, Bromley, Kent, Mr. H. G. Cooper, aged 52 years.

FLEMING.—On the 9th April, at Christ Church Parsonage, Chislehurst, Anna Charlotte, wife of the Rev. William Fleming, and eldest daughter of the late Captain N. Fishe, R.N., of Rosbercon, Ireland.

HOSE.—On the 21st March, at 11, Manor-road, Beckenham, Kent, Ann, widow of the late Rev. Henry Judge Hose, M.A., aged 66.

JAMESON.—On the 15th April, at Burlington Villa, Mottingham, Eltham, Thomas Jameson, of 94, Westbourne-grove.

MATHERS.—On the 29th March, at Glenalmond, Foxgrove-road, Beckenham, Kent, Mary Augusta Powys, infant daughter of Edward and Mary Mathers, aged 10 months.

PULMAN.—On the 23rd, April at Sherbrook, Brackley-road, Beckenham, Mary Jane, widow of the late Henry Pulman, of Constantinople, aged 64.

WILSON.—On the 26th March, at The Cedars, Beckenham, Mary Ann (Minnie) Wilson, elder daughter of Cornelius Lee Wilson.

FUNERALS.—J. HUMERSTON, Undertaker and Appraiser, 17, East Street, Bromley; Upholsterer and Cabinet Maker. rc132

MONUMENTS, HEADSTONES, CROSSES, in Stone, Marble, or Granite. Imperishable Lead Letters, &c.—W. HINCHLIFFE, Mason, London Road, Bromley, Kent.

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KENT, BROMLEY.—The capital Cottages being Nos. 13 and 15, Weston Grove, in the occupation of good tenants, at rentals of 10s. per week, thus producing £26 per annum each house. In two lots.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, May 6th, 1897, at Seven for Eight o'clock precisely, the above-named Cottages, with good gardens. Each cottage contains three bedrooms, two sitting rooms, kitchen, scullery, etc. Held on Lease for a term having about 40 years unexpired, at a low ground rent.

May be viewed and particulars with conditions of Sale obtained at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley; of John V. Franklin, Esq., Solicitor, Crowborough, Sussex; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Auctioneers and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

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May be viewed by permission and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of Frank H. Green, Esq., Solicitor, 103, Cannon Street, E.C.; at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Auctioneers and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, ORPINGTON.—Close to the Station. Ninety Loads of prime and well-got Meadow Hay, standing at "The Boundary," in six stacks.

KENT, DOWNE.—One Hundred Loads of prime and well-got Meadow Hay, standing at High Elms Stackyard and Straney Field, near Orange Court, in six stacks.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell the above by Auction, on the Premises, on Tuesday, May 11th, 1897; the Hay standing at "The Boundary," at Two o'clock precisely, and the Hay standing at High Elms Stackyard, at Three for Four o'clock precisely.

May be viewed and catalogues obtained at the principal Inns of the District; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Land Agents, Surveyors and Auctioneers, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

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MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER have received instructions from Mr. C. Dudding, to Sell by Auction, on the Premises, 14, West Street, on Thursday, May 13th, 1897, at Two for Three o'clock precisely, the valuable Jobmaster's Stock, together with the Lease and Goodwill of the Business.

May be viewed, and catalogues obtained at the place of sale; the principal Inns of the District; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Land Agents, Surveyors and Auctioneers, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

By Order of the Trustees of the late T. E. Layton, Esq.

KENT, BICKLEY PARK.—Near to Bickley and Chislehurst Railway Stations.—The attractive detached Bijou Residence, with about two acres of charming grounds, known as "Springfield," containing six spacious bedchambers, dressing and bath rooms, entrance hall, cloak room, etc., three charming reception rooms, excellent domestic offices, cellarage, etc., pony stable, outbuildings, greenhouse, forcing pits, poultry and tool houses. The grounds embrace tennis and other lawns, flower beds and banks, and beautiful shrubberies; there is also a large kitchen garden, planted with an abundance of choice fruit trees. Possession on completion.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, May 26th, 1897, at Two o'clock precisely, the charming Freehold Property, known as "Springfield," as above shortly described.

May be viewed and particulars with conditions of Sale obtained of Messrs. Layton and Webber, Solicitors, 21, St. Helen's Place, E.C.; at the Mart, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Land Agents and Surveyors, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

For remainder of Auction Sales see following page.

BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER,

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RESULT OF AUCTION SALES.

KENT, BROMLEY.—Adjacent the Town and the S.E. and L.C. and D. Railway Stations.—38 Plots of valuable Freehold Building Land, having frontages ranging from 50ft. to 60ft. to the Farnaby Road and Swan Hill, with about 200ft. depths. Free conveyance. Purchase money by instalments extending over nine years. The Land has a gravel soil, is perfectly ripe for building, and is exceptionally well and conveniently placed in a choice position where houses will command a ready sale. Sewer laid. Gas and water supply.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER beg to notify that Lots 1, 2, 11, 12, 15, 20, 33, 34, 37 and 38, were sold at the Auction.—The unsold Lots, which may be treated for privately, offer a splendid opportunity of securing this very eligible land at a very low price, namely, about £3 10s. 0d. per foot frontage.

KENT, GROVE PARK.—Near to Chislehurst and Bromley. The Detached double-fronted, Freehold Bijou Residence, known as "Glenacote," The Avenue, with large and well-matured garden.

KENT, BROMLEY.—The charming Mansion with about eight acres of ground, known as "Plaistow Lodge."

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER beg to notify that the above Properties have been Sold.

AUCTION SALES (Local Properties) MAY.

KENT, GROVE PARK.—Within three minutes of the Railway Station. The attractive detached double-fronted Family Residence known as "Greenhurst," standing in a large and well-matured garden, and commanding extensive and picturesque views. Possession on completion.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, May 5th, 1897, at Two o'clock precisely, the above described convenient Residence, containing eight good bedrooms, two dressing rooms, bath room, box room, etc., entrance hall, three well-proportioned reception rooms, ample domestic offices, cellarage, etc. There is a capital garden, laid out forming tennis lawn, borders, walks, etc.; also a well-planted kitchen garden, with trained fruit trees. Held on lease for a term of 99 years from Lady Day, 1875, at a moderate ground rent.

May be viewed and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Futvoye, Field and Baker, Solicitors, 23, John Street, Bedford Row, W.C.; at the Mart, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

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KENT, BROMLEY.—The detached Freehold Residence known as "Fairoaks," Homesdale Road, with charming grounds, kitchen garden, &c., in all upwards of half-an-acre, held by an excellent tenant for a term expiring at Midsummer next at the low annual rental of £80.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, May 5th, 1897, at Two o'clock precisely, the above-named Country Residence, containing six good bedrooms, bath room, etc., entrance hall, three reception rooms, large kitchen and offices, and excellent cellars. The grounds are well matured and include lawns, flower beds and borders, winding paths, etc. There is also a large and productive kitchen garden, planted with choice fruit trees. Chicken house and run, shed, etc. Bromley Railway Station (L.C. and D. Ry.) is within ten minutes' walk.

May be viewed by order and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Willett and Latter, Solicitors, Market Square, Bromley; of Messrs. Hyde and Hobbs, Solicitors, 124, High Street, Portsmouth; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Land Agents and Auctioneers, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

For remainder of Auction Sale see preceding page.

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FARNBOROUGH.—Detached Country Residence on two floors. Stabling, orchard, and grounds of about one acre. Four bedrooms, dressing room, three sitting rooms and offices. Rent £45.

CHISLEHURST.—Pretty Detached Residence on two floors, five bedrooms, bath room, two sitting rooms. Rent £60.

BROMLEY.—Charming Detached Modern Residence with good grounds, near Sundridge Park station, seven bedrooms, dressing and bath rooms, three reception rooms. Price £2,000 freehold.

ORPINGTON.—Pretty Residential Property in grounds of about 9¼ acres. Residence on 2 floors; six bedrooms, dressing and bath rooms; stabling; cottage; glass houses: farmery: tennis lawn; orchard; paddocks: strawberry field and woodlands. Price £3,800, freehold. £2,000 could remain.

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BROMLEY, KENT.

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MELLOW, SOFT AND WITH FINE FLAVOR.

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WHOLESALE & FAMILY WINE MERCHANTS.

ILLUSTRATED REVISED CASH PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

Champagnes.

	per doz
Louis Pamphilon, Epernay 1889 Vintg.	60/-
Ditto ditto extra quality	78/-
Pol Roger ....1889 vintage	
Bollinger....1892	
Mumm, G. H. & Co....	
Louis Roederer....1892 ,,	
E. Irroy & Co., Carte D'or 1892 ,,	
Pommery & Greno ....1892 ,,	
HeidsiecksDryMonopole1889 ,,	
Perrier Jouet, P D.C.	

Market Prices.

Specialites for Invalids.

Champagne in Quarter Bottles.

Louis Pamphilon, Cuvee Reservee..	18/-
Perrier Jouet	24/-

Other Sparkling Wines

Asti Spumante (Italian)	36/-
Saumur	36/-
Sparkling Burgundy, 1st Quality ...	60/-
Ditto Hock	54/
Ditto Moselle	54/

Half Bottles, 6/- per 24 extra
Single Bottles same rates.

Still Hocks.

	per doz. bot.	per doz. half-bot.
Laubenheimer	18/-	11/-
Niersteiu	24/-	14/-
Erbacher....	30/-	17/-
Hochheim	36/-	20/-
Liebfraumilch	42/-	23/-
Red Hock	36/-	

Australian Wines.

	pr doz.	pr bot.
Sauvignon	16/-	1/4
Branxton Cabernet	21/-	1/9
Tintara....	26/-	2/2
Riesling (White)....	24/-	2/-
Highercombe (White)	30/	2/6

In Quart Flagons.

Red & White Burgundy	30/-	2/6
Tintara and Ophir....	42/-	3/6

6d. each allowed for Flagons when returned.

Italian Wines

	pr doz.	pr bot.
Vino da Pasto	12/-	1/-
Valtellina	18/-	1/6
Chianti	24/-	2/-
Capri (White)	24/-	2/-
Vino Vermouth	36/-	3/-
Sparkling Asti	36/-	3/-

Chianti.

In Tuscan Flasks.

18/- & 36/- per doz. 1/6 & 3/- each.

California Wines.

Burgundy	18/-	1/6
Hock	30/-	2/6

Aerated Waters. per doz

Schweppe's Soda, Seltzer & Potass	3/-
Ditto Lemonade and Ginger Ale....	3/6
Soda, Seltzer & Potass	2/-
Lemonade & Ginger Ale	2/6
Syphons — Soda, Potass, Seltzer, Lemonade	4/-
Johannis's Appollinaris, Ginger Beer in Stone Bottles.	

Burgundies.

		pr doz.	pr bot.
Macon	1893 vintage	20/-	1/6
Beaujolais	1892 ,,	24/-	2/0
Beaune....	1891 ,,	30/-	2/6
Pommard	1889 ,,	36/-	3/0
Volnay....	1884 ,,	42/-	3/6
Pommard, Superior, 1887 ,,		42/-	3/6
Chambertin....	1881 ,,	72/	6/-
Chablis		24/- to 36/-	

Half Bottles.

Macon	12/- 1/-
Beaujolais	13/6 1/2
Beaune	16/6 1/6
Pommard	19/6 1/8
Volnay....	23/- 2/-

Ports.

Good Young	24/- 2/-
Fine old Tawny	36/- 3/-
Ditto well-matured	48/- 4/-
Superior old fine quality	54/- 4/6
Ditto Crofts No 1....	60,- 5/0
Ditto, ditto Grand Wine	66/- 5/6
Ditto very choice	72/- 6/-
Ditto rare old wines	84/- to 150/-

Tarragona.

	pr doz.
Superior Wines....	12/- 18/- & 24/-

Liqueurs.

	pr bot.	pr ½bot.
Curacoa...	5/-	2/9
Maraschino	5/-	2/9
Chartreuse yellow....	8/-	4/6
Ditto Green....	10/6	5/9
Benedictine	7/-	3/6
Kirsch Wasser		3/6
Kummell Riga		4/-
Noyeau, Pink		2/6
Angostura Bitters		2/9
HeeringCopenhagen Cherry Brandy	4/6	2/6

Cordials.

	pr bot.
Pamphilon's Cherry Brandy	3/-
Orange Bitters....	3/-
Peach Bitters....	3/6
Ginger Brandy	3/- 3/6
Rum Shrub	2/6 3/-
Peppermint	2/- 2/6
Cloves....	2/- 2/6
Noyeau	3/-
Milk Punch	3/6
Lovage	2/6

Bottled Ales, Stout, Etc.

	pr doz. Imp pts.
Pamphilon's Special Dinner Ale	2/6
Ditto Nourishing Stout	2/6
Light Dinner Stout	3/-
Bass Pale Ale (½ pints 2/6)	4/
Bass No. 1 Burton in ½-pints....	3/6
Pamphilon's Pale Ale	3/-
Pilsener Lager Beer (½ pints 2/6)....	4/6
Guinness' extra Stout (½ pints 2/6)....	4/-

Clarets.

	pr doz.	pr bot.
Claret	12/-	1/-
Vin Ordinaire	15/	1/3
Vin de Medoc	1893 vintage 18/-	1/6
St. Julien	1893 ,, 24/-	2/-
Pauillac	1891 ,, 30/-	2/6
Margaux....	1890 ,, 36/-	3/-
Chateau Margaux	1889 ,, 54/-	4/6
Chateau Palmer ...	1890 ,, 54/-	4/6
Ch. Lafite	1893 ,, 60/-	5/-
Sauternes, Graves	21/- to 36/-	

Stock in Half-Bottles.

Claret....	9/-	9d.
Medoc	10,6	11d.
St. Julien	13/6	1/2
Pauillac....	16/6	1/5
Margaux	19/6	1/8

Sherries.

Natural Sherry....	16/-	1/4
Sherry	18/-	1/6
Light Sound Wine	24/-	2/-
Old fashioned Brown	30/-	2/6
Pamphilon's Dinner Sherry....	30/-	2/6
Nutty Character	36/-	3/-
Golden, Generous	42/-	3/6
Very Fine Brown	42/-	3/6
Pale old Dry	48/-	4/-
Ditto very Choice....	54/-	4/6
Choice old Rare Wines.	60/- to 100/-	

Marsala.

	per doz.
Ingham & Woodhouse	18/- 21/- & 24/-

Madeira.

Various	36/- to 60 -

Scotch Whiskies.

	pr gal	nr doz	pr bot
Good	15,-	30/-	2/6
Fine old	18 -	36/-	3/-
Superior 5 years old....	21 -	42/-	3/6
Glenlivet Bd, 7 years old ...	22/-	44/-	3/8
Very fine Highland Malt ...	22 -	44/-	3/8
Pamphilon's **VOS**, guaranteed 10 years old		**24/- 48/-**	**4/-**

Irish Whiskies.

Good	15/-	30/-	2/6
Fine old....	18/-	36/-	3/
Superior old....	21/-	42/-	3/6
Do., J.Jameson's, old Bonded	24/-	48/-	4,-

Rum.

Jamaica....	15/-	30/-	2,6
Old Jamaica	18/-	36/-	3/-
V. O. Jamaica....		3,6 and	4/-

Brandies.

Pale....	18/-	36/-	3/-
Fine old Pale ..... *	24/-	48/-	4/-
Fine old Cognac .... **	27/-	54/-	4/6
Finest old Cognac ... ***	30/-	60/-	5/-
Choice old Cognac ... ****	34/6	69/-	5/9
Curious Old Cognac.... ...	100/-		8/6

Gins.

Cordial & Unsweetened	12/-	24/-	2/-
Fine old Tom....	1 /-	30/-	2/6
Ditto Finest.	16/-	32/-	2/8

Sloe, Orange, and Hop Gin.

CASK ALES.

OUR SPECIALITÉ **F.P.A.** BREWED FROM PURE MALT & HOPS

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Do you want to take Apartments?
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Have you Lost anything?
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„	Beckenham, about	25,000
„	Chislehurst and Mottingham, about	7,000
„	Surrounding Villages, about ...	4,000

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12ft. × 9ft. 9in.	...	...	...	£4 18 6
13ft. 6in. × 12ft.	...	...	...	£6 8 6
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18ft. × 14ft. 3in.	...	...	...	£9 14 6

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LIMITED,

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ROYAL . . . DISINFECTANT

Soap

Eminent Medical Men, Officers of Health, and Trained Nurses, recommend Lifebuoy Soap for use during Epidemics.

Lifebuoy Soap is a Disinfectant Soap, for use in the prevention of Sickness and the preservation of Health. Guaranteed perfectly pure and free from any injurious Chemicals.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The *Bromley Record* will be forwarded monthly post paid, on payment of the annual subscription of Eighteenpence.

TO SUBSCRIBERS — POSTAGE.—The *Bromley Record* (except when it contains a special supplement) can now be sent to any part of the world for one half-penny postage.

COPIES FOR BINDING.—Subscribers desirous of binding the *Record* can obtain uncut and unstitched copies.

BACK NUMBERS.—Back Numbers of a few issues can still be had on application at the office of the *Bromley Record* 14, Market Square.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISEMENTS. Page 30s
Half do. 16s. Quarter do. 8s.
Column: 1s. 6d. three lines, and 6d. per line after.
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Servants wanting situations: under 20 words 1s.
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MOON'S CHANGES.—JUNE.

First Quarter, 5th, 7.3 a.m. | Last Quarter, 21st, 11.24p.m.
Full Moon, 14th, 9.2 p.m. | New Moon, 30th, 2.55 a.m.

The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

JUNE, 1897.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st—Meeting of Bromley Urban District Council, Council Offices, East-street, Bromley.
3rd—Bromley Bible Flower Mission, at Parish-room, West-street.
4th—Meeting of West Kent Main Sewerage Board, at 96, High-street.
4th—Meeting of the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board, at 96, High-street.
4th—Public meeting at the Bromley Wesleyan Chapel, when addresses will be delivered by the Rev. Mark Guy Pearse and Sister Lily, on the West London Mission.
6th—*Whit Sunday.*—Rev. Mark Guy Pearse at Bromley Wesleyan Chapel.
7th—*Whit Monday* (Bank Holiday).—Seventh annual race meeting in connection with the Bromley Cycling Club, on the Cricket Ground, Widmore-road, Bromley.
7th to 12th—Lawn Tennis Tournament at Beckenham.
8th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.
10th—Sale at the Bell Hotel, Bromley, of Freehold Building Plots on the Tredwell estate, Bromley, by Messrs. Baxter, Payne, & Lepper.
13th—*Trinity Sunday.*
14th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30.
14th—St. Luke's Burial Board meeting, at St. Luke's Institute, Raglan-road, Bromley Common.
15th—Meeting of Bromley Urban District Council, Council Offices, East-street, Bromley.
16th—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne, & Lepper at the Mart, City, E.C., of valuable properties situate at Bromley, Hayes, Shortlands, St. Mary Cray, and Eltham.
17th—Bromley Bible Flower Mission at Parish-room, West-street.
18th—Monthly sitting of Bromley County Court, Court-house, Bromley.
20th—*First Sunday after Trinity.* — Queen's Accession-day.
20th—Church Parade of the 2nd V.B. the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regt.), at the Parish Church, on the occasion of the Queen's Jubilee Thanksgiving Service.
21st—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.
22nd—Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Public festivities at Bromley, Beckenham, and Chislehurst in commemoration of the event.
27th—*Second Sunday after Trinity.*
28th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30.
29th—Meeting of Bromley Urban District Council, Council Offices, East-street, Bromley.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

The two May meetings of this Council were held on 4th and 25th inst., and at each every member was present. Several matters of interest were introduced and discussed on both occasions, among them being the need for

MORE OFFICE ACCOMMODATION,

Mr. G. H. Payne contending that better accommodation was badly needed for the public, the Press, and for the Council and officials, and he gave notice of moving a resolution, at the second meeting, referring the matter to the General Purposes Committee to consider. Pressure of time, on 18th inst., however, caused him to postpone the matter for another fortnight.

WATERING OF PRIVATE ROADS.

This vexed question had been brought before the Council again by letters from a number of residents in Sundridge Avenue, Orchard-road, and Homefield-road, urging the Council to undertake the watering of these roads, but the Council decided not to accede to the request. The Council declined to undertake the watering of the L.C.D.R. Station-road at Bromley, except on the extra payment of £1 per annum; and eventually the Company agreed to pay this additional sum.

THE NEW HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

An application to slightly bring forward the new Homœopathic Hospital in Widmore-road, Bromley, was received, and the Highways Committee were instructed to report on the matter.

AN ACTION THREATENED.

The solicitors to Mr. Heaysman, owner of houses in Wharton-road, Bromley, wrote protesting against the Council entering upon their client's property and interfering, as they alleged, with the drainage, and asking if the Council were prepared to offer compensation, otherwise legal proceedings were threatened. — No action was taken in the matter.

THE MORTUARY SITE.

A memorial, bearing the signatures of no less than 387 ratepayers, was received asking the Council to remove the existing Public Mortuary in West-street, Bromley, and suggesting that it should either be placed at the rear of the new Fire Brigade station, or in the churchyard.—The matter was once again referred to the Sanitary Committee, who on two previous occasions had recommended that no alteration be made.

JUBILEE COMMEMORATIVE GIFT.

The Council accepted, with thanks, the offer to the town made by a lady, through Dr. A. E. Price, of an ornamental drinking trough, in commemora-

tion of the Queen's Jubilee reign; and it was ultimately decided to place the gift opposite the old pond, recently done away with, at Masons-hill.

An Offer to Widen Masons-Hill.

An offer was received from Mr. Eley Soames, of Ravenscroft, Bromley, to give up, on certain conditions, a strip of land about 100ft. in length and 6ft. in the widest part, for the purpose of the highway being widened at the public expense.—The Council entrusted the matter to the Highways Committee to consider and report.

London Lane.

Upon the recommendation of the Highways Committee, the Council agreed, with one exception, to the conditions upon which Mr. W. Prebble offered, on behalf of the owners, to give up a strip of land for the widening of London Lane.

A Hint to Householders.

With reference to the nuisances which had been dealt with by the Sanitary Inspector, it was pointed out that a number frequently occurred through the carelessness of servants in dealing with house-refuse. Much of the objectionable matter, it was mentioned, could be destroyed in kitchen grates, and it was suggested that a circular should be printed and circulated, calling the attention of householders to the matter.

Opening Up of Palace-Road.

The Highways Committee reported upon the question of opening up vehicular communication between Palace-grove and Palace-road, which the Surveyor had estimated would cost £2,000, and having regard to the comparative smallness of the traffic the Committee stated that they did not feel justified in recommending such an expenditure. An alternative scheme, by which Palace-road could be connected with Hawes-road could, they believed, be carried out at a reasonable cost, and they asked the Council for power to negotiate.

Mr. Bond presented a petition, signed by 150 ratepayers, in favour of the original scheme, and he proposed an amendment to the effect that the Committee be instructed to carry out the improvement at the estimated cost of £2,000.

The amendment was seconded, but defeated, and a further amendment referring the matter back to the Committee was also lost, the report of the Committee being ultimately adopted.

An Objectionable Proposal.

The Local Government Board wrote declining to sanction the loan for erecting a public convenience in front of the new post-office, Bromley, and stating that any proposal to borrow for placing a convenience under-ground at that part would not be entertained without a further local inquiry.

Careless Road Watering.

An Anerley resident, Mr. H. A. Gray, wrote complaining of a water-cart driver refusing to stop watering in the Widmore-road, Bromley, to allow his two daughters to pass with their cycles, and stating that unless some amends were made, the matter would be placed in his solicitor's hands.

The Chairman stated that a good many complaints had been made, but he did not think there was any intentional misconduct on the part of the men. He suggested that the matter should be referred to the Highways Committee to see if some means could be adopted by which the improved carts could be made to water the roads only, and not the footpaths; and this was agreed to.

Saturday Half-Holiday.

The Council's workmen again petitioned for a half-holiday on Saturdays, asking to be allowed to leave off work at one o'clock, instead of at 4 p.m., and the consideration of the question was adjourned for a fortnight.

Council and Outside Works.

A letter was read from Mr. W. Yeates inquiring whether tenders had been invited for doing kerbing and channelling work at Masons-hill, which would cost over £50, and also asking whether the Surveyor had been authorised to get the work done. He protested against the Council allowing their Surveyor to get public work done and to pay for the same, on his certificate, without proper restrictions, and urged the making of a standing order to safeguard the ratepayers' money "from the very shadow or turning of mis-use or to anything allied to jobbery."

The Council decided to consider the subject, generally, at their next meeting.

To Locally Celebrate the Jubilee.

The report of a meeting of the Council in Committee, to the effect that there should be a public celebration on the occasion of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and that the entertainment of school children should be one of the features, was adopted, and the Council also decided to convene a meeting of representatives of schools, friendly societies, and clubs to consider the matter. The meeting was held at the close of the Council, and the proceedings are reported elsewhere.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

During the month of May this authority has held two public meetings, one being the last gathering of the old Board, on May 3rd, at which six members were present.

School Income and Expenses.

An interesting return was submitted, showing the cost of maintenance in the various Board Schools, the figures being as follows:—Valley Boys, expenditure, £696 5s. 8d.; grants £289 10s., with rates at 34s. 7d. per scholar, £306 15s. 8d. Valley Girls, expenditure, £566 4s. 11d.; grants and sales, £315 3s. 5d., with rates at 27s. 2d. per scholar, £251 1s. 6d. Valley Infants, expenditure, £350 16s. 5d.; grants £162, rates at 31s. 6d. per scholar £188 16s. 5d. Raglan Road Boys, expenditure, £710 14s. 8d.; grants £468 11s. 6d., rates at 16s. 6d. per scholar, £242 3s. 2d. Raglan-road Girls, expenditure £649 11s. 5d.; grants and sales £394 4s. 11d., rates at 20s. 9d. per scholar £255 6s. 6d. Raglan-road Infants, expenditure, £468 2s. 7d.; grants £236 15s., rates at 26s. 5d. per scholar £231 7s. 7d. Aylesbury-road Boys, expenditure £615 0s. 2d.; grants £277 14s. 4d., rates at 37s. 6d. per scholar £337 5s. 10d. Wharton-road Girls, expenditure £269 2s. 6d.; grants and sales £153 6s. 11d., rates at 23s. 10d. per scholar £115 15s. 7d. Wharton-road Infants, expenditure £272 1s. 4d.; grants £101, rates at 42s. 9d. per scholar £171 1s. 4d.

Acknowledgment of Services.

The Rev. A. G. Hellicar proposed a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. C. W. Gedney and Mr. G. Loly for their services as Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively, and in doing so remarked that he trusted the new Board would keep on the same lines as far as possible, as had been observed in the past. He also referred in eulogistic terms to the able services of the Clerk (Mr. G. Wall).

Miss Heppal seconded the resolution, which was passed unanimously; and Mr. G. Loly, in the absence of the Chairman, briefly replied, stating that he believed the Board's true policy was to

have efficient schools and to act in amity and concord with the National Schools.

THE NEW BOARD

held its first meeting on May 17th, when every member attended.

The election of a Chairman was the first business to transact, and in proposing Mr. Gedney's re-election to the office, Miss Heppel referred to the industry and energy displayed by him during the six years he had presided over the Board.

Mr. Loly seconded the proposition, which was agreed to, and Mr. Gedney suitably replied.

To the post of Vice-Chairman, Mr. G. Loly was unanimously re-elected, on the proposition of Mr. Judd, seconded by Mr. G. Weeks, jun.

A NEW MEETING-PLACE.

Upon the suggestion of Mr. Loly, the Board decided, by a majority, to hold their future meetings in the room at present occupied by the Clerk at the Wharton-road Boys' School.

THE BOARD'S FINANCIAL POSITION.

From a return prepared by the Clerk, for the information of the Government, it appeared that the average number of children in attendance at the Bromley Board Schools was 1,302 in 1894, 1,522 in 1895, and 1,552 in 1896. The amount raised by rates in aid of School Board expenditure was £3,830 in 1894, £5,480 in 1895, and £5,320 in 1896. The actual rate in the £ necessary to produce the amount required was 5¾d. in 1894, 8¼d. in 1895, and 8d. in 1896; and the nominal rating was as follows:—5½d. in 1894, 7½d. in 1895, and 7½d. in 1896. The total amount borrowed by the School Board up to September 29th, 1896, was £36,145 3s. 2d.; and the amount of debt outstanding up to September 29th, 1896, was £34,906 15s. 11d.

The Chairman referred to the fact that the Overseers were able to make a rate in excess of the Board's demand, so as to have a floating balance, but he believed the question of their exercising this power would be raised within the next few months. This explained the difference between the "actual" and "nominal" rates.

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION.

In consequence of the number of children in the Infants' Department at the Raglan-road School being largely in excess of the accommodation, the Board decided to approach the trustees of the Primitive Methodist Chapel, with a view to obtaining the use of that building until the enlargement of the school is completed.

MARRIAGE OF MR. OTTO BEIT AND MISS LILIAN CARTER.—Much interest was excited in Chislehurst on May 27th, by the marriage of Miss Lilian Carter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Carter, and niece of Mr. Hamilton Smith, of Oakleigh, Chislehurst, to Mr. Otto Beit, of Park-lane, London, which took place at the Church of the Annunciation. The bride, who was given away by her uncle, Mr. Hamilton Smith, was attired in a dress of white duchesse satin, trimmed with tulle and orange-blossoms, and wore a white tulle veil with a coronet of orange-blossoms. She was attended by six bridesmaids, Miss Margherita Carter (sister of the bride), Miss Edith Angela Congreve, Miss Edith Jennings, Miss Anna Hennen (cousins of the bride), Miss Elspeth Zinnow (niece of the bridegroom), and Miss Sibyl Halsey. The ceremony, which attracted a large number of friends and neighbours, was performed by the Rev. H. Lloyd Russell and the Rev. A. N. Armstrong, and Mr. Alfred Beit, brother of the bridegroom, acted as best man. A special train conveyed nearly 120 guests from town, and a very largely attended reception was held, after the ceremony at Oakleigh. Later in the afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Beit started for Germany, where the honeymoon will be spent.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE TRIENNIAL HANDEL FESTIVAL.—The programme for the Selection Day of the Festival, Wednesday, June 16th, is now complete. The solo vocalists on this day are: Mdme. Albani, Miss Ella Russell, Mdme. Nordica, and Miss Clara Butt; Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Barton McGuckin, Mr. Santley, and Mr. Andrew Black. The Choruses selected for the Choir on this occasion are: "The mighty Power in whom we trust" (Athaliah), "We hear" (Judas Maccabæus), "Immortal Lord" (Deborah), "Your Harps and Cymbals sound" (Solomon), "Envy, eldest born of Hell" (Saul), "Wretched lovers" (Acis and Galatea), "As from the power" (Dryden's Ode on Cecilia's Day). For the performance of the "Messiah," on Monday, June 14th, the soloists are: Mdme. Albani, Miss Marian McKenzie, Mr. Edward Lloyd, and Mr. Santley. For "Israel in Egypt," on Friday, June 18th, the soloists are: Miss Ella Russell, Mdme. Clara Samuell, Miss Marian McKenzie, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Santley, and Mr. Andrew Black. The first rehearsal of the London contingent of the Choir has already been held, the work taken being "Israel in Egypt," when Mr. Manns was highly gratified. To ensure however, the complete success of this masterpiece of choral writing, five general rehearsals instead of four have been arranged. The cast of solo vocalists for this rendering of "Israel" has never been surpassed. The auditorium will present a grander appearance than ever this year, the great stage having been cleared away and replaced by tiers of raised seats, crowned by the Royal boxes and roomy private boxes. This alteration has effected the most marvellous improvement in the acoustic properties of the Handel Festival auditorium.

JUBILEE CELEBRATION FOR CHISLEHURST.—Arrangements for the above are being duly made by an executive committee formed for that purpose, composed as follows:—Canon Murray, Father Boone, Messrs. W. C. Russell (Chairman), E. H. Jeynson, J. Stockbridge, H. E. Tindall, H. J. Willis, C. Dabner, W. E. Pearson, F. J. Greenfield, A. Line, and W. Marriott. A scheme proposed by the Rector that the children of the various schools shall have Jubilee medals presented to them prior to Sunday, June 20th (the day appointed by the Queen as a Thanksgiving day), and that they shall be worn on that day, and that on Tuesday, June 22nd, the children shall march from their different schools and assemble at the Cockpit, and shall unitedly sing the National Anthem and the Old Hundredth, and shall then march round the village and break off near their respective schools, where a tea shall be provided, has been accepted. There is to be a fire-works display at 9.30, and a bon-fire—on the highest eminence obtainable—will be lit at 10 o'clock. Sports for the children will be arranged by a sub-committee. Subscriptions to this fund are invited by Mr. C. Russell, and Mr. J. Stockbridge, the treasurers.

BECKENHAM JUBILEE COMMEMORATION. — In deciding to extend the Cottage Hospital by the addition of a Victorian Ward for children, the inhabitants of Beckenham have followed the precedent set ten years ago, when a fund was started to purchase the freehold of the Hospital, in recognition of the Queen's Jubilee. It is estimated that about £2,500 will be required to cover the cost of the new ward, and also to give a treat to the children of the elementary schools, and the old people over sixty years of age. Through the clergy and ministers of all denominations, these latter acceptable Jubilee gifts will be administered, the younger children will be regaled at their respective schools, and the elder scholars in the open at the Croydon-road Recreation Ground. So far a sum of upwards of £550 has been subscribed or promised.

"IVA KILDARE,"

By Mrs. L. B. Walford,

Author of "Mr. Smith," "Cousins," "Frederick," "A Mere Child," "The Baby's Grandmother," etc., etc.

CHAPTER I.

HE.

He was one of those lanky, tawny, irresistible creatures who go straight to the hearts of women in a way that is perfectly inexplicable, not to say positively maddening, to the eyes of the other sex.

He was not particularly handsome, he was not abnormally clever; but he knew what to say, and how to look; and when such knowledge is instinctive in the bosom of a gallant, pray what else is required of him from the fairest of the fair?

See that sprightly miss just out of the schoolroom. She has been chatting away contentedly enough, and not at all shyly, with the lion of the evening—flattered by his notice, and by no means loth to prolong the occasion for it. He thinks she "appreciates" him, and such gentry love to be "appreciated." At any rate, Miss Blue-eyes enjoys the distinction Professor Barnacles' conversation bestows upon her, and raps out her little pert questions and answers with a confidence that is not misplaced.

All is going well, when in a moment—in the twinkling of an eyelid—the scene changes. The great man perceives that he has lost his auditor; eyes and ears are gone from him; vague responses and vacant smiles have taken the place of that pretty *bon camaraderie* which was so enchanting before; and for the life of him he cannot imagine why?

What has happened?

Nothing.

It would be absurd to suppose that the metamorphosis took place because of—that it had anything whatever to do with the arrival of that tailor-made sprig who lounged lazily by a few minutes before, and who now supports his length against the doorway.

The sprig exchanged a glance with miss as he passed; and she has been upon the fidget ever since.

Still, it would be an insult to her understanding—to the understanding of any intelligent being—to credit her with preferring the jabber of a noodle to his own witty, piquant *badinage*. He has been putting forth his best, and feels that his best is worthy of him. Good Heavens! that such pearls should have been cast before—oh, yes, he mentally finishes the proverb to its bitter end, as the conviction is at length forced upon his amazed and sickened soul that the race is no more to the strong now than it ever was.

It would have been the same, honoured sir, indeed it would, if you had been talking to the girl's mother, or grandmother.

You think they would have known better? Not they! True, they would not so artlessly have betrayed themselves—being older, more wary, and better versed in the *convenances*. They would have been more adroit in manipulating the turn of the wheel; have continued to work the muscles of the face and inflections of the voice long after the mainspring within had given way with a snap; so that their surfeit of you and your conversation, and the dropping away of their interest, would have been concealed beneath a decent and decorous exterior; but do not flatter yourself that in reality, in their heart of hearts, the stately dames prefer your rounded periods and well-chosen themes to the prattling of that simple boy. Nature has bestowed on him one double-distilled drop out of a bottle fast corked to you, and all your contempt and wrath, all your fuming and spluttering, will not rob him of his portion, nor procure it for yourself.

No one was ever angry with Reggie Goffe, whatever he did—that is to say, seriously, protractedly angry. Seldom a day passed that he did not provoke indignation and protest, that he did not stir up some sleeping dog, which anyone else would have known to let lie, but whose peaceful pose was irresistible to him. Then who so innocently amazed and guiltless as Reggie? *He* go about to affront his cousin Julia? He would not vex Julia for the world. *He* fly in the teeth of his aunt's known wishes and expressed commands? The offender was anyone rather than himself.

Or else he was so penitent, so subdued and meek when absolutely brought to book, that the hardest hearts must needs melt before his anxious, pathetic eyes.

When and how Reggie had learnt to look pathetic no one could tell, but the knowledge to him was invaluable. He took it into almost daily use at one period of his life.

At that time he was not very strong—indeed, his constitution was by no means robust, though he treated it, if the truth were told, as though it were of cast-iron—but he would wear a gentle, pained expression when health was spoken of, and had a fashion of appearing to drink in with avidity the admonitions of the sympathetic which was never found to fail.

Such codling and fussing as then went on! Such open care as was taken that the dear boy (Reggie was a "dear boy" to every woman over thirty) should have the fire side of the dinner table on cold nights, or the shelter of the snug brougham instead of the draughty omnibus on the long drives to and from the country balls!

Reggie took it all with placid gratitude; he liked warm corners and feminine companionship. He said nothing about the wild nights he was out with the fishermen, tossing about from dusk to dawn, when the takes were good, and he the merriest of the crew.

When he came to grief, as he did times without number, riding madly in the hunting-field, or tramping the moors along tracks unknown, he knew when the moment had come to turn his scars to account. They were never disclosed prematurely, nor unnecessarily. They were reserved as wares to be traded upon.

As for luck, all the women would tell you that poor dear Reggie Goffe was the most illused person on the face of the earth by Dame Fortune. He was always having to turn his back on the sunny side of life. If all the world were in for a good thing, he was out of it. If the stream was flowing in one direction, he and none other, must needs breast it. When the London season was in full swing, this one hapless mortal was hard and fast in rural quarters; when the string snapped, and set loose the gathered mass, he got his leave. It never seemed as if he had aught but buffets from Fate.

And he pitied himself so tenderly, and asked for the pity of others so confidingly (looking his best and nicest, and making inferior men bite their lips and wonder how the deuce he did it), that no one ever thought of questioning why the grievances which were shared by many others should be so much more appalling to him than to them?

When Reggie was not pathetic, he was dangerous. As long as his humour found vent in soft complaints, it was like the harmless sheet lightening dissipating itself all over the sky; but, as when this ceases to play, there is worse in the wind, so, when our young gentleman was silent, was he plotting. He was deadly in mischief.

"But then," murmured old Mrs. Goodenough apologetically, "the poor boy knows no better.

He has never had any training. He told me so himself. I remonstrated with him the other day when really he was *too bad*, inciting my grandchildren to all sorts of mischievous pranks, making even dear little Gwen quite beside herself—my dear, the schoolroom was a perfect pandemonium, poor Mademoiselle shrieking in vain—I did speak very seriously to Reggie, and then I was quite sorry after it. He was so grieved and ashamed; said he had never had any little sisters and brothers, never any home to be called a home; poor darling"—her wrinkled, benevolent countenance working suspiciously at the bare recollection—"it ended in *my* begging *his* forgiveness, and I am sure I shall never be so *cruel* to him again."

This was Reggie at his simplest. Properly worked up, it was extraordinary what masterpieces he would achieve, the while his gentle, serious, sun burnt face diverted all suspicion. Girls who had never been known to have a will of their own, would on a sudden strike for mastery and battle for their rights when the Reggie poison began to work in their veins. He had a knack of making the most barefaced requests with an air so natural that it would have baffled an inquisitor-general to find out what he really thought. Those who began by being most angry were the soonest disarmed; the indignant matrons and elder sisters who cried out at his unparelleled impudence only needed to be themselves its object to soften as though oil had been poured into their wounds.

CHAPTER II.

MOTHER AND DAUGHTER.

We now know why Iva Kildare was so bitterly angry with Reggie one day and so indulgent towards him the next.

"What's the use of talking to that boy?" Iva addressed her mother, the flame having burnt itself out. "Everything you say rolls like water off a duck's back. He means no harm And though he really would provoke a saint sometimes, I don't believe he can help it. It's *in* him. If Reggie were to behave like other mortals, we should not know it was Reggie."

"Precisely. And that would be a terrible loss!" Lady Tilbury, who had all an Irishwoman's quickness of repartee, snorted ironically as she spoke; but Iva was not taken in by the snort. She and her mother were "pals." That peculiarly expressive word, which has come into vogue of recent years, applied distinctly to Lady Tilbury and the one daughter who bore the name of her first husband, and whose likeness to the lover of her youth would have been in itself sufficient excuse for the tender freedom which existed between them.

Towards her younger children, the three moon-faced schoolgirls who had appeared on the scene since her second union with the eligible and elderly Sir Thomas Tilbury (now also defunct), the widow was a wholesome restraining influence; a kindly, orthodox, arbitrary parent; at times a trifle exacting and unreasonable; still on the whole as comfortable a mother to get along with as any in the neighbourhood—but towards Iva she was soft, very soft.

Alike Irish by birth—for Captain Kildare and his wife had both been natives of the Sister Isle—the two were always sharpening their wits upon each other; fencing with foils, and enjoying the exercise. It exhilarated them. Lady Tilbury looked as young as her daughter, with a roguish sparkle in her eye; matron and maid had the same eyes—wet blue, overhung by a fringe of dark lashes (people said that her ladyship's Irish eyes could have landed a third husband for her on more than one occasion had she been so minded)—while the rich bloom which lit up Iva's rounded cheeks had its counterpart, only a single shade deepened, in her mother's.

Both had the same low, broad, white brow; and the tendrils which clustered round it in the one case clung as softly, if not quite as thickly, in the other.

"She has me nose, too, and me mouth, that was always thought me greatest beauty." In confidential moments, when her heart was warm and open, the great county lady could not remember to be careful about certain clinging accents of her youth; otherwise it was a common remark that Lady Tilbury was really almost—really she almost spoke like other people. Iva would merrily gibe at mother for the care with which Sir Thomas's wife had learnt to talk as like Sir Thomas as possible during the dozen years of his reign, and Iva herself loved nothing better than to break out into the richest brogue her native land could afford, whenever she had the chance. Ordinary intercourse, however, was carried on in ordinary language.

"I say, mother"—after a pause of some duration, during which the elder lady had been busily writing, while the younger mused, Iva again lifted her voice, and resumed the conversation—"you know we want Reggie for the balls?"

Pen in hand, her mother looked round, made an impatient movement, half-opened her lips to speak, then, as though thinking better of it, dipped into the inkstand, and wrote on. She did and she did not agree in the want.

"We have just *got* to have him," proceeded Iva, emphatically.

"Humph!"

"You know we have."

"I suppose so. Yes."

"Then we can't bother with quarrelling. Besides, as likely as not, from very devilry——"

"Devilry! That's not a word——"

"I can't help the word: I don't know any other for what I mean."

"What do you mean?"

"I mean—devilry."

"Well, well; 'devilry,' if you will have it. But mind, Iva, only to me, your mother, don't be so free in your language——"

"My dear thing! Free in my language! I wish you heard other girls——"

"I wish nothing of the kind," said Lady Tilbury, with her severest air. "It's shocking; and Sir Thomas always told me to be particular with his daughters; that he wouldn't have them grow up 'slangy and stabley'—those were his very words. I wasn't to let them into the stables without either him or me——

She was off on her hobby-horse, but Iva caught the rein.

"I want to talk about Reggie; not about girls and their slang. What I wanted to say was this—that if Reggie finds out that we have begun to take him *au serieux*, and be offended with anything he says or does, pure devilry will make him seize the opportunity—perhaps the very day before a ball, or on the morning of it—to stir us up. He likes nothing so much as to have someone in a huff with him: he always did, as a boy: and though of course it did not matter then, it—we can't have that kind of thing now."

"Of course we can't." The writer wiped her pen, and knitted her brows in meditation. She began to perceive that she had best defer her correspondence, and give the matter in question more of her attention than it had previously seemed to demand. "If only Reggie would behave himself!" she remarked tentatively.

"That he *never* will; but I think between us we may keep him in hand, if we are on our guard, and work together. Look here, dear; there is one thing you must remember"—eagerly—"it is this—not to be 'drawn' by him when he proposes for us to

do things that he knows you will not allow, and that we should never think of asking for. Just laugh, as if it were a joke."

"But he is so outrageous; and Sir Thomas——

"Never understood Reggie in the least. We do; and we know what he always was, and will be. You are fond of him yourself."

Lady Tilbury was silent.

"We all are; and he is fond of us. I am certain that if anything were to happen to any of us, if we were in any real trouble, Reggie would come out so strong——"

"That he would! Oh, yes, I believe you are right there."

"And though he is so tiresome and provoking, he is not really malicious."

'Malicious! Dear me, no! Who could ever think of calling poor Reggie 'malicious'?

"And though he is five-and-twenty, he is ridiculously young for his age. Sometimes he seems an absolute boy, in spite of his age and height, and his long moustache."

"That moustache is a regular take in!" cried Lady Tilbury, suddenly turning round, and waking up. "When I last saw it, and saw how it had grown since he was last here, I fancied—you may laugh, Iva, if you will—but I did fancy somehow that Reggie must have sobered down. I thought: 'How sensible he looks!' And I was quite formal and serious with him for the whole of his first call, when I had him alone."

"He told us so. He was tremendously pleased."

"Laughing in his sleeve, I suppose." A slight accession of colour on her ladyship's cheek.

"I think he was laughing a little—but not disagreeably; really and truly not disagreeably. He would have known better than to come to *us* with any rudeness to *you*," said Iva, quickly and affectionately. "But it was not in Reggie to let pass such a chance for making his way. He said he did not know when he had had such a delightful, intelligent conversation——"

"The rascal! He *was* making fun of me."

It was the quick-witted Irishwoman who spoke, not the mistress of Tilbury Court.

"Don't you ever let out that I repeated it to you," exhorted Iva. "Mind you don't. It would be such an opening for a grievance—and that is the very thing we want to avoid. And, mother, if you *could* keep up the polite and serious attitude! The longer you *can* do that the better."

"Of course, I can do it if I choose, Iva." Iva's mother brindled indignantly. "You always speak to me, your mother, as if I were one of the children!" continued she, her sense of affront deepening. "I can be as reserved and dignified as anybody."

"Not with Reggie!" Iva smiled, then swept up the room and kissed her parent, rubbing the two cheeks together in a way that was all her own. "You are as bad as any of us about Reggie. He gets round you——"

"That he does not."

"Oh, yes, he does; and makes you do what he wants; then trades on your permission, and goes beyond it; sneaks up to you for forgiveness, and gets it; comes back to us with a grin to say it is all right; makes fools of the whole of us——"

"He is a hypocritical, mischief-making, unprincipled——"

"Not at all. And you don't think it. It is easy to call him names behind his back, yet if we were to see his grey knickerbockers under the trees yonder, and he were to come up to the window—he has no idea of not coming straight to this window, though he knows it is your private sitting-room, and that no one else (for of course *I* don't count) ever presumes to invade it—listen to me now, mother—listen, madam, and contradict me if you dare!—if Reggie Goffe's long moustache were to poke in through that window at this very moment, you would jump up from your chair, and say 'Oh, Reggie!' as pleased as possible; and if the luncheon gong were to sound an hour after, Reggie would stroll into the dining-room after you, and you would never even have asked him!"

"Never have asked him?"

"You would simply have risen and talked on, looking over your shoulder for him to follow. Of course, everyone knows what that means."

"What does it mean, Impudence?"

"Why, that he is a favourite, and may come and go as he pleases in Lady Tilbury's house."

"And if I were to treat him in any other way, I know who would be the first to cry out. It would be: 'What a shame to begin to make a stranger of Reggie Goffe at this time of day!' 'How can you be so unkind?' 'What has poor Reggie done to displease you?'"

"While 'Poor Reggie' himself would look so limp and crestfallen that the whole house would be miserable on his behalf," cried Iva, letting go her mother's shoulder, and suddenly bursting into a ringing laugh. "'Tis no use, mother, we simply couldn't do it. An hour after such a course of treatment had begun, we should all be ready to fall upon his neck weeping, and he would be in the seventh heaven. Afterwards things would be ten times as bad as they are now. No, you must not swing the pendulum too far. Be as kind as ever, as hospitable as ever, only if you *can*—now, don't flout me, my bonnie Irishwoman"—cheek-rubbing again in vogue—"if your dear, warm, jolly heart will allow you, try to remember that you are Lady Tilbury, and that little Reggie Goffe is six foot one, and has a long moustache."

CHAPTER III.

THREE OTHERS.

In the room just over that in which the above was going on, three schoolgirls, let loose from lessons for the twelve o'clock recess, were also holding a confabulation.

"Mamma and Iva are talking in the boudoir," observed Mabel sententiously. The Tilbury girls, Sir Thomas's daughters, called their mother "mamma." Iva had made them do so. Iva liked a distinction to be drawn between her property and that which belonged to Tilbury Court generally.

"They have been talking ever since I went down to fetch the slate rag," contributed her sister Marianne. "I heard them as I passed; and they have gone on, *hum-hum*, ever since."

"I know; at least, I have heard them ever since we came out on the balcony. What a silly you were to go and forget that slate rag again, miss! You knew this was its washing day; and I was so afraid Mademoiselle would stop our leaving off at twelve, if she got angry about it. You know she threatened she would."

"What are mamma and Iva talking about, I wonder?" Maud, the eldest of the three, found slate rags and Mademoiselle insipid; she did not think them likely to form topics of conversation in the boudoir; and the fifteen-year-old young lady has secret covetings after the unknown talk of her elders with which she is seldom credited.

"I can tell you one thing, or rather one person—only you must guess who; the door was a little open, and I had to stand and fold the rag, so I couldn't help listening, and I heard his name over and over again." Betwixt her desire to impart her important piece of information and a sense of its having been acquired in a not altogether legitimate manner, the speaker, Marianne, grew a trifle incoherent; but there was no Mademoiselle lying in wait to snap at trifles. "You guess?" concluded she, looking at each auditor in turn.

"Guess? That's easy enough," said Maud, contemptuously. "Reggie, of course! Whenever

they talk now, it's about Reggie—I mean ever since he came home this time."

"Then why did you say you wondered?" retorted Marianne, whom the contempt naturally aggrieved. "You say you 'wonder,' and when I tell you——"

"I wonder what they are saying about him. I wonder why it is always when they are alone by themselves that they talk of Reggie. He is our friend as much as theirs."

"And they used not to mind." It was now Mabel's turn. "One never minded in the least; mamma used to say: 'Bother Reggie! Take him away, some of you, I want to get my letters written,' when he came in the mornings. And Iva wouldn't come down if she had got her frock off and were lying on the sofa in her bedroom reading a novel. If she were told Reggie was in the drawing-room, she would only read on, and say someone else could go to him.

"Oh, I think she always went, unless she knew he was going to stay on," from Marianne.

"No, she did not." Maud's memory was more tenacious and she had been on the alert sooner than the others. "She did not always go. Even if she did, she would groan out: 'Here, then, get out my things, and bring me some hot water.' She never would let Reggie see her except in her best things——"

"O Maud! *that's* not true! He has gone fishing with us, and nutting with us——"

"That was long ago. Since Iva has been grown up, though she says Reggie is a mere boy, and makes believe to snub him and scold him, she takes very good care he does not catch her with her hair untidy, or her old hat on. I know when she thinks he's about, by the way she wears her big black hat even in the garden, because he once said she suited a big hat."

"Do you think she is in love with him, then?"

Mabel's round yokel face took suddenly an expression of solemn interest. "Just fancy!"

"Sh—h! Take care!" The elder sister looked round with quick alarm. "Do take care what you say," proceeded she, frowning. "I never said a word about being 'in love.' It's only a way that grown-ups have, directly a man's a man. In a little while I daresay *I* shall begin——"

"He, he, he!" tittered her sisters, their delight at the idea none the less keen because it was obviously contraband. "Then it will be our turn—Mab's and mine—to haul out your best things from the wardrobe if you are lying in your bedroom and mamma says: 'Go and let your sister know,' as she does now, if she wants Iva's help with visitors. How those two do stick by each other! Mamma never will go to make calls without Iva, ever since she has been 'out.' Will it be the same with you when you are out, Maud?"

"Of course. Iva will be married by then, and I shall go about with mamma everywhere. I shall have my name printed on her visiting-cards. It will be 'Lady Tilbury, Miss Tilbury,' instead of 'Lady Tilbury, Miss Kildare.' Much prettier, *I* think. Nobody but we ourselves have different names on the same card, and I daresay people think it very odd."

"Do you think Iva will marry Reggie, Maud?" Ever since her brain had been illumined by the idea, which opened vistas of possibilities the most delightful, Marianne had kept silence, pondering.

"Oh, dear, no; he has nothing to marry upon."

With superior wisdom, Maud loftily waved an arm, disposing of the suggestion. "I know," continued she, nodding sagely, "because I heard old General Dove and Mrs. Birch talking, and they said Reggie Goffe had nothing in the world but his pay, and that he would have to go out to India to live upon it."

"But has Iva got no money of her own? Could'nt she——?" suggested Mabel, and paused, while Marianne also drew near, and hung upon her sister's answer.

"Nonsense!" said Maud, brusquely.

A few words may now be added about the old country seat and its inmates, to whom our readers have been somewhat unceremoniously introduced.

Tilbury Court was a fine, substantial building, square and solid, with rows of windows which nightly gleamed in the setting sun, for, wonderful to relate, although built at a time when it seemed that the principal object aimed at was to hem in by this or that obstruction every dwelling of any pretensions, Sir Thomas Tilbury's Somersetshire residence lay open to the surrounding country on every side, and its principal rooms faced the south-west.

Beneath their casements stretched a level park, dotted here and there with clumps of beeches; and a meandering stream, broad and shallow, wound in and out among these, making pleasant banks, and cool inviting nooks for Lady Tilbury's noted breed of cattle to rest in during leisure intervals.

A low ha-ha separated their pasture ground from the flowering lawns and terraces of the mansions on one side, and a rich growth of luxuriant shrubs formed a belt for its out-buildings on the other.

Altogether, it was a stately, spacious domain, as well suited to winter cold as summer heat—an abode in which life moved along on easy wheels, where Nature was beneficent, and Art had only sought to supplement, not to supplant Nature.

Lady Tilbury had breathed a sigh of relief untold, when it was found by Sir Thomas's will that she would not have to leave, on his demise, her home in the sunny southern county. He had never told her so explicitly; since, like many another as broad and sturdy as himself, he had never contemplated dying before, as he himself would have said, "well on in the eighties"; so that, although hoping for the best, it was music in her ears to hear her lawyer read aloud in his sing-song, nasal, legal tones that although the family seat descended to Sir Thomas's eldest daughter, or failing her to the next in succession, his wife had a life-interest in the estate, and was to remain undisturbed in possession thereof.

As perhaps the place had a good deal to do with a certain halo invested by herself round Sir Thomas's bald head in the days when she, a belle, and irresistible in her early widowhood, accepted him (being ardently implored to do so), it is hardly to be wondered at that in middle life—she was little over forty when left to stand alone for the second time—Lady Tilbury was in an agony till the point was settled.

"Where should we go, Iva and I?" cried she, ignoring the fact that she had other daughters. "Iva asthore," and the accent came out rich and sweet, "your mother will take care of her darling, go where she may"—but it turned out that she had no need to go anywhere.

After that, not only did Sir Thomas's lady reign on as she had done before at the ancestral seat, but Iva, who took a distinct step forward after the thrilling crisis was over, reigned also.

The two could not forget—though, to do them justice, no inkling of this was suffered to escape or was ever surmised by the others equally concerned—that they had no territorial rights over the soil, such as Maud, Mabel, and Marianne had. They would look at each other meaningly when certain things were said. They held consultations from which all outsiders were excluded. Lady Tilbury felt awkward for some time after her husband's death when she had to give audience to Mr. Stokes, the farm-steward, or Grimes, the gamekeeper. She fancied they regarded her as an interloper, and were more deferential to the younger girls, the fat-faced Miss Tilburys, than to her own slim, sparkling Iva—the Irish girl without a six-

pence. It was not for many months—till even a year and more had gone by—that she came to perceive no significance in their references to Miss Maud or her sisters, no difference between their salutations to them and to Iva.

That time had passed; and Lady Tilbury was herself again. Iva emerged from the schoolroom, was taken to town, presented at Court, danced at a few balls, and returned home. She did not greatly affect the metropolis.

Perhaps it did not make quite so much of her as in the heat of her youth and the flush of her beauty she had secretly expected. It is very hard to make one's mark on the London of to-day. The throng is so dense—the number of pretty girls so great—feathers and frills convert faces and forms so strangely, until the plainest look "smart," and the least distinguished attract the eye—that poor, pretty Iva, dreaming perchance that she would bring the world to her feet, as a couple of Irish girls once did in bygone times, was fairly mortified and affronted on more than one occasion.

So she took a distaste to the whole thing.

Without possessing more than the simple vanity of youth and inexperience, she had certainly supposed—imagined—pictured to herself scenes which were not only never realised, but which she came to perceive could only have been devised by an humiliating ignorance. Thus, to her original vexation was added a new ingredient.

She hated herself for being such a simpleton.

When her mother exclaimed and conjectured, it is true that she made game of their joint disappointment—rather bitter game—and carried it off with a high hand. But she would not go to London a second year. She would wait till she knew its ways better, and could stand more securely on her own feet.

And she had been telling Lady Tilbury so one day, when Reggie Goffe came on leave from his regiment, and it turned out that since last seen by anyone he had grown a long yellow moustache.

(To be continued).

A JUBILEE GIFT TO BROMLEY.

Bromley Urban Council met specially on Tuesday, May 25th, to consider an offer by Mr. Coles Child, J.P., of Bromley Palace, to give to the town for ever, as a Jubilee gift, the greater part of the "White Hart" Field, situate in the centre of town. The tenancy of the field having expired, he was, he stated, unwillingly forced to realise that it was no longer suitable for modern cricket, and therefore the time had come when force of circumstances would compel him to surrender that almost historic playground to the builder, a change to which he could not look forward with any satisfaction. Therefore he felt it a suitable opportunity to give it, with the exception of a strip of about 120 feet deep, to the town, on condition that the Council maintained it with choice trees, shrubs, and flowers.

Upon the motion of the Chairman of the Council (Mr. T. Davis, J.P.). the Council passed, with acclamation, a resolution directing a cordial letter of thanks to be sent to Mr. Coles Child for his generous offer, and undertaking to lay out the ground in accordance with his wishes.

Mr. T. N. Crafer, of Bromley, was presented at the Levee, held by the Prince of Wales, on May 17th, on his appointment as Secretary to the Board of Inland Revenue, his introduction being performed by Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Lieut. Col. and Hon. Col. E. Satterthwaite performed the same service for Lieut. W. F. Soames 2nd V.B. Royal West Kent Regiment.

JUBILEE PLANS IN BROMLEY.

A meeting of subscribers to the Bromley fund for commemorating the Queen's reign was held in the Parish-room, West-street, on Monday, May 17th, in order to discuss the subject, and to enlist wider interest in the scheme for the endowment of beds in Convalescent Homes. Mr. Coles Child, J.P., presided, and stated that contributions had not come in so freely as was hoped, and the Committee were placed in an awkward position. He invited those present to give their views. A long discussion followed, in which several alternative schemes were suggested, such as the supplementing of the District Nursing Staff of Bromley, or giving the amount as a Jubilee offering to the Bromley Hospitals, but finally it was decided to adjourn consideration of the matter for a month in order that a further chance might be given for funds to come in. Drs. Beeby and Ilott, the Rev. A. G. Hellicar, Messrs. T. Davis, McIntyre, Gilbert, Dewey, Soutter, Packe, P. Henwood, and other gentlemen took part in the discussion.

A largely-attended meeting, convened by the Bromley Urban District Council, of representatives of various public bodies and clubs in the town for the purpose of considering the best means of carrying out a public celebration in Bromley in honour of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, was held at the Council offices, East-street, on May 18th. After some opening remarks by the Chairman, Mr. T. Davis, the Rev. A. G. Hellicar said that it was highly desirable that the children should be induced to take an interest in the Jubilee, but pointed out the great difficulty there would be in entertaining such a large number. There were about 4,000 children in the schools, and if they thought of such a thing as giving them all tea, it was above all important to secure the hearty co-operation of the teachers. A long discussion as to "How, when, and where" followed, in which, besides several members of the District Council, Messrs. Loly and Mullen, Colonel E. Satterthwaite, and others took part, and finally the following preliminary committee was elected: The Chairman of the District Council, Colonel E. Satterthwaite, Messrs. R. G. Mullen, G. Loly, G. Harris, sen., J. H. Lepper, M. J. Jenkins, and Colin Campbell, to invite all classes in the town to appoint representatives on a committee to arrange all details. It was decided by a large majority that the demonstration should take place on Jubilee Day, and it was suggested to the committee that it should be held on Martin's Hill and the Queen's Mead.

Mr. Samuel Green, of Merevale, Bickley, on May 17th, received the honour of being elected Alderman of the City of London for the Ward of Walbrook, in the place of Sir James C. Lawrence, Bart. Mr. Green is not new to civic life, having been a Common Councilman for the ward of Farringdon-without for several years. His son, Frederick Algernon Green, has just won the Penfold Gold Medal of the Surveyors' Institution.

We regret to record the death at Hastings of Mrs. James Collett, formerly a well-known resident of Bromley.

Mr. Justice Bruce was among the distinguished company present at the opening by the Prince of Wales on May 23rd of the Blackwall-Greenwich Tunnel.

On May 26th, at Holy Trinity, Sloane-street, the marriage took place of Miss Evelyn Mary Lubbock, eldest daughter of Mr. Henry J. Lubbock, and niece of Sir John Lubbock, and Mr. John Verity, J.P., of Sandbridge, Bury, Herts, and Aston, Warwickshire.

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DIARY.

MAY.

2nd—Special services at the local Wesleyan Churches, in aid of Foreign Missions.

4th—Performance of "St. Cecilia's Day," by the Bromley Philharmonic Association, at the Drill Hall.—Annual conversazione of the Bickley Orchestral Society, at St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common.—Beckenham Orchestral Society's second concert of the season, at the Public Hall.

5th—Amateur theatricals at the Bromley Grand Hall, in aid of the Bromley Cricket Club funds.—Evening race meeting of the Bromley Cycling Club, at the Widmore-road Cricket Ground, three events being decided.—Annual meeting at the Co-operative Hall, Bromley, of the Sevenoaks Division Liberal Council, Mr. F. Swanzy, J.P., presiding.—Archdeacon of Maidstone's annual visitation at the parish church, Chislehurst.

6th—Public meeting at Beckenham, when it was decided to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee by adding a "Victoria" Ward for children to the Beckenham Cottage Hospital.

7th—Meeting of Plaistow Burial Board, at which it was announced that the Vicar could make no further concession with regard to the burial fees.

8th—St. Luke's Company (Bromley) of the Church Lads' Brigade took part in the festival of the London Diocesan Branch of the Church of England Temperance Society, at the Crystal Palace.

9th—Sacred concert, arranged by Mr. J. Fenton Walsh, at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

10th—Lively discussion at meeting of Chislehurst Parish Council on the proposed division of the parish into two wards, a resolution in favour of the scheme being carried by 8 votes to 6.

11th—Evening concert, arranged by Mr. F. Lewis Thomas, at Bromley Grand Hall, in which Mr. Santley and other well-known artistes took part.—Public meeting at the Bromley Common Baptist Church, in celebration of the Rev. W. Holyoak's second anniversary as pastor.

12th—Assault-at-arms by the Bromley Detachment 2nd Vol. Batt. Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) at the Bromley Drill Hall.—Ravensbourne Cricket Club's annual concert at the Parish-room, Shortlands.

13th—Bazaar at Christ Church Schools, Chislehurst, in aid of the Church Missionary Society.—Vestry meeting at Beckenham, when the transference of the appointment of Poor Rate collector from the Bromley Board of Guardians to the Beckenham Urban District Council was approved.

15th—Annual sports of Bromley Park School at Plaistow.—Second annual dinner of the Beckenham and Penge Medical Society, at Beckenham, Dr. Sturges presiding.

17th—"A" Troop of the West Kent Yeomanry held their annual sports at Sundridge Park, Bromley, in delightful weather.—Meeting of subscribers to the Jubilee Commemoration Fund, at the Bromley Parish-room, when it was decided to augment the committee in order to make it more representative, and the meeting was adjourned for a month.

18th—Annual meeting and conversazione of the Bromley Philharmonic Association, at the Co-operative Hall.—Meeting of representatives of various public bodies, friendly societies, and clubs, at Bromley Urban Council offices, when it was decided to hold a public demonstration on Jubilee Day, and to entertain the school children.—Distribution of prizes, at Bromley Baptist Church, to successful local competitors in the Western Kent Sunday School Union Scripture examinations.

19th—Half-yearly meeting of the Beckenham Football Club, Mr. W. Potter presiding, when it was decided to enter teams in two competitions.

20th—Annual training of the West Kent Yeomanry commenced at Maidstone.

21st—Conversazione and loan exhibition at the Parish-room, Bromley, in aid of the local centre of the University Extension movement.

22nd—Bickley Glee Club's evening concert at Amesbury House, Bickley.—Bromley Detachment 2nd Vol. Batt. The Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) took part in furnishing a guard of honour at the opening of the Blackwall Tunnel by the Prince of Wales.

25th—Annual sale of work on behalf of the Church Missionary Society, organised by Christ Church, Bromley Park, at the Bromley Co-operative Hall.

26th—Bromley Co-operative Society's annual excursion to Ramsgate and Margate.

29th—Spring meeting and annual dinner of the Chislehurst Golf Club.—Presentation by Lady Sophie Scott of cup and medals to the winners (Swifts Club) in the Bromley and District Football League, at a concert held at the Co-operative Hall.

To the Editor of the RECORD.

THE JUBILEE BON-FIRE.

Dear Sir,—It has been decided that on the evening of 22nd June, a Jubilee Bon-fire shall be lighted on the Recreation Ground, on Martin's-hill, in connection with those lit throughout the country.

I am writing to ask if any of your readers will be good enough to assist by the donation of any spare wood, faggots, or other inflammable material, which can be deposited at any time in the yard of the Urban District Council, in Station-road, on application to the Surveyor, Mr. Stanley Hawkings. We shall also be glad of the assistance of any gentlemen who may feel inclined to grant us the loan of one or more horses and carts for the purpose of carting the materials from the yard to Martin's-hill on Monday, June 21st. Any letters on this subject may be addressed to Mr. Colin J. Campbell, Barcaldine, College-road, Mr. W. L. Crossley, 68, Tweedy-road, or to me; and it is requested that the envelopes may be marked on the outside "Jubilee Bon-fire."

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

E. SATTERTHWAITE,

Colonel 2nd V.B. R.W. Kent Regt.

Windermere, Bromley, Kent,

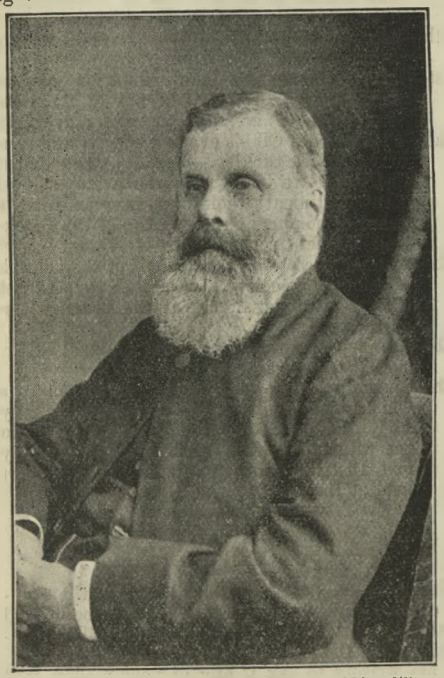
May 28th, 1897.

RECORD PORTRAITS.

No. XX.—THE REV. A. G. HELLICAR,

VICAR OF BROMLEY.

The Vicar of Bromley needs no word of introduction to any reader of the RECORD, and we are confident that one and all will welcome his addition to our growing collection of portraits. Although the best part of his life has been lived in this parish, yet if we do not greatly mistake, for most, if not all, of our readers, this sketch will contain something that is new, while it will be of interest to all if it only serves to recall to their memories things which though once known have been forgotten in the lapse of time. There is, too, a peculiar appropriateness in its publication this month, because it gives a glance at the career not only of the present occupant of the living, but of that of his predecessor too; and so, in a sense, and, however imperfectly, may be said to deal with the religious life of the town during the Queen's reign.



Maull & Fox] *[Piccadilly.*

THE REV. A. G. HELLICAR.

The Rev. Arthur Gresley Hellicar was born on the 7th September, 1835, at Curry Rivel, near Langport, Somersetshire, his father being the Rev. Ames Hellicar, vicar of Fivehead and Swell in the same county, and a minor canon of Bristol Cathedral. The Rev. Ames Hellicar was a member of an old Bristol family, connected by marriage with the Gresleys, the head of whom now is Sir R. Gresley, Bart. Mr. Ames Hellicar died in 1839, when his son was a child, and after that his widow settled at Clifton, which was henceforth to be the boy's home. His school life began at Kidderminster Grammar-school, where he remained for five years, and among his contemporaries there was the Rev. Stopford Brooke. On leaving Kidderminster he was sent to Bishop's College, Bristol, where he found a distinguished trio, Professor Sidgwick and his two brothers, who were being educated there before going to Rugby. He next experienced a period of private tuition under the Rev. J. Kempthorne, father of the late headmaster of Blackheath School and vicar of Wedmore, Somerset. In May, 1854, he matriculated at Wadham College, Oxford, and went into residence the following October. Wadham College had been selected for him as being a stronghold of Evangelicism, its then head being Dr. Symons, a man of many inches, who with his wife was irreverently termed the "Elephant and Castle." Singularly enough, considering the reason for which this particular college had been chosen for him, Mr. Hellicar, on commencing his college career, was placed under the tutorial care of Richard Congreve, the leading exponent in the University of the then new Positivist creed, which was at that time fast gaining ardent disciples among certain of the younger fellows of the college. Among these, the best known now are Frederick Harrison, who was also a tutor, and passed in those days for a dilletante individual, affecting long pendent whiskers; Professor John Henry Bridges, and Professor Beesly. Among the most pleasant reminiscences of University life, Mr. Hellicar recalls the opportunities he enjoyed of attending Dean Stanley's introductory lectures on Ecclesiastical History, delivered in the theatre, and Matthew Arnold's introductory lectures on Poetry. After four years' residence, he obtained third-class honours in the final classical schools, and having passed a further examination in law and history, he took his degree in 1858. Last year, it may be mentioned in passing, Mr. Hellicar re-visited Oxford after a long absence, and renewed his acquaintance with the present warden and some of the fellows.

His ordination was the next event in his life, the solemn service of admission to deacon's orders taking place in Wells Cathedral in June, 1859. He was forthwith licensed to the curacy of Wraxall, near Bristol, his Rector being the Rev. E. P. Vaughan, brother of the late Rev. J. Vaughan, of Christ Church, Brighton. While there he became intimately acquainted with the Rev. Frederick Brown, Rector of Nailsea, who afterwards came to reside at Beckenham and was well-known in Bromley.

In April, 1861, Mr. Hellicar received an invitation, through a college friend, Mr. Beddome, who was also a friend of the late Mr. John Richardson, of Ravensfell, to take the curacy of Bromley. At the end of the same month he paid his first visit to the parish, and was hospitably entertained by Mr. Richardson. He well remembers to this day the anxiety he experienced on paying his first call upon the Rev. J. E. Newell, then vicar of Bromley, at Blackbrook; and also on a personage hardly less important, Mrs. Scott, of Church House,* who then provided the curate's salary. Mrs. Scott was the widow of Mr. John Scott, a surgeon, whose father had been in high repute as a Bromley doctor. The ordeal of inspection, though not pleasant, was, however, apparently satisfactory to the inspectors, for the following month he was definitely appointed to the curacy. In August he married the lady who has since won the affectionate regard of all

* The benefice of Bromley was originally a rectory, with a rectory-house standing on the site of the present "Church House." In the time of Henry VIII. the rectory and tithes were transferred to the Bishop of Rochester, who thenceforth was the rector and had to appoint perpetual vicars to perform the services. "Church House" has since the days of Henry VIII. been let to various tenants, and was some few years ago sold by the ecclesiastical commissioners to Mr. P. Henwood. The vicars of Bromley had no stated place of residence and some of them have lived in the college. Shortly after Mr. Hellicar succeeded to the benefice the parishioners raised the necessary money and built the present vicarage house.

her husband's parishioners, Mary Anne Isabella, daughter of Mr. Sydenham Malthus, of Albury, Surrey, and Hadstock Manor, Essex, then resident at Clifton, and in September of the same year (1861) settled in Bromley. He was first kindly entertained for a week by Mr. Newell, his vicar, and then took up his residence at Mr. Sweeting's in the High Street (now Mr. G. H. Payne's), shortly afterwards removing to No. 4, Rochester-place, Widmore-road.

We must now pause for a moment to briefly describe Mr. Hellicar's new vicar, the Rev. J. E. Newell, as he was at this time. That gentleman had been appointed to the parish as far back as 1826, and had therefore already been vicar for 35

The Rev. J. E. NEWELL.

years. In appearance he was short and heavy-looking, and a peculiar nervous movement of the head while speaking or preaching had led to his being irreverently compared to a tortoise. He was a man of wide reading, and took great pains in the preparation of his sermons. His palsy-like affection had been caused, it was said, by the nervousness produced by having to preach before such a number of notabilities as formerly were comprised in the parish church congregation, there being at one time as many as six members of Parliament among the regular attendants, as well as several families of noble birth. He expressed himself in stately Johnsonian phraseology with oracular solemnity, and as a specimen sentence we may quote the following judgment passed by him on the Crimean War—a judgment, it must be confessed, with which few would be found to quarrel now-a-days:—"The Crimean War was a blunder in its conception, lamentable in its execution, and miserable in its results." As an example of his pulpit style, Mr. Hellicar remembers a sermon preached by him on the Lancashire distress caused by the great cotton famine. In the course of it he said, alluding to the sufferings of the mill operatives: "Their empty cottages are your best storehouses; their hungry bellies are your best granaries; their shivering bodies your best wardrobes." He had an idea that he had not received from the ecclesiastical authorities quite the treatment he deserved, and a favourite maxim with him was, "The nearer the Bishop the farther from justice," an allusion of course to the country seat of the Bishop of Rochester being Bromley Palace. Whether or not his selection of Blackbrook as a place of residence was a sign of his disappointment, we cannot say, but there is no doubt he found in the seclusion of that pleasant old house— now unhappily in charred ruins—a repose which was congenial to his spirit. But in spite of his eccentricities those who remember Mr. Newell think of him as a man of kindly spirit, and in many respects as a favourable example of a clergyman of a bygone age. In August, 1865, he resigned the living, and retired to spend the rest of his days in a charming retreat in South Devon, where he lived until his death in 1880.

In December, 1865, Mr. Hellicar was presented to the living of Bromley by the Bishop of Worcester, in whose gift the living now is.† He immediately set to work in his widened sphere, and gradually with the help of trusted coadjutors built up a more complete system of parochial organisation. The parishioners undertook to provide a curate instead of allowing one member of the congregation to be responsible for his maintenance as heretofore. In the management of the Sunday School, too, some change was made. The same lady who had made herself responsible for the curate's salary had also practically "run" the Sunday School, the former vicar regarding it with a sort of benevolent neutrality, and delegating the office of superintendent to the late Mr. Sweeting. In this connection may be given the names of some of the more prominent of those who have filled the post of superintendent of Sunday Schools under Mr. Hellicar. They include Mr. E. F. Gedge, Mr. J. Leatherdale, Mr. T. Davis, Mr. T. C. Dewey, Miss Lawson, and Mrs. Soames, while Miss Edlmann, of Chislehurst, used to come over regularly and help.

Bromley Church in the early sixties was very different from the present church both in its appearance and in the services celebrated within its venerable walls. The nave has not been altered except by the substitution of open pews for the former high, straight-backed, white-painted enclosures; but there was no chancel, and the pulpit and reading-desk were both exalted positions, according to the old fashion. There were the same galleries, only much heavier, and the organ was placed in the west gallery, where also was the mixed choir, in which the ladies predominated. The hymns were given out by the clerk (the late Mr. Wood). Sermons were preached in the black gown, and Mr. Newell, it may be mentioned, habitually dispensed with both cassock and stole, and wore a very voluminous surplice with a wide collar. The festival decorations were extremely limited, and were, in fact, confined to the insertion of small sprigs of various trees, according to the season, into the ends of the pews. At Christmas it was holly, at Easter yew, and elm at Whitsuntide. During the episcopacy of Archbishop Sumner, that prelate used regularly to preach in Bromley Church every fourth Sunday, driving over from Addington in his wig and black gown, and robing in the vestry. He adopted, it was said, the first four letters of the alphabet as a guide to his Sunday duties: A standing for Addington, B for Bromley, C for Croydon, and D meaning disengaged.

As has already been indicated, the administration of the parish and the services of the church had during Mr. Newell's long reign become somewhat antiquated, and the new vicar found himself gradually able to introduce certain innovations into both,

† The patronage of Bromley belonged, until after the year 1848, to the Bishop of Rochester; it was then transferred to the See of Worcester by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, without the knowledge of Archbishop Sumner, in order, it was said, to equalize the patronage.

which were always accepted in a kindly way both by the congregation and also by the clerk. We are perhaps, now-a-days, apt to forget what an important functionary that official formerly was, and how desirable it was to work smoothly with him. At the neighbouring church of Addington changes were not taken to so kindly, and the clerk of that parish, unable to find a service to his taste nearer home, used to walk over to Bromley every Sunday for some time and reinforce Mr. Wood, somewhat to the annoyance of the congregation.

With regard to ecclesiastical districts. Holy Trinity, Bromley Common, was, when Mr. Hellicar first came to the parish, the only daughter-church that had yet been weaned from its mother. St. Mary's, Plaistow, was opened in 1863, and one of the new vicar's first acts was to give his assent to the cutting off of the district of Bickley. There are now no fewer than five daughter-churches, namely, the three just mentioned, St. John's, and St. Luke's.

In things civil no less than things ecclesiastical Bromley has much altered since Mr. Hellicar first knew it. The population has much increased, and what were previously cornfields, or private grounds attached to the principal residences, have given place to shops and villas. The development of Bickley had not begun. Towards the north the site of Hammelton and Tweedy Roads was arable land, part being known as Long Life Field on account of its reputation for healthiness, having been specially recommended to his patients by the famous surgeon, Mr. James Scott. Between Bromley Lodge, on the one side of the High-street, and Bromley House on the other, and the L.C.D. station, there were no houses at all. South Hill-park had not been thought of. The roads were all lanes and were so described: — Widmore-lane, Brick-kiln-lane (Homesdale-road). As to local government, the Vestry was the supreme authority, being superseded by the Local Board in 1867. When business so important and so diverse was transacted by the Vestry, it will easily be believed that its meetings were not the hum-drum formal affairs that they have since become, and they used frequently to be the scenes of animated discussions, with an annual pitched battle on the subject of Church Rates, in which the champions on the respective sides were the late Mr. Richardson and the late Mr. Scrutton; but that bone of contention has now happily been buried. The question of rights-of-way over or adjacent to the Palace grounds and the neighbourhood of Bickley was also in those days frequently a subject of bitter controversy, but we need not here inquire into the merits of these almost forgotten disputes. As we have dealt in another article this month with some of the differences between civil Bromley then and now, we will not pursue the subject any further here.

In a growing district such as Bromley one of the great difficulties of the head of the flock is to provide sufficient church accommodation for the increasing population, and where, as was the case in this parish formerly, the entire responsibility of elementary education has also been undertaken, the provision of school accommodation is a more serious problem still. It will easily be understood therefore what large demands church and school-building have made on the time and thought of Mr. Hellicar, and on the pockets of his congregation. With regard to the Parish Church, the first alteration was carried out in 1873, when the building was re-seated and various other improvements were effected. In 1874 the late Sir Edward Scott presented the fine organ which was at first placed in the west gallery. In 1884 the church was re-opened after the building of the chancel, and various minor improvements have been added since. In May, 1870, the iron church of St. John was opened in Park-road, to be replaced in 1880 by the permanent stone edifice. In 1884 the iron church dedicated to St. Mark was opened at Masons-hill, soon now to be superseded by the new building in course of erection, for which the vicar is at present busy arranging a bazaar to be held on July 6th and 7th in the Palace grounds, by permission of Mr. Child. This bazaar recalls the similar function held in Sundridge-park twenty-five years ago in aid of the funds for restoring the Parish Church, when the late Emperor Napoleon, then living at Chislehurst, was among the distinguished visitors. The convenient parish room in West-street was built in 1881. As to the schools, the Bromley schools were enlarged in 1870, 1872, and 1874, while those built at Masons-hill in 1872 it was found necessary to add to in 1882. For ten years a struggle was maintained to cope by voluntary means with the increasing population, but in 1888 it was not found possible to do so any longer, and a School Board was formed. The fact that there are now nearly 2,000 children in the Board Schools shows how necessary this step was. Mr. Hellicar has always taken the warmest interest in his day schools, and esteems himself fortunate in having had the help of such admirable teachers as those who for several years have presided over the Bromley and Masons-hill National Schools.

During Mr. Hellicar's long occupation of the benefice there have been, including Dr. Temple, five different Archbishops of Canterbury, with three of whom he has enjoyed a personal acquaintance, and in the Rural Deanery he is now senior to all the clergy, except Canon Murray. Of Bromley's vicar as a preacher those who do not know his style and views can take the opportunity of forming an opinion by paying a visit to the parish church any Sunday, and they are not likely to come away disappointed, for it will be generally conceded that he is at his best in the pulpit; but they will possibly be surprised by the underlying breadth of his theological views. Several of his sermons have been published at the request of his congregation. As the recognised head of the religious life of the town it is safe to say he has no enemies and many warm and sincere admirers; while his relations with the Nonconformist bodies of the town have always been of a most pleasant and friendly character.

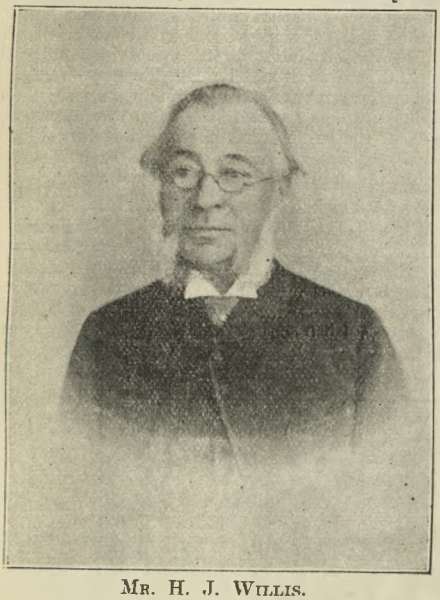
THE RAINFALL.—The rainfall for April, as measured in Widmore-road, Bromley, amounted to 1.16in. Rain fell on 14 days, the largest amount registered in one day being .21in. on the 16th. For the corresponding month last year the fall was only 0.80in., and in 1895 1.49in. was registered.

FORTHCOMING PASTORAL PLAYS.—A grand pastoral performance, under the direction of Mr. P. H. Vernon, is to be given at Shortlands House, Shortlands, the grounds having been kindly lent by Mr. L. P. Ford, in aid of the funds for the Homœopathic Hospital, Bromley, on July 3rd, 1897. The performance will commence with "Gringoire," a comedy in one act, in which the part of King Louis XI. will be played by Mr. P. H. Vernon, who for some years has been associated with Mr. Ben Greet's dramatic companies, and Gringoire by Mr. Leon Quartermaine, another member of Mr. Greet's "Sign of the Cross" company. In "Twelfth Night," Mr. F. Rawson Buckley, late of Sir Henry Irving's company, will play Orsino, and Miss Beatrice Wilson, Viola; Miss Marion Turner, Olivia; and Mr. Percy H. Vernon will be the Malvolio. The tickets are already selling rapidly, and full particulars can be obtained from Mrs. L. P. Lord, or at the office of this journal.

MR. HENRY JOHN WILLIS.

SKETCH OF HIS CAREER.

Mr. Henry John Willis having just retired from the post of Overseer of the parish of Chislehurst, which he has held so long, and also having entered upon his 80th year, the present is an opportune time for presenting our readers with a portrait and a few particulars concerning the life of one of the oldest and best known of Chislehurst's inhabitants, and one, too, who has played a not unimportant part in the progress of the parish for a period extending over upwards of half a century. Mr. Willis represents the third generation of the family since



MR. H. J. WILLIS.

they became domiciled at Chislehurst, and succeeded his father and grandfather in the tailoring business now carried on by Mr. Whur at what is known as the Royal Parade. Apropos of the latter designation, Mr. Willis says he did not use it, and thinks it a most ridiculous name. A tradesman, it appears, who came from the Royal Parade, Blackheath, built these houses and called them by the same name. Mr. Willis added that some people had the idea that the name was given because of the settling at Chislehurst of the French Imperial family, but the name was given long before they came.

The early part of Mr. Willis's life was devoted to business, though he found time to indulge in a little sport, playing a good deal of cricket, and being what would in these days be described as a bit of a sprinter. Mr. Willis ran his last foot race at the time of the Queen's Jubilee ten years ago in a veterans' competition. Though then seventy years of age he would not take any advantage in the matter of handicap for age, but ran to prevent a walk-over, and then his opponent only just beat him. That little incident illustrates the dogged determination which has been one of the leading characteristics of Mr. Willis during his long life. On December 24th, 1857, he received his warrant as rate collector, one of the magistrates signing it being the late Lord Sydney. In 1874 he was appointed Overseer, a position which as before stated he only relinquished quite recently. He had been previously way-warden.

For over twenty years Mr. Willis has been one of the Chislehurst Guardians, and for the last few years has been Vice-Chairman of the Bromley Rural District Council, the chair being occupied by another veteran in the person of Colonel Sir John F. Lennard, Bart., who, however, slightly leads in point of age, though both are octogenarians. Of Sir John, Mr. Willis speaks in terms of warm appreciation, as one who has devoted unusual time and attention to public affairs. Mr. Willis has been a member of the Parish Council from the commencement, and formerly sat on the old Parochial Committee. It was only after great persuasion that he consented to stand again last time, and as it was he took no steps whatever to secure re-election. Canvassing he regards with no friendly eye, and would put a stop to it if he could. He says he would not ask his greatest friend to vote for him. That Mr. Willis's services have been appreciated is evident from the fact that he headed the poll for the election of Rural District Councillors on the last occasion. It is his intention, however, to give up all his public offices next year, as he considers he has had a good innings.

In friendly society work Mr. Willis has been to the fore. He was for 36 years secretary to the United Chislehurst Benefit Society, an old-fashioned club which yearly declined after the Foresters and Oddfellows appeared on the scene, the latter offering attractions, such as the regalia, to younger men which the older society did not. Largely owing to Mr. Willis' advice the club was broken up some four years ago and about £2,000 was distributed, the members receiving 19s. 8d. in the £ for all they had paid in. As the capital was gradually decreasing at the rate of £60 or £70 a year this step was undoubtedly a wise one to take. The Philanthropic Society also found in Mr. Willis an earnest supporter, and during 45 years he was its secretary. In this work he was associated with the late Mr. John Hall, of Bromley. The society did a useful work, but in course of time died out naturally, though not before it had justified its existence. The members presented Mr. Willis with a very pretty silver tea service as a recognition of his labours on behalf of the Society. For a similarly lengthy period of 44 or 45 years Mr. Willis fulfilled the secretarial duties in connection with the Chislehurst Cottagers' Show, and is still a member of the committee. All these positions were honorary, so that in his time Mr. Willis has done far more than his share of voluntary public work in many directions.

Few can claim such a long record as a chorister as can Mr. Willis. Entering the choir of St. Nicholas as a treble at the age of 10 he continued till he was 68 in good voice as a tenor. He has been churchwarden, and of course recollects the Rev. Francis Dawson, who was rector before Canon Murray, and who held the living over thirty years. In politics, Mr. Willis has been a consistent Conservative all his life, but is by no means a bigot or a partisan.

In his time Chislehurst has grown out of all recollection, and only some half-a-dozen of the old houses are now left. He thinks there is every appearance of the place growing as houses are constantly being built, and he added that more houses were wanted to keep the numerous shopkeepers from starving one another, as competition is getting so keen. The foregoing particulars were gleaned by a representative of the CHISLEHURST CHRONICLE from Mr. Willis, who very kindly made an appointment for that purpose. Not many public men of such ripe age and experience can look back over the records of their past with a greater degree of satisfaction in the consciousness of having ever striven to do the duties of life to the best of his powers than can Mr. Willis, and our readers will, we are sure, cordially join with us in wishing an enjoyable retirement to one who has run life's race so well, regardless alike of public popularity or reward.

BROMLEY, 1837—1897.

A COMPARISON.

The period covered by the reign of our beloved sovereign has witnessed many changes, many important events, and an ever increasing amount of progress as regards education, national wealth, security of life and property, happiness of the people and all the other benefits which are understood by the comprehensive term, national prosperity.

During the period indicated, Bromley has undergone a series of transformations and a succession of expansions, almost as remarkable as any that have occurred in any town in the Kingdom.

The fact of the enormous growth of the population of Bromley, apart from other considerations, is one which may very properly cause us to take a gratified retrospect of the various steps by which this result has been achieved.

During the Victorian age, *i.e.*, between 1831 and 1891—the nearest available census dates for our purpose—the population has been multiplied by a little more than five, in other words, four thousand, and two persons have given place to no less than twenty-one thousand, six hundred and eighty-five, while the estimated population to the middle of last year was 25,102. In the same length of time the number of houses has increased from 669 to 4,500. At the most, probably not more than 500 of the houses now in the parish were in existence at the commencement of the Queen's reign. This is, perhaps, an over liberal estimate, but it serves to show how very different in appearance the town is at present from what it was when Queen Victoria ascended the throne, when a proportion of about 8-9ths of the inhabited houses are new.

Side by side with these facts it is somewhat amusing to turn to the quaint record of the Domesday Survey, from which we learn that the population of Bromley in the 11th century consisted of thirty villeins (agricultural labourers and servants), and twenty-six borderers (workmen dwelling in the outlying districts), and that in the time of Edward the Confessor the whole place was valued at £12 10s.

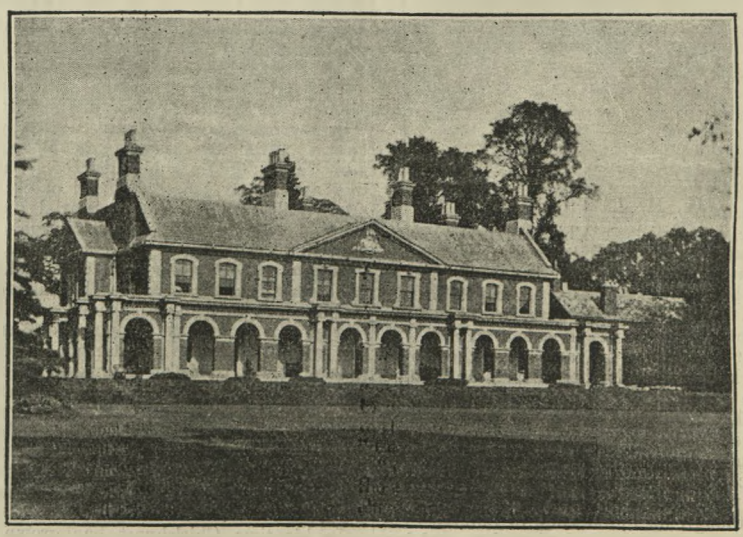
When it is remembered that the populations of some of the outlying parishes, especially those on the chalk plateau, just this side of the North Downs, have remained almost stationary since the time of the Domesday Survey, the enormous expansion of our town appears even more remarkable.

The true growth of Bromley, however, consists not merely in the increase of its population, the area over which it has spread itself, or the length of its streets. Its religious, educational, and sanitary advancement is of greater importance, and is indicated by the churches and chapels, the Literary Institute, the School of Science and Art, the Free Library, Recreation Grounds, Hospitals, and the various other organizations more immediately relating to the public health and material comfort of its inhabitants. All these institutions and agencies for the public welfare, with the exception of the Parish Church and some of the dissenting chapels, have sprung into being during the eventful period covered by Her Majesty's reign.

There are many other points from which one might with equal satisfaction regard the past sixty years of the history of our town, but it would, of course, be impossible to compress such a survey within the limits of the present brief sketch.

THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER.

When Queen Victoria ascended the throne in 1837, the seat—or at least the country seat— of the Bishops of Rochester was Bromley Palace, as it had been for more than 1,100 years, save for the interval of the Commonwealth. Bishop Murray, the father of Canon Murray, the respected Rector of Chislehurst, at that time held the See. The Bishop was also Lord of the Manor, and was regarded as not only the spiritual, but also the temporal father of the parish. He signalised the auspicious event of the Queen's accession by inviting all the inhabitants of the parish to an *al fresco* dinner in the fine avenue at the entrance to the Palace grounds, and those who remember the occasion bear witness that it was an excellent repast. It may be mentioned that at that time, and for many years after the property had changed hands, the public footpath known as Love-lane, ran along this avenue, and its diversion was not effected without raising a good deal of angry opposition. In 1845 a rearrangement of the Diocese led to the removal of Bishop Murray to Danbury, and Bromley Palace was then sold by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to the late Mr. Coles Child. The departure of th

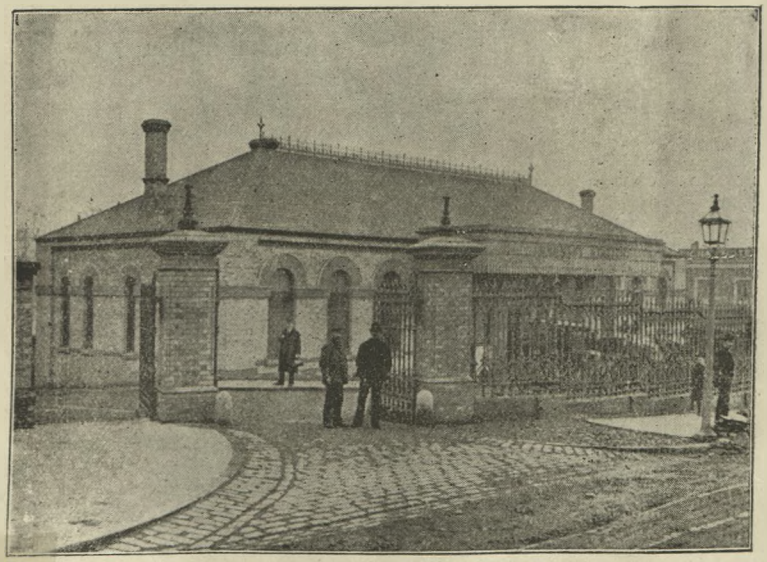


Harman] BROMLEY PALACE. [*Bromley.*

worthy Bishop caused the utmost regret in the town, and we are told that the despair that pervaded the place, when it was first known that he was about to leave the Palace, could only be painted by the author of "The Deserted Village." The regret at his departure was natural, for the bishops kept large households and were liberal supporters of local trade. The tradesmen, therefore, looked hopelessly on the future, and we are further informed that "many left the town, while others retired to the outskirts on their little savings rather than risk business longer in a place that appeared to be doomed." A reference to the census statistics shows that these sentiments have not been exaggerated, for while the population had in 1841 increased by 323 as compared with the last census, in 1851 it was found that it had decreased by 198. The town, however, recovered from the disaster, and has, as has already been shown, since progressed at a rapid rate.

"WHITE HART" HOTEL.

effected a far greater change in the conditions of the town than even the loss of its bishop. In 1832, we learn from the history of Mr. Charles Freeman, who is still, we are glad to know, living among us in the enjoyment of health and faculties, comparatively convenient communication existed between Bromley and the Metropolis by means of the stage-coaches, but it was necessarily very different to what we are accustomed to. The coaches used to run as follows:—The first left Bromley at 8 o'clock in the morning for Charing Cross, followed by a second at twenty minutes after eight for Grace-church-street, while two more left at 9 o'clock for the same destination. The coach that left at 8 returned at 12 and left Bromley again at 2, returning in the evening at 8. The other coaches returned at 5 and 6 in the evening. At 5 in the evening a pairhorse coach also left Bromley for Charing Cross, returning thence at 11 the following day. On Sunday, during the summer season, the whole of these coaches, with the exception of the last, made two journeys to London. In 1851, the year of the first Exhibition, the town was particularly dissipated, and several extra coaches were put on. In the latter end of the fifties, however,



Harman] L. C. & D. RAILWAY STATION. *[Bromley.*

METHODS OF LOCOMOTION.

The next great change that Bromley experienced was the superseding of the stage-coach by the steam-engine. This, it is hardly necessary to say, has

Bromley began to be within reach of the railroad, and by driving half-way to town—viz., to Greenwich—the train became available. In January, 1857, the Mid-Kent line from London to Beckenham was opened. The West End and Crystal Palace line to Shortlands was opened on May 3rd, 1858, on which occasion the BROMLEY RECORD remarked that "A goodly number of inhabitants were on Martin's-hill to witness the starting of the first train, which consisted of four carriages and but few passengers." On July 5th, in the same year, the Mid-Kent, Bromley and St. Mary Cray line was opened to the Southborough Road (Bickley) Station. This latter line between Beckenham and St. Mary Cray was subsequently taken over by the Chatham and Dover Company. The vast change which resulted from the diversion of the traffic from the highroad to the railway can hardly be imagined, and the road to London, which at one time was seldom without a stage-coach for an hour at a time, began to present a deserted appearance. The two accompanying views, the one of the coaches starting from the "White Hart," the other of the new L.C. & D. Railway-station, strikingly illustrate the difference in the methods of locomotion in operation then and now.

THE HIGH STREET.

The view given below shows the old High-street at its upper end, looking from the College towards the Market-square, and the bow window on the left

OLD VIEW OF UPPER END OF HIGH STREET.

is that of Mr. Dunkin's shop, a former historian of the town, who published a little book of antiquities in 1815. The large plate-glass windows, without which even a second-rate shop is now incomplete, were still unknown when this view was taken. In 1830, a Bill passed through Parliament, authorising the improvement of the street by the formation of a new street connecting the upper and lower ends of the High-street, which had formerly only been joined by the Market-square, and necessitated a somewhat sharp and dangerous turn. Some years later the improvement was carried out,

Harman.] MARKET SQUARE. *[Bromley.*

and is, of course, that part of the street in which the old Post-office was situated.

THE MARKET-SQUARE.

The Market-square has greatly changed in the last 60 years, and it must be confessed, not altogether for the better. The old Market Hall, which used to stand in the centre, was a ramshackle building, without much pretence to beauty, but it was more in proportion to its surroundings than its successor, the Town Hall. The old Market Hall was built chiefly of wood, and is described by the historian as "not very commodious." The lower part of it was used as a place of sale for market purposes, while the large room above was divided into two, and part used by the Commissioners of the Court of Requests, and part occasionally for auction sales. The old building was pulled down in 1865, and the present Town Hall built in its place. Many of the houses in the Square have also been re-built in the period under review.

Harman.] OLD POST OFFICE. [*Bromley.*

THE POST OFFICE.

In no respect have the last 60 years brought about a greater change than in that of the postal service. In 1832 Mr. Freeman wrote, "The post goes every day to and from London, Saturdays excepted. It comes in about a quarter after 9 o'clock in the evening, proceeds immediately on to Sevenoaks, and returns through Bromley to London about a quarter before 5 o'clock in the morning": there are now 10 despatches of letters and 8 of parcels and five deliveries of letters and seven of parcels a day. But having only last month fully described recent changes in the Bromley Post-office, we refrain from further reference to the subject beyond presenting a photograph of the building which had served as the head office for the last few years, until three months ago.

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS.

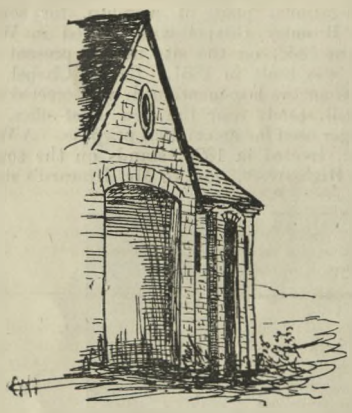
Since 1837, the only exterior alteration of the Parish Church has been the addition of a chancel, chancel aisle, and new vestries, but in 1829, the body of the church had been practically re-built, leaving only the tower and portions of the side walls intact. Interiorly, there has been much alteration, for some details of which we may refer our readers to the article on the career of the Vicar of Bromley, on another page. There were no other churches in the parish at the commencement of the reign. There were several chapels in existence, viz., one served by the London Itinerant Society, situate on the north side of Market-square. A Congregational place of worship, for some time called Bromley Chapel was erected in Widmore-road, in 1835, on the site of the present church, which was built in 1881. Bethel Chapel, an offshoot from the last-mentioned, was erected in 1837, and still stands near the new Post-office, though no longer used for its original purpose. A Wesleyan Chapel, erected in 1825, stands on the south side of the High-street, close to Mr. Howard's shop, and is now used as a warehouse, that denomination having spacious premises lower down in the same street. But, probably, the oldest nonconformist place of worship was that still existing—though used for another purpose—at Widmore-green; this also was used by the Wesleyans formerly. There are now, of course, several other denominations in the town, all possessing buildings of their own.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Vestry, in conjunction with the Board of Guardians, was responsible for the government of Bromley in 1837, and so matters continued until the Local Board supplanted them in 1867, to be superseded in its turn by the Urban District Council in 1894. The town was lighted by gas in 1837, by private enterprise, while the present gas company bought the concern in 1854. The main drainage works were commenced in 1880.

The Cage. Simpson's

Among the old buildings which have disappeared in the last 60 years, must be mentioned the "Cage," which formerly stood in Widmore-road, adjoining the old fire-engine house, nearly on the site of Dunstall's shop. In the accompanying sketch, the cage is the smaller building. It was used within the memory of existing inhabitants as a prison for petty offenders. Though an unpretentious building, it has left its name to the Cage Field, the site of East, West and North Streets, &c.



THE OLD CAGE.

Simpson's Place, or Simpson's Manor, was an estate of great antiquity, but the present generation have only known it as a ruin. The house was situate at the bottom of what is now Ravensbourne-road, and was wholly untenantable by reason of its dilapidated condition, as long ago as 1832. Between 20 and 30 years ago it was entirely demolished to make room for villas.

RUINS OF SIMPSON'S MOAT

There were formerly many other interesting old buildings scattered about the parish, the place of which knows them no longer, and among them many will remember the old cottages which stood at the top of Mason's-hill, on the right side, next to the "Tiger's Head."

Old Residents.

It is interesting to compare a list of the residents of Bromley 60 years ago with one of the present day and to note how many of the same families still remain. In 1832, at the Palace was the Bishop of Rochester; at Bickley, Mr. John Wells; at Sundridge, Sir Samuel Scott, Bart, M.P.; at Plaistow Lodge, Mr. Walter Boyd; Lord Farnborough at Bromley Hill; at Bromley Common Mr. George Warde Norman; Mrs. Erskine, Bromley Lodge; Freelands, Mr. C. Pott; Southborough Lodge, Mr. Abraham Welland; Mr. Godfrey Meynell, Shawfield Lodge; Mr. Abel Moysey, Rectory House; Mr. W. Roberts, Beechfield; Mrs. Edward Latter, Pixfield; Mr. Thomas Carey Palmer, Vale Cottage. Those who desire to ascertain the present occupants of the above-mentioned residences we must refer to "Strong's Bromley Directory," for the present year, the first edition of which book was published as long ago as 1864.

Education.

Bromley was formerly a favourite place for the education of the youth of either sex of the gentler classes, and so continued almost till the commencement of the present generation. With regard to elementary education, that was carried on at a charity school, founded in 1814, on the site of the L.C. & D. Railway-station, at Masons-hill. In 1855, or about that year, this school was given up and the first National School opened in College-road

Miscellaneous.

With regard to Charitable and Friendly Societies, the first known to Bromley appears to have been the Female Friendly Society, founded in 1821. The Bromley Philanthropic Society was founded in 1841. They were the fore-runners of the many similar societies that have since sprung up in the parish. The Literary Institute was founded in 1846. With regard to recreations, cricket was revived by the resuscitation of the Bromley Cricket Club in 1857, but athletics were for a long time about this time somewhat at a discount in the neighbourhood. In 1859 the present corps of Volunteers was established. There were formerly two fairs held in Bromley on the 14th February and 5th of August, but they have been given up for many years.

"The Bromley Record."

Last, but we modestly hope not least, in the chronicles of the town must be mentioned the establishment of the The Bromley Record, the first number of which appeared on June 1st, 1858. It was then a small eight page demy 8vo. magazine, but was increased to 16 pages with the third number. The Record, therefore, with this issue, enters upon the fortieth year of its existence, and it is the oldest newspaper in the district. For two-thirds of the Queen's illustrious reign, it has regularly supplied its readers with news, and though of late years, owing to the enormous increase in the size of the district, and therefore in the news, it has been content with furnishing its readers with a summary of the more important local events, yielding the honour of verbatim reports to its stable-companion, *The Chronicle*, it hopes, with the kind support of its numerous readers to live to see many another Jubilee.

We are indebted to Mr. J. Cabban for permission to publish several of the above old views.

Births.

Collier.—On the 25th April, at Lugane, late Kelsey, Beckenham, the wife of Richard Irish Collier, of a daughter.

Matthews.—On the 30th April, at Colyton, Bromley-park, Kent, the wife of Marmaduke Capper Matthews, of a son.

Snell.—On the 29th April, at Bromley, Kent, the wife of Stuart Snell, of a daughter.

Travers-Smith.—On the 15th May, at Elmhurst, Copers Cope-road, Beckenham, the wife of V. E. Travers-Smith, M.D., of a son.

Marriages.

Fisher—Powell.—On the 28th April, at St. Nicholas's Church, Chislehurst, by the Rev. Canon Murray, Rector, the Rev. Frank Sterry, Rector of Poltimore, Devon, the Rev. W. Tringham, of Longcross, Surrey, cousin of the bride, and the Rev. Lloyd Russell, Vicar of the Church of Annunciation, the Rev. Lawrence Fisher, M.A., fourth son of the Rev. Osmond Fisher, of Harlton, Cambridge, to Lilias J. C., youngest daughter of the late Frederick Powell, Esq., and Mrs. Powell, of Wardley, Chislehurst.

DE SATGE—GERARD SMITH.—May 11th, at Hayes Parish Church, Henry Valentine, son of Monsieur and Madame de Satgé, of Stratton Manor, Dorchester, and Hartfield, Malvern Weils, to Lorna, eldest daughter of Colonel Sir Gerard Smith, K.C.M.G., Governor of Western Australia.

KELMAN—FABER.—On the 29th April, at St. Paul's, Beckenham, by the Rev. Chas. Green, Vicar, assisted by the Rev. C. V. P. Day, Charles Kelman, of 20, Belsize-crescent, Hampstead, to Emma Langrish, eldest daughter of George Henry Faber, Esquire, of Kinloch, Beckenham, Kent.

Deaths.

JACKSON.—On the 8th day of May, at 24, Oakley-road, Bromley Common, Kent, Arthur, second son of Mr. Albert Jackson, aged 20 years.

NEELEY.—On the 6th May, at "Royston," Garden-road, Bromley, suddenly, Raymond, infant son of William and Clara Neeley, aged 1 year 9 months.

YOUNG.—On the 25th of April, at Bloemfontein, South Africa, Major Herbert Charles Young, of Beckenham, Kent, elder son of the late Rev. John Henry Young, rector of Kirkby Mallory, Leicestershire, aged 47.—R.I P.

FUNERALS.—J. HUMERSTON, Undertaker and Appraiser, 17, East Street, Bromley; Upholsterer and Cabinet Maker. rc132

MONUMENTS, HEADSTONES, CROSSES, in Stone, Marble, or Granite. Imperishable Lead Letters, &c.—W. HINCHLIFFE, Mason, London Road, Bromley, Kent.

MONUMENTAL.—Before purchasing a MONUMENT, T. CANDY would earnestly invite parties requiring the same to visit his extensive Works (Elmers End Road, Beckenham), where the largest Stock in the Trade may be seen. Ten minutes from Kent House Station.

CHISLEHURST, BICKLEY PARK, and surrounding districts. Gentlemen seeking Residences, &c., in this healthy, convenient, and favourite neighbourhood, are invited to apply to Mr. DAVID J. CHATTELL, for more than 20 years the resident local Agent, who has for disposal nearly all the available properties. A personal interview saves trouble to all parties, and greatly facilitates business. — No. 29A (corner of) Lincoln's Inn Fields; and Lower Camden Chislehurst (close to the Railway Station).

Tuition.

A FEW HOURS' DAILY TEACHING required by Governess. Senior Cambridge certificate. Good references.—H.M., 1, Elmfield Park, Bromley. rp/397

MORNING ENGAGEMENT desired by Certificated Governess. Good references. H.M., 1, Elmfield Park, Bromley. rp383

REV. T. T. NORGATE, Senior Curate, S. George's, Bickley, can undertake the tuiton of three or four pupils. Classics, Mathematics, Modern Language. 11, Broadway, Bromley. rp396

Work Wanted.

MISS ROBINSON, Dressmaker, 27, Palace Road. By the day or week: at home or ladies' houses. terms moderate. rp93

MRS. WALE, Upholstress, The Ferns, 66, Park End, Bromley.

MRS. BRITTON, Shirt Maker and Refitter, and all kinds of good Machine work, 20, Beckenham Lane, Shortlands. rp395

ONE OR TWO FAMILY'S WASHING WANTED. Good Reference. — Mrs. Monckton, 48, Johnson Terrace, Chatterton Road, Bromley Common. rp/400

TAKE CHARGE OF A HOUSE, or any position of Trust, Cook (good), undertakes small or large parties, Day or Week, or where assistance is required—Mrs. Rose, 36 Park-road Bromley.

DRILL HALL COMPANY.

The most commodious and convenient

ASSEMBLY ROOMS

in Bromley, for

Theatricals, Entertainments, Public Meetings, Concerts, Balls, Religious Services, Scholastic, and other purposes.

THE PRINCIPAL HALL

Is 80ft. by 40ft., is well lighted and ventilated. It possesses a gallery and two retiring rooms, cloak room, etc.

There is seating accommodation for 700 and sufficient space for 1,000 people.

There is a SMALL HALL 50ft. by 30ft. to seat about 200. The Hall is situate close to the Market Square, from the main road with good approach and entrance; there are two stages which can be fixed according to requirement.

The charge of hiring is very moderate and can be obtained on application to the Secretary, 10, Market Square, Bromley, Kent.

Notices.

MRS. SAWYER, Furrier. Ladies' seal-skin jackets and fur-lined cloaks altered to present fashion, also carriage rugs made, repaired and freed from moth. 11, Centenary Place, West Street, Bromley (next door to the New Post Office).

PIANOFORTE TUNING and Repairs of all kinds by Messrs. Harman and Sons, Pianoforte Warehouse, 75, High Street, Bromley. Established 27 years. Orders executed same day as received, if required.

PIANOFORTES TUNED by John Wallis, 17 years tuner to Collard & Collard. Bromley visited twice a week. 17, Denbigh Street, S.W.

PIANOFORTES TUNED and Repaired by H. Morley Phillips and Co., tuners to the "Bromley Musical Society," "Bromley School of Music," &c. Orders by post receive immediate attention. High Street, Bromley, Kent.

PIANOFORTES EXCHANGED. — A liberal price given for old Pianofortes in Exchange for High Class Instruments with the latest improvements. Full Cash Discounts allowed. H. Morley Phillips & Co., High Street, Bromley, Kent.

Wanted to Purchase.

HOUSE WANTED to Rent or Purchase, near Bromley, Kent. Small Detached Residence, good garden.—State full particulars and situation to "Ego," Deacon's Advertising Offices, Leadenhall Street, E.C. rp/399

WANTED.—*BROMLEY RECORD* for years 1858 and 1859, and other numbers. S., *Bromley Record* Office, 14, Market Square, Bromley, Kent.

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LEFT-OFF CLOTHES, Furniture, Jewellery. &c., the utmost value given by Mr. and Mrs. Hambleton, "The Old Curiosity Shop," 1 and 2, East Street, Bromley. Appointments kept. Established 1884.

PRICE ONE SHILLING.

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BY

A. D. WEBSTER, F.R.S.E.,

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Containing about 700 Wild Plants found in the "Garden of England."

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PIANOFORTE TUNING,	R. V. HARMAN,	75, High Street, Bromley
PLUMBER &c.	G. HAMMOND,	19, Freelands Road, Bromley
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SEED! SEED!! SEED!!!	G. HIND,	Grove Park

GRAND PASTORAL PERFORMANCE.

IN THE GROUNDS OF

SHORTLANDS HOUSE, SHORTLANDS,

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF

H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF TECK.

On July 3rd, at 3.30 p.m.,

A PASTORAL PERFORMANCE

Under the direction of Mr. PERCY H. VERNON.

WILL BE GIVEN IN AID OF THE FUNDS FOR

THE HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL, BROMLEY,

OF

"GRINGOIRE"

(A RAGGED RHYMSTER)

Done into English by LOUIS N. PARKER.

To be followed by SHAKESPEARE'S COMEDY

"TWELFTH NIGHT."

If there are a sufficient number of Entries,

A CYCLE DISPLAY

Will take place after the Performance.

PRICES OF ADMISSION: Numbered and Reserved Seats 4/-. Unreserved 3/-. Back Seats 2/-. Promenade 1/-.

Tickets may be obtained from Mrs. L. P. Ford, Shortlands House, Shortlands, Kent; Mr. Percy H. Vernon, Eversleigh, Thornton Heath. Surrey; Messrs. E. Strong & Sons, Advertising Agents, 14 Market Square, Bromley, Kent.

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Late H. G. COOPER,

FAMILY BUTCHERS,

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Families waited upon for orders in Bromley, Bickley, Shortlands, Plaistow, Hayes, Keston, &c.

Scotch & Welsh Mutton, Ox Tongues, Dairy Fed Pork, &c.

NOTE.—Nothing but First Quality Meat Sold at this Establishment.

Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper's Auction Sales

(CONTINUED).

By Order of Trustees.

KENT, SHORTLANDS—Small Freehold Investments. The conveniently arranged Houses, being Nos. 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, and 10, Shortlands Villas, Station Road, producing together £162 per annum. The Houses each contain 5 bedrooms, 2 sitting rooms, kitchen, scullery and conveniences. Forecourts and good gardens. In six lots.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, June 16th, 1897, at Two o'clock precisely, the above described convenient Freehold Houses, viz. :—

LOT				
1.—No. 1,	Shortlands Villas,	let on a yearly tenancy at		£25.
2.—No. 2,	„ „	let on a quarterly „	at	£30
3.—No. 7,	„ „	let on a yearly „	at	£25.
4.—No 8,	„ „	let on a quarterly „	at	£28.
5.—No. 9,	„ „	let on a „ „	at	£28.
6.—No. 10,	„ „	let on a „ „	at	£26.

The respective tenants pay rates and taxes.

May be viewed and particulars with conditions of Sale obtained at the Mart, E.C.; of Messrs. Routh, Stacey and Castle, Solicitors, 14, Southampton Street, W.C.; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Land Agents and Surveyors, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

By Order of the Trustees of the late Mr. Satchell.

KENT, BROMLEY.—For occupation or investment. Four Valuable Freehold Residences, situate in the Holwood-road, together with two Valuable Plots of Freehold Building Land.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will sell by Auction at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, June 16th, 1897, at Two o'clock precisely, the above valuable Freehold Properties, viz. : Lot 1.—The Detached Residence "Quernmore," let for a term expiring at Michaelmas next, at £100 per annum. Lot 2.—The adjoining Residence to Lot 1, held for a similar term, and at a like rent. Possession of these Two Houses can be had on completion. Lot 3.—A valuable Plot of Freehold Building Land, having a frontage to Holwood Road, of 50 feet and an average depth of 141 feet. Lot 4.—A Freehold Building Site similar to the preceding Lot. Lot 5.—The Residence, "Rosslyn," let for 3 years from Michaelmas, 1894, at the moderate rental of £65 per annum. Lot 6.—The adjoining House, being "Raysden," let for 5 years from September, 1896, at the inadequate rental of £55 per annum.

May be viewed and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of Thomas H. Batten, Esq., Solicitor, 3, Adelaide Place, London Bridge, E.C.; at the Mart, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

By Order of the Mortgagees.

KENT, ELTHAM.—On the West Chislehurst Park Estate.—Long Leasehold Investments.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, June 16th, 1897, at Two o'clock precisely, Two attractive Family Residences, viz. :—Lot 1 being "Rochelle," No. 39, West Chislehurst Park, containing ample family accommodation, with a large Garden, let on agreement to a capital tenant at £73 10s. per annum. Lot 2.—A somewhat similar Detached Family Residence, known as No. 33, West Chislehurst Park, occupied by a good tenant, on a yearly tenancy at a rental of £70. The property is held on lease for a term having 80 odd years unexpired, at a Ground Rent of £12 12s. each house.

May be viewed by permission, and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of R. L. Devonshire, Esq., Solicitor, No. 1, Frederick's Place, E.C.; at the Mart, E.C; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Auctioneers and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

For remainder of Auction Sales see following pages.

Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper's Auction Sales

(CONTINUED).

KENT, St. MARY CRAY.—Well secured Freehold Investment, producing £80 10s. per ann.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, June 16th, 1897, at 2 o'clock precisely, the valuable Freehold Residence, being "Richboro Lodge," Derry Downs, together with conservatory, out-buildings, and a large garden, in all about ¾ of an acre, let for a term having two years unexpired at Michaelmas next, at the very moderate rental of £80 10s. The accommodation of the House includes 7 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms and ample offices and conveniences. Gas and water laid on, and drains connected with main sewer.

May be viewed by permission of the tenant, and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Leach and Wheeler, Solicitors, 10, Sergeants Inn, E.C., and 21, Lower Phillimore Place, W.; at the Mart, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street. E.C.

KENT, BROMLEY—On the summit of a hill, in a perfect country position. A charmingly designed Freehold Residence, in excellent repair, standing in delightful pleasure grounds of about 1¼ acres. Possession on completion.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, June 16th, 1897, at 2 o'clock precisely, the Freehold Property, known as "Woodside," South Hill Road, South Hill Park, within 15 minutes' walk of the Railway Station, and in the midst of a picturesque and high-class neighbourhood. The House contains a porch entrance, fine hall, three excellent reception rooms, conservatory, fine staircase and gallery, six capital bedrooms, dressing-room, bath-room, lavatories, &c., and most complete domestic offices, good cellarage, necessary outbuildings, and greenhouse. The pleasure grounds are thoroughly matured, and embrace lawns, shrubbery, flower garden, banks, and borders, and an excellent kitchen garden.

May be viewed, and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Eagleton and Sons, solicitors, Lincolns Inn Chambers, 40, Chancery Lane, W.C.; at the Mart, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, HAYES COMMON.—The most beautiful Residential District within about 40 minutes of London; near to the Railway Station, and a short drive from Bromley. The picturesque Property, known as "Hawthorndene," embracing a prettily designed Family Residence, with lodge entrance, stabling, glass-houses, perfect pleasure grounds, farmery, and paddock, in all fully four acres. Possession on completion.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, June 16th, 1897, at 2 o'clock precisely, the above-named exceptionally well-placed House, standing in the centre of park-like grounds. The accommodation includes porch, entrance hall, drawing and dining rooms, library, conservatory, two staircases, seven capital bedrooms, large bathroom, boxroom, &c. Ample domestic offices, and a servants' hall. Good cellarage. Stabling for two horses, double coach-house, &c., and coachman's rooms. The grounds abound with fine timber and magnificent shrubs, and include lawns, shrubbery, terraces, borders, winding walks and a small ornamental pond, also a paddock, and a large kitchen garden (partly walled), and planted with choice fruit trees. There are two greenhouses and all necessary out-buildings. The property is held on lease for a long term, at a very moderate ground rent.

May be viewed and particulars, with conditions of sale, obtained of Messrs. Eastwood, Wigan and Champernowne, Solicitors, 31, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.; at the Mart, E.C., and Baxter Payne and Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

For remainder of Auction Sales see following page.

BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER,

LAND & HOUSE AGENTS,

AUCTIONEERS, SURVEYORS & VALUERS,

UNDERTAKE VALUATIONS of FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD ESTATES, and all kinds of PROPERTY for SALE either by AUCTION or PRIVATE CONTRACT.

A MONTHLY LIST is published of LOCAL RESIDENCES,

also one of Country Houses and Estates to be Let or Sold (Furnished or Unfurnished) in the Home Counties and elsewhere, together with a separate List of Farms, Free on Application.

AUCTION SALES OF LOCAL PROPERTIES

will be held at the "BELL HOTEL," BROMLEY, on

Thursday, June	10th	Thursday, September	23rd	Thursday, November	11th
Thursday, July	11th	Thursday, October	7th	Thursday, December	2nd
Thursday, August	19th				

Properties will be offered at a small agreed charge to cover out-of-pocket expenses The usual commission in cases of sale.

AUCTION SALES will be held at the MART, TOKENHOUSE YARD, E.C., on the following days during the year 1897, also on special days when required:

Wednesday, June	16th	Wednesday. August	4th	Wednesday, October	6th
Wednesday, June	23rd	Wednesday, August	18th	Wednesday, November	10th
Wednesday, July	7th	Wednesday, Sept.	15th	Wednesday, December	1st
Wednesday, July	21st	Wednesday, Sept	22nd		

KENT, BROMLEY COMMON—Important Sale of Freehold Building Land. Free Conveyances. Payments extending over nine years.—120 Plots of Valuable Land on the Tredwell Estate, having frontages of 17ft. 6in. each, to the Jaffray, Bourne, and Elliott Roads, with depths of about 100ft. Good main Drainage. Immediate Possession.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, June 10th, 1897, at 7 for 8 o'clock precisely, Valuable Freehold Building Land, as above described, within a short distance of the Town, and an easy walk of the Bromley and Bickley Railway Stations. The Land is perfectly ripe for development, and offers every advantage for the erection of cottages, the demand for which, in the district, is greatly in excess of the supply.

May be viewed and particulars with plan and conditions of sale obtained of Messrs Milward & Co., Solicitors, 41, Waterloo Street, Birmingham, and Mowbray House, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C., at the place of Sale, and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

For remainder of Auction Sales see preceding pages.

OFFICES:—BROMLEY AND BECKENHAM, KENT,
AND AT
69, KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Agents to the Sun Fire and Life Offices; Burglary Insurance; Railway Passengers' Plate Glass Assurance, &c.

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THE

BROMLEY RECORD

AND

MONTHLY ADVERTISER.

No. 468. JULY, 1897. Price One Penny.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER'S
Special
LOCAL REGISTER
(Published on the 1st of each Month)
contains reliable particulars of almost every available property to be Let or Sold situate in the undermentioned favourite districts of

WEST KENT:

Bromley	Cudham	Knockholt
Beckenham	Downe	Orpington
Bickley	Farnborough	St. Mary Cray
Chislehurst	Grove Park	Shortlands and
Chelsfield	Hayes & Keston	West Wickham

Gratis on application. Particulars inserted free.

BROMLEY.—Valuable Building Land in undeniably good positions. Advances to builders. Moderate ground rent.

BROMLEY. — A delightfully well-built Detached Modern Residence in charming grounds, near to station, gravel soil. Price freehold £2,300.

BEXLEY.—In the beautiful neighbourhood of the Crays, a fine old Baronial Mansion and park-like lands of 16 acres. Rent £400.

BICKLEY.—Ten minutes' walk of two stations. A beautiful Residential Property, embracing a substantial and well-arranged Residence in grounds of 5¾ acres. Rent £300.

BROMLEY.—Conveniently arranged Detached Residence. Good accommodation and nice garden. Rent £90. Price freehold £1,800.

SHORTLANDS —Well-built double-fronted Detached Residence. Good garden. Rent: unfurnished £100 per annum; furnished 5 guineas per week.

DARENTH.—Desirable Family Residence, overlooking Darenth Valley. Stabling. Grounds of 7½ acres. Rent £110.

FARNBOROUGH.—Detached Country Residence on two floors. Stabling, orchard, and grounds of about one acre. Four bedrooms, dressing room, three sitting rooms and offices. Rent £45.

BROMLEY.—Charming Double-fronted Residence, six bedrooms, dressing room and bath room. Rent £75 or would be sold with adjoining House for £2,400 freehold.

BROMLEY. — Capital double-fronted Detached Cottage Residence, with stable, chaise-house and good fruit garden. Rent £35.

BICKLEY.—Semi-Detached Cottage Residence with stable, conservatory and large garden. Five bedrooms, bath room, two sitting rooms. Rent £60.

BICKLEY.—Charming Freehold Residential Property standing in grounds of about 5 acres, with stabling, farmery, glass houses, &c. Eleven bedrooms, dressing and bath rooms, four reception rooms. Price £7,000.

Further details and fuller particulars, together with orders for viewing the above can be had of Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper,

10, MARKET SQUARE, BROMLEY,

and Beckenham, Kent, & 69 King William Street, E.C.

BROMLEY SCHOOL OF MUSIC, 5, Aberdeen Buildings, High Street, Bromley (branch of the Beckenham School of Music and Art, Established 1883.) President: The Duke of Fife, K.T. Vice-Presidents: Sir Arthur Sullivan, Mus. Doc.; Prof. C. Villiers Stanford, Mus. Doc., D.C.L.; Prof. Joseph Joachim, Mus. Doc. Examining Visitors: Miss Fanny Davies, Sir Walter Parratt, Mus. Doc., Walter Macfarren, Esq., Otto Goldschmidt, Esq., Josef Ludwig, Esq. William Shakespeare, Esq. Director of Studies: Arthur O'Leary. Fifty eminent Professors, selected from the Royal Academy of Music, Royal College of Music, Guildhall School of Music, &c. Thirteen Scholarships and Prizes offered annually. Fees from £1 11s. 6d. per term of 12 lessons.

Particulars by letter to the Secretary, or personally on WEDNESDAYS from 2.0 to 4.

BECKENHAM SCHOOL OF ART. 10 and 11, The Parade, Beckenham. Director of Studies and Visiting Examiner: John Brett, Esq., (Associate of the Royal Academy). Art Master: Mr. Oscar Tolhurst. Particulars by letter to the Secretary, or personally at Beckenham, on Wednesdays from 9.30 to 12.30.

"SPENLOVE" SCHOOL OF ART,
"THE YELLOW DOOR" Studios,
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Principal and Director:
Mr. FRANK SPENLOVE-SPENLOVE, R.B.A.,
(by Royal Charter) Royal Academy, Paris, &c.

THIS SCHOOL is one of the most important in England, and is instituted for highest class MODERN training in all branches of Drawing and Painting, Figure (from life), Landscape, &c. Also "BLACK and WHITE" for Illustration. SPECIAL JUNIOR Classes. Prospectus upon application.

DR. A. MADELEY RICHARDSON, M.A., Mus. Doc., Oxon., F.R.C.O., Organist and Director of the Choir of S. Saviour's Collegiate Church, Southwark.—Address: 32, Hammelton Road, Bromley.

MADAME AMY BERESFORD, Professional Vocalist, gives lessons in Singing; particular attention given to correct production of voice, and clear enunciation. Terms for Concerts, 'At homes,' and lessons, apply to "Simla," The Avenue, Bickley.

MR. F. FERTEL (Organist and Choirmaster Bromley Parish Church) gives lessons on Pianoforte, Organ, Singing & Harmony. Holmcroft, Holwood Rd., Bromley.

MISS OLIVIA B. HARVEY (Advanced Senior Honours, Certificatec, London College of Music) gives Lessons in Pianoforte, and Harmony. Engagements accepted for Concerts, At Homes, &c. Highest references from parents of pupils. Address, 42, Freelands Road, Bromley, Kent. rp342

DRAWING AND PAINTING in Oil and Water Colours, and Sketching from Nature. Miss Davis gives Lessons in the above. For particulars, apply at No. 1, Elmfield Park, Bromley.

BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.—Y GARN, Ravensbourne Road, Bromley. Principals: The Misses Hurst, assisted by certificated governesses. Pupils successfully prepared for Exams. Preparatory Class for little Boys.

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OF UNRIVALLED REPUTATION.

4/- PER BOTTLE.

THIS WHISKY IS FROM A VERY OLD ESTABLISHED FIRM IN SCOTLAND, WHICH HAS ENJOYED FOR MANY YEARS A HIGH REPUTATION FOR THIS PARTICULAR BLEND. GUARANTEED PURE HIGHLAND MALT, AND TEN YEARS OLD.

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G. PAMPHILON & SON,
WINE MERCHANTS,
BROMLEY, KENT.

Established 1775.

FACSIMILE OF LABEL.

48/- PER DOZEN.

MELLOW, SOFT AND WITH FINE FLAVOR.

G. PAMPHILON & SON,

WHOLESALE & FAMILY WINE MERCHANTS.

ILLUSTRATED REVISED CASH PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

Champagnes.

	per doz.
Louis Pamphilon, Epernay 1889 Vintg.	60/-
Ditto ditto extra quality	78/-
Pol Roger ....1889 vintage	
Bollinger..... .....1892 "	
Mumm, G. H. & Co.....	
Louis Roederer.....1892 "	
E. Irroy & Co., Carte D'or 1892 "	
Pommery & Greno .....1892 "	
Heidsiecks Dry Monopole 1889 "	
Perrier Jouet, P D.C.	

Market Prices.

Specialites for Invalids.

Champagne in Quarter Bottles.

Louis Pamphilon, Cuvee Reservee..	18/-
Perrier Jouet	24/-

Other Sparkling Wines

Asti Spumante (Italian)	36/-
Saumur	36/-
Sparkling Burgundy, 1st Quality ...	60/-
Ditto Hock	54/
Ditto Moselle	54/

Half Bottles, 6/- per 24 extra
Single Bottles same rates.

Still Hocks.

	per doz. bot.	per doz. half-bot.
Laubenheimer 18/-		11/-
Niersteln 24/-		14/-
Erbacher.....30/-		17/-
Hochheim 36/-		20/-
Liebfraumilch 42/-		23/-
Red Hock 36/-		

Australian Wines.

	pr doz.	pr bot.
Sauvignon 16/-		1/4
Branxton Cabernet 21/-		1/9
Tintara.....26/-		2/2
Riesling (White).....24/-		2/-
Highercombe (White) 30/		2/6

In Quart Flagons.

Red & White Burgundy 30/-	2/6
Tintara and Ophir.....42/-	3/6

6d. each allowed for Flagons when returned.

Italian Wines

	pr doz.	pr bot.
Vino da Pasto 12/-		1/-
Valtellina 18/-		1/6
Chianti 24/-		
Capri (White) ... .24/-		2/-
Vino Vermouth 36/-		3/-
Sparkling Asti 36/-		3/-

Chianti.

In Tuscan Flasks.
18/- & 36/- per doz. 1/6 & 3/- each.

California Wines.

Burgundy 18/-	1/6
Hock 30/-	2/6

Aerated Waters. *per doz.*

Schweppe's Soda, Seltzer & Potass	3/-
Ditto Lemonade and Ginger Ale.....	3/6
Soda, Seltzer & Potass	2/-
Lemonade & Ginger Ale	2/6
Syphons — Soda, Potass, Seltzer, Lemonade	4/-
Johannis's Appollinaris, Ginger Beer in Stone Bottles.	

Burgundies.

	pr doz.	pr bot.
Macon .....1893 vintage	20/-	1/8
Beaujolais .....1892 "	24/-	2/0
Beaune.....1891 "	30/-	2/6
Pommard .....1889 "	36/-	3/0
Volnay..... .....1884 "	42/-	3/6
Pommard, Superior, 1887 "	42/-	3/6
Chambertin.....1881 "	72/	6/-
Chablis ..... .24/- to 36/-		

Half Bottles.

Macon 12/-	1/-
Beaujolais 13/6	1/2
Beaune 16/6	1/5
Pommard 19/6	1/8
Volnay.....23/-	2/-

Ports.

Good Young 24/-		2/-
Fine old Tawny 36/-		3/-
Ditto well-matured 48/-		4/-
Superior old fine quality 54/-		4/6
Ditto Crofts No 1.....60/-		5/0
Ditto, ditto Grand Wine 66/-		5/6
Ditto very choice 72/-		6/-
Ditto rare old wines .....84/- to 150/-		

Tarragona.

	pr doz.
Superior Wines..... 12/-	18/- & 24/-

Liqueurs.

	pr bot.	pr ½bot.
Curacoa 5/-		2/3
Maraschino 5/-		2/9
Chartreuse yellow..... 8/-		4/6
Ditto Green..... 10/6		5/9
Benedictine 7/-		3/6
Kirsch Wasser 3/6		
Kummell Riga		4/-
Noyeau, Pink		2/6
Angostura Bitters		2/3
Heering Copenhagen Cherry Brandy		4/6 2/3

Cordials.

	pr bot.
Pamphilon's Cherry Brandy	3/-
Orange Bitters.....	3/-
Peach Bitters.....	3/6
Ginger Brandy 3/-	3/6
Rum Shrub 2/6	3/-
Peppermint 2/-	2/6
Cloves.....2/-	2/6
Noyeau	3/-
Milk Punch	3/6
Lovage 2/6	

Bottled Ales, Stout, Etc.

	pr doz. Imp pts.
Pamphilon's Special Dinner Ale 2/6	
Ditto Nourishing Stout 2/6	
Light Dinner Stout 3/-	
Bass Pale Ale (½ pints 2/6) 4/-	
Bass No. 1 Burton in ½-pints.....	3/6
Pamphilon's Pale Ale 3/-	
Pilsener Lager Beer (½ pints 2/6).....	4/6
Guinness' extra Stout (½ pints 2/6).....4/-	

Clarets.

	pr doz.	pr bot.
Claret	12/-	1/-
Vin Ordinaire	15/	1/3
Vin de Medoc .....1893 vintage	18/-	1/6
St. Julien .....1893 "	24/-	2/-
Pauillac .....1891 "	30/-	2/6
Margaux.....1890 "	36/-	3/-
Chateau Margaux 1889 "	54/-	4/6
Chateau Palmer ...1890 "	54/-	4/6
Ch. Lafite .....1893 "	60/-	5/-
Sauternes, Graves .....21/- to 36/-		

Stock in Half-Bottles.

Claret.....	9/-	9d.
Medoc	10,6	11d.
St. Julien	13/6	1/2
Pauillac.....	16/6	1/5
Margaux	19/6	1/8

Sherries.

Natural Sherry.....16/-		1/4
Sherry 18/-		1/6
Light Sound Wine 24/-		2/-
Old fashioned Brown 30/-		2/6
Pamphilon's Dinner Sherry.....30/-		2/6
Nutty Character 36/-		3/-
Golden, Generous 42/-		3/6
Very Fine Brown 42/-		3/6
Pale old Dry 48/-		4/-
Ditto very Choice... .....54/-		4/6
Choice old Rare Wines. ..... 60/- to 100/-		

Marsala.

	per doz.
Ingham & Woodhouse 18/-	21/- & 24/-

Madeira.

Various ....36/- to 60/-	

Scotch Whiskies.

	pr gal	pr doz	pr bot
Good 15/-		30/-	2/6
Fine old 18/-		36/-	3/-
Superior 5 years old..... 21/-		42/-	3/6
Glenlivet Bd, 7 years old...22/-		44/-	3/8
Very fine Highland Malt ...22/-		44/-	3/8
Pamphilon's VOS. guaranteed 10 years old 24/-		48/-	4/-

Irish Whiskies.

Good 15/-		30/-	2/6
Fine old.....18/-		36/-	3/
Superior old.....21/-		42/-	3/6
Do., J. Jameson's, old Bonded 24/-		48/-	4/-

Rum.

Jamaica.....15/-		30/-	2/6
Old Jamaica.....18/-		36/-	3/-
V. O. Jamaica.....		3/6 and	4/-

Brandies.

Pale.....18/-		36/-	3/-
Fine old Pale ..... *	...24/-	48/-	4/-
Fine old Cognac..... **	...27/-	54/-	4/6
Finest old Cognac ... ***	...30/-	60/-	5/-
Choice old Cognac ...****	...34/6	69/-	5/9
Curious Old Cognac.....		100/-	8/6

Gins.

Cordial & Unsweetened 12/-		24/-	2/-
Fine old Tom.....15/-		30/-	2/6
Ditto Finest. 16/-		32/-	2/8

Sloe, Orange, and Hop Gin.

CASK ALES.

OUR SPECIALITÉ F.P.A. BREWED FROM PURE MALT & HOPS

Per Kild., 18/-; Per Firkin, 9/6; Per Pin, 4/9.

ALL THE LEADING BRANDS OF **HAVANA CIGARS** CLUBS AND THE TRADE SUPPLIED.

QUERNMORE HOUSE SCHOOL,

PLAISTOW LODGE, BROMLEY, KENT.

Established, 1880.

Boys from 5 to 16 years of age prepared for the Public School Entrance and Scholarships, the Navy, &c., and for Business.

Large Staff of Graduates. Every facility for *Sports*, under the supervision of Masters.

Large Iron Play-room.

Special classes for very young or backward boys conducted by Ladies, aided by Masters for French and Latin.

Dancing, Drill, and Gymnastic Classes in School Gymnasium.

Vocal Music and Sight Singing under Mr. F. Lewis Thomas.

For Prospectus and further information apply to Mr.

G. LOLY, B.A., Head Master.

GEORGE PYRKE,

147 & 148, HIGH STREET, BROMLEY, KENT.

FURNITURE REMOVED OR WAREHOUSED.

ESTIMATES FREE ON APPLICATION.

Staff of experienced workmen for carefully removing Furniture, Pianos, Pictures, Glass, &c., to or from any part of the world. Rout Seats, Plate, Glass, China, Mirrors, Linen, Dancing Cloths, Marquees, and every requisite for every class of Entertainments. Supplied on Hire.

Pianos (New and Second-hand), Bought, Sold, Lent on Hire, and Tuned by Contract or otherwise.
Furniture Repaired, Polished, and Re-stuffed by efficient workmen on the premises.

SECOND-HAND FURNITURE BOUGHT TO ANY AMOUNT

JAMES YOUNG,

LATE

J. K. HUNTER,

PRACTICAL COACH BUILDER

LONDON ROAD, BROMLEY.

Carriages built on the most approved principles.

Do you want a Servant?
Do you want a Situation?
Do you want to Buy anything?
Do you want to Sell anything?
Do you want to take Apartments?
Do you want to let Apartments?
Have you Lost anything?
Have you Found anything?

If so ADVERTISE in

The Bromley Chronicle,
The Beckenham Chronicle,
The Chislehurst Chronicle.

SPECIAL PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS

Of the above class are inserted in the above-named

THREE PAPERS AT THE PRICE OF ONE PAPER.

A splendid chance is thus offered to Advertisers of securing a wide publicity.

SCALE OF CHARGES:

Twenty Words .... **6d.**
Twenty Words *(for Three Weeks)*.... **1/-**

And so on at the rate of **3d.** for every additional **8** words.

No such favourable offer has ever before been made to the General Advertising Public, as will be easily seen when it is stated that the population among which the Three Papers circulate is about

60,000

VIZ :—

Population of	Bromley, about	25,000
„	Beckenham, about	25,000
„	Chislehurst and Mottingham, about	7,000
„	Surrounding Villages, about ...	4,000

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY AFTERNOON

PRICE ONE PENNY.

May be ordered of the Publishers at the "CHRONICLE" Offices, 14, Market Square, Bromley, and Railway Bridge, Beckenham, Kent; at Messrs. W. H. Smith & Sons, Railway Bookstalls; and all Newsagents.

TELEPHONE No. 9517.

ESTABLISHED 1803.

COOPER BROS..

Corn Merchants

AND

DEALERS IN HAY, STRAW, AND CLOVER

19, MARKET SQUARE, BROMLEY.

Noted Stores for Genuine Scotch Oatmeal

Which the above Firm import direct.

Deliveries in Beckenham Daily. Price Lists on Application.

MEALS AND BIRD SEEDS OF ALL KINDS.

THE NATIONAL

TELEPHONE COMPANY,

LIMITED.

District Office:

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Telephone Nos.:—Croydon, 102; Bromley, 40.

THE COMPANY draw attention to the increased facilities and low annual subscription for exchange connections to private or business addresses. Full particulars can be had at the

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W. E. L. GAINE, General Manager.

AXMINSTER CARPETS.

BATCHELAR & SON,

LIMITED,

UPHOLSTERERS,

6, WIDMORE ROAD, BROMLEY.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

BATCHELAR & SON beg to draw attention to their prices for

AXMINSTER CARPETS

WITH BORDERS,

12ft. × 9ft. 9in.	...	...	...	£4 18 6
13ft. 6in. × 12ft.	...	...	...	£6 8 6
15ft. × 12ft. ...	...	...	...	£7 1 6
18ft. × 14ft. 3in.	...	...	...	£9 14 6

The above Quotations are for our SPECIAL AXMINSTER CARPETS, **3/11 per yard**, Bordered made and laid complete.

LARGER OR SMALLER CARPETS IN PROPORTION.

BATCHELAR & SON

LIMITED,

6, Widmore Road, Bromley.

APPOINTED BY SPECIAL ROYAL WARRANT

SOAP MAKERS TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

SUNLIGHT & LIFEBUOY SOAP COMPETITIONS.

£66,156 in PRIZES OF CASH BICYCLES* WATCHES† BOOKS GIVEN FREE during 1897.

RULES.

1. Competitors may enter EACH or EVERY MONTH for EITHER or BOTH "Sunlight" or "Lifebuoy" Competitions, but must SEND IN the "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY" Coupons in SEPARATE PACKETS carefully marked on the outside of the postal wrapper "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY."

2. For this Competition the United Kingdom will be divided into 7 Districts, and the prizes will be awarded every month during 1897 in each of the 7 districts as stated below.

3. Competitors to save as many "SUNLIGHT SOAP" or "LIFEBUOY SOAP" Wrappers as they can collect. Cut off the top portion of each wrapper—that portion containing the heading "SUNLIGHT SOAP" or "LIFEBUOY SOAP" Enclose with these (called "Coupons") a sheet of paper stating Competitor's full name and address, and the number of coupons sent in, and forward same (see Rule 1.) postage paid to Lever Brothers, Limited, Port Sunlight, near Birkenhead, marked on the Postal Wrapper (top left-hand corner) with the NUMBER of the DISTRICT Competitor lives in, and the word "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY," whichever coupons the packet contains.

4. The competition will CLOSE the LAST DAY of EACH MONTH. Coupons received too late for one month's competition will be put into the next.
All parcels on which Postage has not been fully paid WILL BE REFUSED.

5. Competitors who obtain wrappers from unsold soap in dealers' stock will be disqualified. Employees of Lever Brothers, Limited, and their families are debarred from competing.

6. A printed list of winners in competitor's district will be forwarded to competitors in about 3 weeks after each monthly competition closes.

7. Lever Bros., Ltd., will endeavour to award the prizes fairly to the best of their ability and judgment, but it is understood that ALL WHO COMPETE AGREE TO ACCEPT THE AWARD of Lever Bros., Ltd., as final.

LEVER BROS., Ltd., Port Sunlight, nr. Birkenhead.

No. of district.	NAME OF DISTRICT.
1	IRELAND.
2	SCOTLAND.
3	LONDON, MIDDLESEX, KENT, SURREY.
4	WALES, LANCASHIRE, CHESHIRE.
5	NORTHUMBERLAND, DURHAM, WESTMORLAND, CUMBERLAND, YORKSHIRE, ISLE OF MAN.
6	SHROPSHIRE, HEREFORDSHIRE, MONMOUTHSHIRE, STAFFORDSHIRE, WORCESTERSHIRE, WARWICKSHIRE, DERBYSHIRE, LEICESTERSHIRE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, OXFORDSHIRE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, BERKSHIRE, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, RUTLANDSHIRE, LINCOLNSHIRE, HUNTINGDONSHIRE,
7	NORFOLK, SUFFOLK, ESSEX, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, BEDFORDSHIRE, HERTFORDSHIRE, SUSSEX, HAMPSHIRE, ISLE OF WIGHT, CHANNEL ISLANDS, WILTSHIRE, DORSETSHIRE, SOMERSETSHIRE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, DEVONSHIRE, CORNWALL.

PRIZES FOR SUNLIGHT COUPONS.	Total Prizes in all Districts during 1897.		
The 1 Competitor in each District who sends in the **largest number** of **Sunlight** coupons from the District in which he or she resides, will receive **£21 cash**	£1,764	0	0
The 10 Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number** will **each** receive, carriage paid, at **winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Helical **Premier** Bicycle,* with Fleuss pneumatic tyres, **price £21**	17,640	0	0
The 40 Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number** will **each** receive, **at winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Rolled Gold Watch,† **price £4 4s.**	14,112	0	0
The remaining **Sunlight** Competitors will **each** receive **Cloth-bound Books**, by Popular Authors, in the proportion of **1 Book** for **every 50 Sunlight** Coupons sent in	10,000	0	0
Total Prizes for Sunlight Coupons during 1897	£43 516	0	0

PRIZES FOR LIFEBUOY COUPONS.			
The 1 Competitor in each District who sends in the **largest number** of **Lifebuoy** Coupons from the District in which he or she resides, will receive **£21 cash**	1,764	0	0
The 5 Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number** will **each** receive, carriage paid, at **winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Helical **Premier** Bicycle,* with Fleuss pneumatic tyres, **price £21**	8 820	0	0
The 20 Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number** will **each** receive, at **winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Rolled Gold Watch,† **price £4 4s.**	7,056	0	0
The remaining **Lifebuoy** Competitors will **each** receive **Cloth-bound Books**, by Popular Authors, in the proportion of **1 Book** for **every 50 Lifebuoy** Coupons sent in	5,000	0	0
Total Prizes for Lifebuoy Coupons during 1897	22,6.0	0	0
GRAND TOTAL of all Prizes given for Sunlight and Lifebuoy Coupons, 1897	£66.150	0	0

* These Bicycles are the celebrated Helical (Spiral) Tube **"Premier"** Cycles, 1897 Pattern, manufactured by the New "Premier" Cycle Co., Ltd., of Coventry and 19 & 20, Holborn Viaduct, London, fitted with the Fleuss Tubeless Pneumatic Tyres, Lamplugh Saddles and accessories.

† These are 14-carat Half-Hunter Rolled Gold Watches, Jewelled, 4-plate.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The *Bromley Record* will be forwarded monthly, post paid, on payment of the annual subscription of Eighteenpence.

TO SUBSCRIBERS. — POSTAGE. — The *Bromley Record* (except when it contains a special supplement) can now be sent to any part of the world for one half-penny postage.

COPIES FOR BINDING.—Subscribers desirous of binding the *Record* can obtain uncut and unstitched copies.

BACK NUMBERS.—Back Numbers of a few issues can still be had on application at the office of the *Bromley Record* 14, Market Square.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISEMENTS. Page 30s
Half do. 16s. Quarter do. 8s.
Column: 1s. 6d. three lines, and 6d. per line after.
First Page: 2s. 6d. for three lines, 9d. per line after.
Servants wanting situations: under 20 words 1s.
Births, Marriages, and Deaths, 1s. each.

MOON'S CHANGES.—JULY

First Quarter, 7th, 1.32 a.m. | Last Quarter, 21st, 3.8 p.m.
Full Moon, 14th, 4.52 a.m. | New Moon, 29th, 3.58 p.m.

The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

JULY, 1897.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st—Bromley Bible Flower Mission, at Parish-room, West-street, Bromley.
2nd—Meetings of the West Kent Main Sewerage Board and the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board at 96, High-street.
2nd—Sale of furniture by Messrs. Baxter, Payne, & Lepper at Ivy Lodge, Bromley, 2 p.m.
3rd—Mr. Percy H. Vernon's grand pastoral performances of "Gringoire" and "Twelfth Night" in the grounds of Shortlands House, in aid of the Phillips Memorial Homœopathic Hospital, Bromley.
3rd—Beckenham Cricket Club Athletic Sports, Foxgrove-road.
4th—*Third Sunday after Trinity.*
5th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, 10.30 a.m.
5th—Bromley Temperance Council's sixth annual excursion to Hastings and St. Leonard's.
5th—Meeting of Bromley School Board, at Wharton-road School.
6th—Opening by Lady Sophie Scott of grand bazaar in the grounds of Bromley Palace, in aid of the St. Mark's Church Building Fund.
7th—Second day of bazaar in Bromley Palace grounds.
7th—Temperance Societies' fete at Mead-road, Chislehurst, in celebration of the Diamond Jubilee.
7th—Bromley Congregational Sunday School's annual excursion to Ramsgate.
7th—Sale by the Messrs. Baxter, Payne, & Lepper at the Mart, City, E.C., of valuable properties situate at Green-street-green, Beckenham, and Shortlands.
8th—Sale at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, by Messrs. Baxter, Payne, & Lepper, of freehold land and houses at Bromley and St. Mary Cray.
9th—Monthly sitting of the Bromley County Court, at the Courthouse.
10th—Bromley Oddfellows' annual excursion to Ramsgate and Margate.
11th—*Fourth Sunday after Trinity.*
12th—Meeting of St. Luke's Burial Board, at St. Luke's Institute, Raglan-road, Bromley Common.
12th—Bromley Foresters' excursion to Dover and Folkestone.
12th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Courthouse, Bromley, 10.30 a.m.
13th—Bromley Urban District Council meeting, at Offices, East-street, 7.30 p.m.
14th—Chislehurst Cottagers' Associations' annual show of flowers and fruit.
14th—Audit of the Bromley Rural District Council accounts, at 96, High-street, 9.45 a.m.
15th—Bromley Bible Flower Mission, Parish-room, West-street, Bromley.
17th—Annual flower show and sports at Bromley Common, in connection with the Bromley Common and District Cottagers' Association.
18th—*Fifth Sunday after Trinity.*
19th—Audit of the West Kent Main Sewerage Board accounts, at 96, High-street, 9.45 a.m.
19th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, 10.30 a.m.
19th—Meeting of Bromley School Board, at Wharton-road School.
21st—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne, & Lepper, of valuable properties at Knockholt, Swanley, and Orpington, at the Mart, City, E.C.
25th—*Sixth Sunday after Trinity.*
26th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.
27th—Bromley Urban District Council meeting, at Offices, East-street, at 7.30 p.m.
28th—Bromley Cycling Club's half-mile and three-mile races.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

Jubilee holidays did not interfere with the regular assembling of the Council, the two fortnightly meetings being held on 1st and 15th of June.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE QUEEN.

The town's feeling of loyalty was voiced at the first meeting when the Council decided to present a congratulatory address to Her Majesty on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of her accession to the throne. The decision was unanimous, and the cost of the document was limited to five guineas. The address was sealed at the second meeting.

THE HALF-HOLIDAY QUESTION.

The question of allowing the Council's employees a half-holiday every Saturday once again engaged attention. One member proposed that the workmen be given the half-day, as a Jubilee commemorative scheme, but this mode of celebration did not find much support. After considerable discussion, a resolution in favour of the concession was defeated by one vote, and an amendment deferring the matter was also lost by one. As a way out of the difficulty, it was then agreed to refer the question to a Committee of the whole Council to consider.

WORKMEN'S TRAINS.

Another matter affecting the working classes generally was introduced by a letter asking the Council to support a memorial in favour of workmen's trains being run between Bromley and London on both railways. There was some division of opinion on the subject, and it was only by a majority of one that the Chairman of the Council was authorised to sign the petition on behalf of the Council.

THE LOCAL DRAIN-TRAP.

Again the Council were urged to take some steps to remove the dangerous turn at the bottom of Glassmill-lane, where several serious accidents have

occurred to cyclists unacquainted with the locality. Mr. Charles E. Ingall, of "Lenfric," Queen's Mead-road, Bromley, wrote pointing out that another bicyclist had come to grief at that spot a day or two before, and he asked the Council to re-consider their decision declining to undertake the work necessary to improve the roadway at the bottom of the hill.—After a short discussion the Council agreed to refer the matter again to the Highways Committee for consideration. Since that date, it may be mentioned, several other mishaps have occurred at the same place.

SEWER AND HOSPITAL BOARDS.

The Council were invited by the Beckenham Urban District Council to support a proposal to the effect that the minutes of meetings of both the Joint Hospital Board and the West Kent Main Sewerage Board be printed and circulated among the constituent authorities, with a view to representatives being kept more acquainted with the matters under consideration. The proposition, however, did not find many supporters, and no action was taken. Both the above-mentioned Boards have since agreed to have the minutes printed as suggested.

JUBILEE ITEMS.

The only other business of interest before the first meeting had reference to the Jubilee. One member—Mr. Dickins—proposed the erection of a band-stand on Martins-hill in commemoration of the event, but this was defeated by a large majority. With regard to the Jubilee bonfire the Council decided, on a division, not to allow such a fire to be held on the Martins-hill Ground; but at their next meeting this objection was practically withdrawn, and the question of selecting a suitable site on the Recreation Ground was left to a committee. The bonfire took place, after all, on the highest part of Martins-hill, and no serious damage resulted.—The Council also agreed to spend a sum not exceeding £100 in decorating their public buildings for the festive week.

OFFICE ACCOMMODATION.

The subject of providing better accommodation at the Council Offices was referred to a committee of the whole Council to report upon.

THE "WHITE HART" FIELD.

Concerning Mr. Coles Child's Jubilee gift of the greater part of the "White Hart" Field, the Chairman pointed out, in reply to a letter from Mr. H. Nye, that the offer had been definitely accepted, and it would not, so far as he knew, involve the giving up of any public footpath.—At the next meeting Mr. Nye wrote again, urging the Council not to accept the offer under the conditions imposed, but the Council declined to re-open the matter, the Chairman pointing out that even when the 120 feet were taken off the field, the Council would possess a piece 2½ acres in extent.

A MINIATURE DELUGE.

The bulk of the correspondence dealt with at the second meeting, held on June 15th, consisted of complaints from householders in various parts of the district of their premises being flooded on the occasion of a heavy storm the previous week. One of the most serious complaints related to Homesdale-road, and it was stated that a system of surface water drainage was required in that road, the estimated cost being over £200. The matter was referred to the Highways Committee to report upon at a future meeting.

A RIGHT-OF-WAY QUESTION.

With regard to a letter from Mr. T. Heaysman, complaining of the Surveyor's action in removing a barrier erected by Mr. Heaysman near Ann's Cottages, Bromley, the Council agreed to appoint a deputation to meet Mr. Heaysman on the spot, with a view to settling the matters in dispute between him and the Council.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

Since our last issue, only one meeting of the School Board has taken place, that being held on the last day of May.

HALF-TIME CERTIFICATES.

The principal topic of discussion at this meeting was with regard to the granting of half-time certificates to school children. Many of the applications made at the meeting concerned scholars under twelve years of age, and the Board refused to allow children of such an age exemption from full attendance. It was pointed out that the age limit was fixed at 11 years, but the Chairman explained that the Board had to determine whether a child was to be "beneficially and necessarily" employed, before they allowed any scholar to become a half-timer. It was also suggested that the standard required to be passed before children were eligible to obtain the certificate might be raised. Statistics of the recent labour examination were presented, showing that the total number of passes was 312, while 129 had failed. Eventually the matter was referred to the School Management Committee.

FOR FUTURE USE.

The Board decided to accept an offer by Messrs. Baxter, Payne, & Lepper to sell 17 plots of land at the rear of the Raglan-road School at a price of £900, subject to the Education Department's approval, the Chairman remarking that that part of their district was rapidly outgrowing the school accommodation, and the concentration of children in one big establishment would be wise and economical.

The trustees of the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Bromley Common, wrote declining to let their building for temporary school purposes.

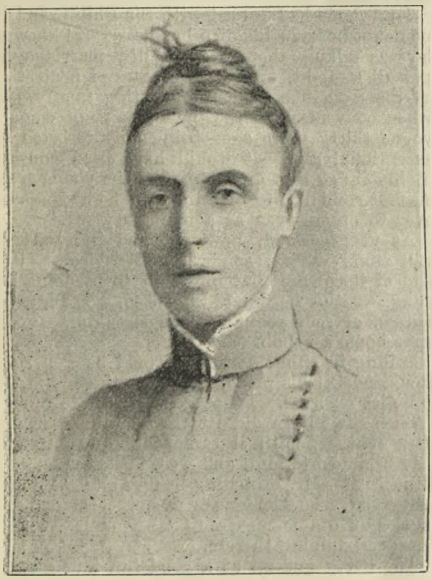
RECORD PORTRAITS.

No. XXI.—MISS M. L. HEPPEL, B.A.

The selection of the portrait of a lady to adorn the pages of the RECORD is specially appropriate this month when we are still almost within the octave of the day chosen for the celebration of our beloved Queen's long reign; it also emphasises what has been one of the most marked features of the past sixty years—the increasing part taken by women in public, professional, and even commercial life. In the period mentioned nothing has exceeded in importance the immense strides that have been taken in the direction of the education of women, and the subject of our sketch, Miss Mary L. Heppel, head-mistress of the Bromley High School for Girls, eloquently illustrates the advancement that has been achieved by women intellectually and—as its direct result—in public life.

Miss Heppel is the eldest daughter of the late Mr John Mortimer Heppel, a distinguished civil engineer. In consequence of her father's work being situate mainly abroad, her childhood was spent on the continent. In this way she attained considerable proficiency in modern languages, and in 1876, after her father's death, she applied for and obtained the post of assistant-mistress in the Notting-hill High School, which had been opened a short time before by the Girls' Public Day School Company. Shortly afterwards the London University threw open their examinations and degrees to women, and Miss Heppel began to study with a view to taking a degree. Her labours were crowned

by success, and she graduated in Honours in 1882. being placed first in Class I. in German, and first in Class II. in French. In January, 1883, the Girls' Public Day School Company opened a High School at Bromley, chiefly owing to the efforts, it may be noted in passing, of Mr. T. Davis and the late Mr. John Hall, and Miss Heppel was appointed head-mistress. The school started with 23 pupils, and two assistant-mistresses, the latter of whom are still on the staff—Miss Shute and Miss Cox. The numbers at once began to rapidly increase, and have now for several years exceeded two hundred—an unquestionable testimony to the need which existed for such an educational centre, and to the fitness for their posts of Miss Heppel and her staff of teachers.



Miss M. L. Heppel, B.A.

In 1888 the subject of our sketch commenced taking a part in the conduct of public affairs. In that year a School Board was established in Bromley, and Miss Heppel, who was induced to stand as a candidate, was returned third on the poll. Since then she has always been a member, retaining her seat at all the triennial elections, and she still enjoys the distinction of being the only lady member, as well as sharing with Mr. C. W. Gedney the honour of being the only representatives of the original Board left. Much of the work is, of course, transacted by the various committees, the public meetings being generally of a formal character, and Miss Heppel has invariably taken her fair share of the responsible duties entrusted to School Boards, her valuable experience being of much use in the management of the schools, and in the maintenance of a thoroughly efficient standard of education.

Miss Heppel's principal work is, of course, in connection with her position at the Bromley High School for Girls, and a few particulars of this establishment may, therefore, suitably be given a place in this sketch. The School, as most of our readers are probably aware, is situate in Elmfield-road, and is one of the many schools founded in London and the principal towns in England by the Girls' Public Day School Company, Limited. The Bromley School has now been in existence for fourteen years, and during that time has undergone several important alterations and additions, rendered necessary by reason of the increase in the number of the pupils. Ten years ago the hall and additional class-rooms were erected, the new buildings being opened by the late Archbishop Benson. Girls are admitted as soon as they can read and write, and remain, in many cases, till they are nineteen or twenty years of age. There is a preparatory department for boys and girls, where reading, writing, simple arithmetic, modelling, brushwork, &c., are taught. Drawing is taught throughout the School—in the upper school by Mr. Randall, master of the School of Art—and the pupils are examined by the Royal Drawing Society. The instruction in music is in accordance with the Harrow School system, and girls have been prepared for and have passed the examinations of the Associated Board. Another item worthy of mention is the homely subject of needlework. This is sent for inspection to the London Institute of Needlework, and the President (Mrs. Grenfell) reports that the work received from Bromley is better than that from any other school.

The whole school is examined orally every year by an examiner appointed by the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board, while the upper school is also examined yearly by means of written papers set by the Oxford and Cambridge Board. Pupils in the Sixth Form are prepared for Matriculation and the Intermediate in Arts examinations of the London University, for the Higher Certificate examinations of the Oxford and Cambridge Board, and for entering Girton, Newnham, and the Royal Holloway College. A number of students have obtained entrance scholarships at Girton and at the Royal Holloway College, and have been awarded exhibitions for distinguished success in the London University examinations; and we may add that on one occasion a pupil, Miss Weiste, was the first woman in the London Intermediate examination; while at another, subsequently, Miss Mary Hill was placed first of the women in the London Matriculation. In the Cambridge Mathematical Tripos list just published, the name of a former pupil at this school also appears among the Senior Optimes.

We have just heard that Miss Sarah Richards, daughter of Captain Richards, of Masons-hill, and formerly a pupil in the school, has taken her M.A. degree in Classics at London University; also an open scholarship at Girton of £40 for three years, has been gained by Miss Alice Hentsch, a pupil in the school.

Physical as well as mental training receives due attention. The girls are trained in physical exercises by Miss Campbell, and are this term taking part in a display given at the Victorian Era Exhibition. There are Tennis and Fives Courts in the school play-ground, and hockey is played on a ground hired for the purpose. Rounders is also a favourite game throughout the school, while cycling claims a good many devotees among the pupils, special provision being made for the storage of their machines during studies.

There is a Charitable Society connected with the school, in connection with which a child is supported and an annual sale of work held, the proceeds being given to different charities, the Bromley Cottage Hospital benefitting to the extent of £74 from this source last year.

An Association of Old Pupils has just been formed and the first number of the School Magazine was published this term, while a social gathering, to which all past and present pupils have a standing invitation, takes place every month.

The foregoing particulars are sufficient to show the important and varied character of the duties which devolve upon Miss Heppel in connection with the education of the coming generation in this district, and the conscientious and zealous manner in which they are discharged have justly won for her the regard and esteem of both pupils and parents.

"IVA KILDARE,"

By Mrs. L. B. Walford,

Author of "Mr. Smith," "Cousins," "Frederick," "A Mere Child," "The Baby's Grandmother," etc., etc.

CHAPTER IV.

THE OLD HOUSE.

Just without the lodge gates of Tilbury Court there was assembled a small collection of odd, detached houses, which was not exactly a village, but was called so for want of a better name.

It had no main street; no whitewashed rows of cheerful shops and cottages; no inn, nor even a public-house; but the country road which ran through its midst was paved for a few hundred yards with rough cobbles, and the low walls of farmyards, with their accompanying outbuildings, abutted thereon.

There were also several neatly-thatched dwelling-houses of respectable pretensions, in front of which shrubs luxuriated, and created an air of retirement sufficient to induce the residence of people whose taste was for privacy.

There was a stumpy church, with a squat tower; a post-office; and a trading establishment, which would have been known in Scotland as that of a "general merchant."

The whole nestled contentedly among trees and orchards, and the meandering stream which flowed through the wooded park of Tilbury Court passed beneath a bridge a little to the left, near enough to supply water for the wants of the community.

Thus far the village of Little Cary resembled many others of its kind familiar to the inhabitants of rural England; but it had one distinctive feature, in the shape of a huge grey wall which reared itself upright from its very midst, and which never failed to excite the curiosity and interest of strangers.

"That's Old Cary Hall—Sir Philip Goffe's. Been in the family for two hundred years as it now stands." Drivers piloting parties of pleasure-seekers through the district in summer time, would turn round from their box-seats and point with their whips to the grey wall.

Then, in response to further interrogation: "No, sir; Sir Philip does not live in it. Nobody lives in it. The keys are at the farm; and the folk there open the windows, and keep fires in the rooms in wet weather. No, you can't get inside." A smack of the whip, and the speaker would settle himself on his seat again, not ill-pleased to nip in the bud such a suggestion on the part of "foreigners." "No one is allowed inside—not even in the garden. The orders are strict, and though Sir Philip never comes, the nephew stops at the farm when he's home from his regiment, and you never can tell when he's about or not."

The party would drive on, having seen no more of Old Cary Hall than that one grim, fortress-like wall, and the gates which, further on, disclosed an overgrown avenue, quickly lost in foliage; but had they penetrated within the barriers, they would have found a rare old structure—one of the finest specimens of Jacobean architecture in England, never having been added to or altered since its foundation in the seventeenth century.

A massive porch in front, probably once filled with benches, and the scene of many a jocund meeting, admitted visitors to the entrance hall, which, with its dark wainscoting, its raised dais at the upper end, and its huge carved oak screen at the other, was equally alive with memories of the past. Broad oak staircases, tapestried chambers, haunted turrets, all told the same tale of former grandeur—but alas! also of present neglect.

Modern equipment was needed, and modern comfort.

No matter. Sir Philip would have liked to live in it. And as he could not live in it, he would not go near it. It would have scorched his eyeballs to behold from day to day the silent quadrangle, the empty stables, the desolate gardens.

In his youth he had laughed over these; vowed the place would not run away while he was having his fling elsewhere; and confidently predicted that by the time he was ready to settle down he would contrive, somehow or other, to find means of living at the home of his forefathers. All that had to be thought of in the meantime was to keep it from going to the rats; and this, if it were aired and ventilated, could easily be done.

Everybody had agreed with Sir Philip, and made no doubt he knew his own business. He knew what he was talking about. A wealthy marriage would put all straight, even long arrears of neglect, and as the modern expedient of letting family places, when convenient to the purse, had not come into vogue thirty years ago—being only resorted to in exceptional cases—it would have been considered highly *infra dig.* on the part of the young man if, on first coming into his kingdom, he had handed it over to others even as a temporary residence.

As years passed, however, and Old Cary Hall still stood vacant, sombre, and neglected, it was said of its owner that he ought to be doing something. Either he should buckle to, woo and win his heiress, or rout about in money-making lands and come home a nabob.

Failing in either quest, it would be well that he should pocket his pride, and advertise his property to be let on lease. What good was it to him?

Then Sir Philip did let the shootings, one year after another, until it came to be forgotten that they belonged to him, and were looked upon as Mr. Minching's—Mr. Minching being a Stock Exchange gentleman, who with one or two others rented shootings, but did not care to be troubled with the houses pertaining thereto.

The party put up at a good inn four miles off, and were very welcome there—more so, perhaps, than Sir Philip Goffe would have been—seeing that Sir Philip would only have ordered a mutton chop and a glass of home-brewed ale, whereas the London gentlemen, if they did bring their own wines, paid royally for corkage, and liked a full dinner and a brimming breakfast.

Not being Somersetshire born, it was perhaps natural that the beefy-faced landlord and his smirking spouse should devoutly hope within their practical bosoms that the absentee would remain wherever he might be, rather than return to oust such jolly, jocular, lucrative substitutes.

Still Old Cary Hall fronted the world in valiant, mournful, uncomplaining solitude, as though it would have said: "I blame no one. I wait. Time is nothing to me."

Time, however, was a good deal to Sir Philip, who found the years flying past, robbing him on this side and that, yet bringing him no nearer to the mirage which was ever dangling yet ever dissolving in front; until at last the gay youth with all life before him, gave place by slow but sure degrees, to the peevish, misanthropic, embittered man, still drifting aimlessly about the world, with no foothold anywhere, no duties, no claims—or so he would have told you—and no prospects of a future that should wipe out the recollections of the past.

At sixty, Sir Philip's friends began to wonder how Sir Philip had contrived to make such a mess of his affairs.

One and another could recall him as trim, upright, and debonnair a youngster as his nephew was now

A favourite with the women, too. Never put himself about for them; never sat in their pockets, as Reggie did; yet nevertheless had them all running after him like the Pied Piper of Hamelin.

Reggie had his way, and Sir Philip his; and each alike succeeded. That is to say, poor Sir Philip had succeeded once; but—here the speaker would shake his head—Phil was a different sort of fellow now. That confounded white elephant of a place sucked his life-blood like a vampire. He ought to have got rid of Old Cary Hall long ago; it was all very fine to stick to it for old sake's sake—very fine and creditable and all that—but family pride might be carried too far.

After all, a man ought to be his own "number one"; Sir Philip's well-meaning sponsors would shrug their shoulders, stating the case from an abstract, impartial point of view; until it came to pass that at length even the staunchest forsook his cause, and came to regard his adherence to out-of-date *noblesse oblige* as a silly prejudice, musty and worthless as his own cobwebs.

All but one—Sir Philip's nephew Reginald.

CHAPTER V.

"IT IS LITTLE BETTER THAN A ROTTEN FUNGUS."

Hitherto only a single side of Reggie's character has been presented to our readers, but there was one person—possibly only one—who knew the other, and this formed a link between the pair of men which not infrequently gave the neighbourhood a theme for discussion or meditation.

"Strange that those two should get on together as they do," worthy old Dr. Stevens, the retired surgeon, and father of the place in point of age, would soliloquise, leaning over the ivied wall, and tapping it with his stick; "strange, strange! In the natural course of events the nephew will succeed the uncle, and might be supposed to take some interest in his heritage. He sees it going to the dogs; going?—it's gone already! Year by year the moss thickens on the doorsteps, and the weeds choke the gravel—yet Sir Philip cares not a brass farthing"—Sir Philip made no confidences—"and by the time this young man comes in for Old Cary Hall the place will be uninhabitable from sheer decay. It might be remedied *now;* in another twenty years or so it will be too late. Sir Philip, never coming near the place, trifling away his time, and shirking his responsibilities in foreign lands, may shut his eyes to the ruin going on here," continued the old man, sorrowfully regarding the thick, interlaced branches which overhung the stream—no longer a rippling, sunlit stream, as when it showed between the grassy banks of Lady Tilbury's park, but a deep, silent current; "one can understand it of *him;* but I should have expected a brisk young fellow like Reginald to look at things differently. He ought to make a fuss; insist upon something being done. As there seems no chance of the old possessors of the soil ever being in a position to take up residence here again, it is their duty to try and get rid of the place—dispose of it in open market, if need be. Any purchaser would be better than none at all. And it is quite on the cards that some of those rich Americans who are over-running us just now, would be ready to snap at a place like Old Cary Hall, full of tapestry and heirlooms, panelled chambers, and ghostly staircases. Sir Philip might start by asking a fancy price—letting it be known that he was willing to be *tempted;* then, if he failed to get that, have it put about that he was not a marrying man, and had no fancy for dull country life. The real facts of the case *might* leak out; it *might* be known that he was forced to part because it was impossible for him to keep; but his poverty is no secret as it is; there would be no further betrayal of it in disposing of the estate. O Sir Philip, you ought to sell, you ought indeed!" The white head, with its old-mannish wide-awake hat, shook admonishingly at the exile, and the silver-headed cane tapped the wall with rueful taps.

"I'm sorry for you my good sir, even though I never knew you," continued the old gentleman, gently luxuriating in his sorrow; "you and I have never come across each other, and I daresay you would say I was a newcomer in these parts, though I have been here for fifteen years; but I should like to see these great gates opening and shutting, the avenue in yonder cleared and swept, with carriage wheel marks upon it; I should like to see smoke rising from the vineries, clothes flying on the washing green, horses feeding in the paddocks. Best of all, Sir Philip, would it be to see that great gloomy house open to the sunshine, cheered by light and warmth, echoing to the sounds of children's voices—a happy English home, with the blessing of the Lord upon it."

Pleased with his own exordium, the old man raised his hands to suit the desired benediction, and the next moment started so violently as to let fall the stick which was poised above his head, and which hit him smartly on the shoulder as it fell. It seemed such an extraordinary thing to be accosted at the moment by young Mr. Goffe that the thin blood flushed in his cheeks from a confused sense of guilt and impropriety as he turned to respond to the young man's greeting.

Reggie shifted his gun to his left shoudler (he had been shooting at Tilbury Court), and held out his hand.

"Good old wall that to rest upon, doctor," observed he, cheerfully. "About all it *is* good for—eh? What were you cocking your stick at—rats—weasels?"

"No, Mr. Reginald; I—I was not looking for—for anything"—then the tremulous tones became a trifle more steady—"I was but standing a moment to see the sun go down behind the turret yonder. This is a favourite peep of mine. It is the only place from where you can get any view of the Hall, and it is only by clambering up the bank here that you get it. But I know just the bit of broken wall——"

"So do I." Reggie laughed and nodded. "I thought no one else did. So, it appears, thought you. It often amuses me to hear people, passing along the road below, wondering what the old place is like, and wishing they could catch a glimpse of it? *That* of course they can't do by the time they become inquisitive, which is only so soon as they see the wall yonder," pointing with his finger; "and I don't believe anyone has ever been let into the secret of this opening. We ought to have a photograph from this point," concluded he, laying down his gun, and looking in front of him.

("He is not sensitive. I'll feel his pulse," cogitated the ex-doctor.) "If I were you—or rather, if I were your uncle Sir Philip—I would have more photographs than one taken, Mr. Reginald," observed he significantly. "I would have the place photographed from top to toe—towers and turrets, stableyard and farmyard. I would cut some of the timber down——"

"Ah!" ejaculated Reggie.

"Only a tree or two. those that impede the view, sir; none to speak of—none to mention. Those trees in there would have been the better of a thinning long ago; but that could be left to—what I was going to say, Mr. Reginald, is this: Why do you not suggest to your uncle that—that—in short——"

"In short—what, Dr. Stevens?" A dry change of note, a watchful eye.

"He will never be able to live in it, sir." The old man's stick began to tap again nervously.

"He knows that perhaps as well as—possibly a good deal better than—you or I, doctor."

"It is very bad for a house to remain untenanted; it is, indeed, Mr. Reginald. Mould gathers on the walls; and however well it may be looked after by outside people, it is not the same as if it were in use. Mrs. Hodge does her part, I know; but you *can't* keep a house liveable without living in it; you simply can't do it, Mr. Reginald."

Authority once more stirred the worthy medico's ancient vitals; he delivered his fiat with unction.

"But you said just now that my uncle would never be able to live in it."

"*He* won't; someone else might."

"Someone else? Do you mean—me?"

"Oh, no, sir!" It was impossible not to smile at the suggestion. "You would be worse put to it than Sir Philip."

"So I should say—except that I have often thought I might have some owl-shooting and batting if I were to spend a night inside."

"Lor, Mr. Reginald! But you young men think everything a joke. So long as you get your shooting and your fishing, you don't care for anything else," querulously. "I daresay, now, you never give Old Cary Hall a thought once you are off and away with your fine regiment."

"Oh, yes, I do; I look forward to jolly times at the farm, always. I wouldn't go anywhere else for the world when I get my leave."

"Well, sir, it's not for me to say. Never having been brought up among the aristocracy, I can't be expected to know their ways among themselves; but I do feel this, Mr. Reginald, I feel it very strongly, that for the sake of others, if not for his own—for the sake of the mouths it would feed—a house like this"—pointing—"ought to keep a couple of dozen poor families going, with the work it would supply if properly inhabited, whereas it is now little better than a rotten fungus——"

"Eh?"

"I mean no disrespect to the place, sir; as fine a place, as noble a place, as can be found in any county of England. I'll be bound to say none of our dukes or marquises could boast a grander, more historic——"

"Tut-tut, doctor! That's going too far. Without being exactly a rotten fungus, there are places all over the shop that could give points to Old Cary Hall. But you were saying you don't like to see it standing empty?"

"That is so, sir." The speaker emitted a quavering cough behind his hand, and subjoined: "The entail was cut off in your grandfather's time, I believe, Mr. Reginald?"

"It was What has that to do with it?"

"It makes it possible for Sir Philip to——"

"To sell it?"

The old man bowed.

"Then let me tell you, Dr. Stevens, that rather than sell those grey walls, my uncle would sell the shirt off his back, the shoes off his feet. Rather than see another man walking in at that door with the air of a master, another man's beasts in those stables and paddocks, another man's wife and children kneeling in our old pew in the chapel, rubbing with their feet *our* brasses in the aisles, and leaning their elbows on *our* names carved upon the benches—rather than let one stick or stone pass from us while we can hold them (even though to hold them is all that we *can* do), we would meet together in a spot we know of, and we would have this in our pockets"—there was a small silver match-box in his hand; he had been feeling for it as he spoke—"d'ye see this, doctor?"

A smile, what the old man described to himself as a deadly smile, accompanied the words. His blood—it was poor and thin—ran cold; he looked stupidly at the thing; it seemed to him a perfect dynamo. And then his eyes crept up to Reggie's face again.

"That's about it," said the latter, cheerfully. The effect of his words mollified him. "Best let well alone, Dr. Stevens. You don't want a bonfire some fine night, do you? Though it is drawing on to Guy Fawkes Day, and Old Cary Hall would light all the country round."

The old man muttered a few words inaudibly.

"Oh, it's all right," continued young Goffe, carelessly dropping the match-box into his pocket again, where his companion almost expected to hear it explode in violent combustion. "We shan't do it, I daresay. It would be a nuisance, and get talked about. It was only in case"—he eyed his recent adviser with a momentary renewal of the deadly smile—"in case officious people provoked us. My uncle and I like to keep our affairs private. And to own the truth, Dr. Stevens, you are not the first who has hinted at a desire to have a finger in them."

"Indeed, Mr. Reginald, indeed——"

"With the best intentions in the world, I don't doubt. But, you see, we don't like it; and perhaps now that you understand that, in future you will abstain from the attempt. I beg your pardon, sir, if I have spoken roughly." The old man, humbled and crestfallen, was now gathering himself together for departure, and looking about for the stick which should have been his support. He looked so feeble, so harmless, that a sudden shame seized the other.

"I say, I have been shockingly rude!" cried he. "I—I——" And as he stammered and stuttered, a carriage drove past.

In it were Lady Tilbury and Iva.

CHAPTER VI.

LADY TILBURY THINKS SHE WILL HAVE TO TAKE CARE.

"What were you and old father Stevens talking about?" demanded the latter next day. "You both looked quite caught. Been consulting him about your precious health, Reggie?"

"Does he still practise, then?" said Reggie. "If I had known that, I would have gone down to him to-day with my broken finger-nail."

"Oh, your broken finger-nail! Is it a new finger-nail or the old one? Start something else, Reggie, please. The old one did duty long enough."

"No, but really—really it's very sore. It's a new one—quite new—and confoundedly sore. I believe the nail is coming off. Just look here; look what a queer colour it is! No nail ought to be that colour."

"And suppose it does come off?"

"Do look at it; you would not like to have a nail like that yourself? It's beastly painful. I think I shall ask Lady Tilbury for some plaister, or something. I'm sure it ought to be tied up——"

"With your head as well—in a bag!" jeered Iva. "Oh, yes; go to my mother by all means! You will get pity, and sympathy, and croton oil, and——"

"Croton oil!"

"Camphorated oil—some kind of oil. Why not croton? I know there is some stuff called that."

"Of course there is. One of our fellows had to be rubbed with it; and—Oh, Lady Tilbury," as she entered the room, "here's Iva being so unkind to me. I have got a very bad finger, and she won't believe it hurts, and says I am to have croton oil rubbed in. Do come and look at the finger."

"And send for a doctor, quick," added Iva, who was seated on the window-ledge, swinging her feet; "do send, dear mother. Reggie does bear

pain so well that he makes the very least of it, but I know he is suffering agonies! Shall I ring and tell them to send round to the stables to saddle the quickest horse—or had they not better take the dog-cart, so as to bring Dr. Thompson without losing time?"

"That's the way she laughs at me." Reggie looked plaintively round. "I never said it was 'agonies'—but Iva does exaggerate so. Now, doesn't it really want plaister or something, Lady Tilbury?"

"Poor boy—yes. Iva is a bad-hearted *spalpeen*. Why, how did you manage to do this, Reggie? You have broken off the nail!"

"So I told her, but she wouldn't believe me." He shot a triumphant glance. "I knew it was broken. A stone fell on it yesterday, off that old wall Dr. Stevens and I were standing by when you passed. He dropped his stick, and I was picking it up for him, and the end of my gun somehow managed to knock one of the top stones off the wall."

"I suppose it really did hurt you, then?" Iva slipped off her seat, and advanced a pace nearer.

"Suppose? It jolly well did!" Reproachful indignation on the part of the injured one. "I had to bite my tongue not to squeak out, it came with such a crack."

"Why didn't you squeak out? It must have been the first time in your life you held your tongue when the chance was given you."

"Iva, my dear, don't be silly!" It was Lady Tilbury, of Tilbury Court, who spoke. Lady Tilbury did not like sham fights, unless she were retained on one side or the other, and in the present instance the belligerents appeared equal to conducting their combat by themselves. "Reggie, I am sure this finger ought to be poulticed," continued the speaker in maternal accents. "If it throbs, that means inflammation, and——"

"No, ma'am, it doesn't throb," resignedly.

"Would you try a bread-and-milk poultice? It could be made at once."

"What about a rag with some liniment? If I were to try it *first?*" suggested he, he did not add that a rag well saturated with a good old-fashioned remedy from the ample stores of his farmer's wife was now reposing in his waistcoat pocket, somewhat to the detriment of the silver match-box.

He had pulled off the rag when approaching the house, preparatory to entering with *eclat;* but it had done its work; for though the blow had actually broken the nail, as he said, and caused some minutes of sharp pain and a night's uneasiness, the wounded digit was now so far well as to admit of playing its part in an interesting scene.

"Surely; you shall have it properly bound up," said Lady Tilbury, who had a turn for surgery, and loved to dabble in bandages; "I have a liniment. Iva, will you—no, I'll get it myself," moving off with a brisk step; "wait half a minute!" and she was gone.

"*How* nice!" said Iva. No two words could have expressed her feelings more concisely.

The sufferer rose and approached her.

"Just you feel how hot it is!" said he, catching her hand and laying it willy-nilly on the part affected. "You wouldn't be so beastly sarcastic if you had a red-hot finger."

"It is a *little* hot," owned she.

"Your cool hand draws out the heat; do leave it there a moment," said Reggie anxiously, and with his own disengaged member he held on hers. "How delightfully cool yours is!"

"Perhaps I am cool altogether on the subject."

"You are cool on any subject that affects me."

Iva nodded.

"You will be cool when I go away, I suppose?"

"Go away! You have only just come."

"I am going to India in the spring."

"The spring? That's all right. I was afraid you were going before the balls. We can't spare you till the winter balls are over."

"That's all I'm good for, is it? O Lady Tilbury, how awfully good of you!"—as the door opened—"I am so sorry to be a nuisance. And Iva has been saying nasty things to me the whole time you were away."

Lady Tilbury looked sharply from one to the other. "If I don't take care, those two will be falling in love," thought she.

(To be continued.)

A LETTER FROM CHINA.

We have been favoured with the following letter written by the correspondent whose interesting letters describing her voyage from England to China recently appeared in our columns, and we feel sure that the details she gives of life in the "Celestial Empire" will be read with interest.

FOO-CHOW.

These letters describing the sights to be seen when "En route to China" are very incomplete. I have missed much that there was to be seen owing to sea-sickness, and sometimes the ship would pass the most interesting places at night time, which was most aggravating of it—I should say of *her*. For instance, after I had arrived in Foo-chow I read that to reach Foo-chow ships sail up the river Min from the sea as far as the Pagoda Anchorage, and that the scenery on either side is magnificent, reminding Europeans of Switzerland, and Americans of the Highlands of the Hudson. Unfortunately, we passed all the magnificence in the dark, and in pelting rain, and I was far more interested in the problem of how to fasten my rug straps, than in any scenery. Above the Pagoda Anchorage the water is too shallow for large vessels, and all passengers and cargo have to be transferred to a small steam-boat or to native boats. Some one told me that Foo-chow was close to the sea, like Eastbourne or Folkestone, but that is quite a mistake. When we have reached the Anchorage, we have still ten miles to go up the river to Foo-chow. The city lies in a valley eight or ten miles broad, and this valley is surrounded by mountains on every side, range beyond range, and a climb to the top of one or another would be rewarded by the sight of yet more mountains beyond. About two millions of people live in the Foo-chow valley; fifty thousand within the city walls; fifty thousand more in the suburbs, and, in all probability, another million in the villages around. Every inch of land that is not occupied by a house is cultivated, and even the sides of the mountains are cut into terraces wherever possible, and planted with paddy. Any land which cannot be used to provide food for the living Chinese is devoted to burying the dead, and many of the hills near the city are nothing less than vast cemeteries, covered by thousands of gravestones usually made in horse-shoe shape. I can give no idea of the multitude of graves: they are innumerable. When one goes for a walk, unless one goes along the Ravine-road, the one broad English road, the choice is paddy fields or graves. I generally choose graves, and on holiday afternoons go for miles over the hills if I can get a companion, in preference to struggling along the narrow paths, about half-a-yard wide, which intersect the paddy fields in all directions. Since I have been here the paddy fields have looked like lakes of very nasty mud and green water, and the odours arising from them have been disagreeable in the extreme. I cannot imagine how the poor wretches, who stand knee-deep in the mud sowing the rice, manage to live at all. From the top of a hill the valley looks

like a chess-board divided into irregular squares, and dotted with black patches at intervals. It is hard to believe that in each black patch, quite a small group of houses, two or three hundred people probably live.

Foo-chow itself is a walled city. It has seven huge, massive gates, and outside each gate are suburbs. Of these the southern suburb is the most important, it extends southward about four miles, and south of this again is the hill on which the foreign residents principally live. Many missionaries have houses inside the city, but some live in the English quarter, and go into the city in their Sedan-chairs, across the long bridge, and right through the four miles of suburb—a tedious ride when the novelty of Chinese street-life has worn off.

About seven miles above Foo-chow the river Min separates into two branches, and unites again a little above the Anchorage. The hill on which the English live and part of the southern suburb lie between the two branches of the river, and the famous "Bridge of Ten Thousand Ages" spans the river at this part. This bridge is about a third of a mile in length, it is built of huge blocks of granite, and has about forty solid buttresses. In the river is a small island thickly populated and covered with shops; the big bridge connects the northern bank of the river with this island, and between the southern bank and the island is another bridge built in the same way as the "Bridge of Ten Thousand Ages," but only one fourth as long. Throngs of people are continually passing over these bridges, some in Sedan-chairs, but the greater part on foot. Along the sides all sorts of wares are laid out with the vendors squatting beside them. Peep-shows there are for the amusement of the idle, and food-stalls for the hungry. Little bowls are set in array on a rough table, and the food is cooked "while you wait," and the wonderful soups or fried cakes served steaming hot. So absorbingly engrossing are these concoctions that the consumers thereof sometimes cannot even look up from them to gaze at the "foreign child" passing on her chair! I used to pity Royal personages at home for being always observed and stared at when they took their walks abroad; but now pity has turned into a fellow-feeling for them, for not the Princess of Wales herself could attract more attention in the street than does this humble English girl whenever she leaves the house.

I am living on the outskirts of the southern suburb in a Chinese street not very far from the English quarter. The house was built by a wealthy Chinese merchant, but he had it made in English style, as he intended to use it to entertain his foreign friends. He connected it with his own large native house next door. When he died his widow became poor, and let the house to English missionary ladies to become a boarding school for heathen girls, and also let part of her native house to Chinese people. The name of this lady is Mrs. Ahok. I daresay that some who read this may know her interesting history, and may have seen her on her visit to England several years ago. The street in which the house stands is a typical Chinese street, and is just like most of the streets in the city. Very narrow, very dirty, paved with large granite flag-stones, and with the shops on either side so close that two Sedan-chairs can only just pass each other. Most of the shops are quite open to the street. There are no glass windows, no doors even, the front is simply left without a wall. Sometimes there is a sort of counter across on which wares are displayed, but fish and vegetables are often arranged quite outside in the street, thus taking up a great part of the already tiny passage-way allowed to passers-by. If the street goes up hill a flight of rude stone steps is made, and this alone would make wheeled vehicles impossible. There are no wheeled vehicles at all in Foo-chow, and I have heard that there are none in the whole of the Fuh-kien provinces, though there was a vague rumour of wheel-barrows somewhere in the north. The whole province is very mountainous, and there are no roads, only the roughest of rough paths, which could not possibly be used for carts or carriages. Anyone who does not walk must either go by boat or be carried in a chair by coolies, and coolies also carry luggage, furniture, merchandise, and everything that has to be transported. The coolies with loads form another difficulty in the way of a walk down our street. We constantly have to stand aside while a coolie passes with two huge loads, one slung at either end of a long carrying pole. The strength of the coolies is perfectly wonderful. I have met them carrying enormous beams of wood on their shoulders, and I am certain that if an Englishman gave his horse such a load the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals would prosecute him. I have heard it said of a man that he was "as strong as a horse." Chinese coolies are stronger than some horses.

THE JUBILEE AT CHISLEHURST.—At Chislehurst, as at Bromley and Beckenham, special reference to the Diamond Jubilee was made at all the churches and chapels on June 20th, St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church being especially loyal and enthusiastic. On Tuesday the village presented a very animated appearance, flags flying from all the shops, some of which were very effectively decorated. At four o'clock the children began to assemble for the procession, which, besides the children, consisted of the village band, the fire brigade, and the friendly societies. Starting from the Cock-pit they marched by a circuitous route to the Common in front of the Parish Church, where the National Anthem and the "Old Hundredth" were sung. After tea, for which the scholars had to betake themselves to their respective schools, sports were indulged in by the children, and at 9 o'clock a brilliant display of fireworks commenced. At 10 the climax was reached by the lighting of the bonfire on White Horse Hill, and in a few minutes there was a gigantic blaze, which must have been seen for miles round. The Executive Committee consisted of the following:—Mr. W. Campbell Russell (Chairman), Rev. Canon Murray, Messrs. J. F. Bowen, F. Charrington, C. Dabner, A. Gibson, F. R. Greenfield, E. H. Joynson, A. Line, W. Marriot, R. C. Lucas. W. E. Pearson, Miss Stanford, Messrs. J. Stockbridge, H. E. Tindall, and H. J. Willis.

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM. — On Sunday afternoon, June 6th, the neighbourhood of Bromley and Beckenham was visited by a severe thunderstorm, accompanied by rain of almost unprecedented heaviness. At Bromley, the business premises of Mr. Maunder, Mr. Medhurst, and Mr. Howard were all flooded, as were also shops on the Broadway. In Queen's Mead-road the chimney stalk of "Lenfric," the residence of Mr. Ingall, was struck by lightning, but fortunately the damage done was not of a serious nature. The National Schools at Sidcup, where Sunday School was being held, were also struck, and the upper part of the gable was destroyed and a large beam split. The children rushed to the doors in a panic, but through the presence of mind of the superintendent, Mr. Hale, order was restored, and they were all got out in safety. The rainfall in Widmore-road, Bromley, measured 1.65 inches. At Beckenham the flooding caused considerable damage and inconvenience.

THE RAINFALL.—The rainfall for May, as measured at Widmore-road, Bromley, amounted to 1.38 inches. Rain fell on 11 days, the largest amount registered in one day being .30 inch on the 30th. For the corresponding month last year the fall was only 0.29 inch, and in 1895 it was 0.75 inch.

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DIARY.

2nd—Social gathering at the Bromley Presbyterian Church to welcome the first pastor, Rev. C. Moinet, D.D.—A young married woman named Mary Ann Gage run over and killed on the branch railway line between Beckenham and Norwood Junction.

4th—Public meeting at Bromley Wesleyan Schoolroom, in connection with the West London Mission, the Rev. Mark Guy Pearse being one of the chief speakers.—Social gathering at Village Hall, Bromley Common, in connection with the Bromley Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

6th—Severe thunderstorm accompanied by exceptionally heavy rainfall, causing flooding of premises at both Bromley and Beckenham, the damage at the latter place being considerable.

7th—Whit-Monday.—Annual race meeting of the Bromley Cycling Club, at the Widmore-road cricket ground, a very successful gathering resulting.—Commencement of the Beckenham Lawn Tennis tournament.

8th—Presentation of a purse of fifty guineas to ex-Police-constable Carter, of the Bromley Police Sub-Division, who recently retired after twenty-five years' service.

11th—Annual excursion to Ramsgate and Margate of the children belonging to the Bromley Parish Church Schools.

13th—Special services at the Bromley Baptist Chapel, in celebration of the Rev. R. Silvey's second anniversary as pastor.

14th—A private meeting of the magistrates for the Bromley division was held, to consider the question of establishing an occasional court at Beckenham, when a decision against the proposal was arrived at.—Plaistow Cricket Club's week commenced.—Meeting held at the Village Hall, Chislehurst, in aid of the St. John's Mission, Kaffraria, when an address was given by the Bishop of Kaffraria.

16th—Annual excursion to Eastbourne of the Farwig Wesleyan Mission.

18th—Social gathering at St. Luke's Institute, in connection with the Bromley division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, when a presentation was made to Mr. Yolland, the honorary surgeon.

19th—Opening of the new polo ground of the Eden Park Polo Club, Beckenham.

20th—Queen's Accession Day.—Special thanksgiving services at all the local churches and chapels, in celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Queen's Accession.

22nd—Public festivities at Bromley and Chislehurst in celebration of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee. Bromley was elaborately decorated and illuminated, and at night a huge bonfire was lit on the Martins-hill Recreation Ground.

23rd—The children belonging to the Bromley public elementary schools were entertained at tea and provided with amusements on the Queen's Mead in commemoration of the Jubilee.—Public procession and entertainment for the children at Beckenham in celebration of the same event; and opening of the extension to the Alexandra Recreation Ground.

24th—Performance of "The Sorrows of Satan" at the Bromley Grand Hall, and on two following nights, by Mr. Gerald Mirrielees and a London company.

25th—Employees of the Bromley Urban District Council entertained at dinner at the Town Hall, by the Council, in honour of the Jubilee.

27th—Anniversary services in connection with the Bromley Baptist Sunday-schools.

29th—Members of Plaistow Working Men's Club entertained at supper by Mr. W. H. Bosanquet (the honorary secretary and treasurer) in commemoration of the Queen's Record Reign.—Bazaar at Cookham Dene, Chislehurst, for the benefit of the Chislehurst Mission at St. Katherine's, Rotherhithe, and on following day.

30th—Evening race meeting of the Bromley Cycling Club at the Widmore-road cricket ground.

THE JUBILEE AT BECKENHAM.—Compared with the rejoicings at Bromley, the celebration of the Jubilee at Beckenham was a very quiet affair. On Sunday the churches and chapels struck a loyal note by the singing of the National Anthem, and pulpit references were made to the great event. On Tuesday a torch-light procession was the great attraction of the day, and there was a fine bonfire at the top of Stone Park. Wednesday morning witnessed the opening of the extension to the Alexandra Recreation Ground, and people in the vicinity turned out in large numbers to welcome Mr. W. H. Lendon, J.P., Chairman of the Urban District Council, Mr. A. Gurney Smith, Chairman of the Recreation Grounds Committee, and other members of the Council, including Mr. A. H. Baker, Drs. Walker, Randell, and Corbin, Messrs. W. Lovelock, A. Moss, J. J. Wilks, F. P. Harbert, J. A. Rippengal, T. Whiffin, and R. Berrowman, with Mr. F. Stevens (Clerk) and Mr. J. A. Angell (Surveyor). The Rector of Beckenham, the Rev. Henry Arnett, and the Rev. W. J. Latham, of Holy Trinity, were also present. A number of boys and girls of the Alexandra Schools, under the direction of Mr. Goodman, were ranged on either side of the entrance carrying flags, and the Arthur-road band was also in attendance. On Wednesday afternoon the elder children attending the various elementary schools to the number of about 2,000, met at the Croydon-road Recreation Ground, where they spent a very pleasant afternoon, indulging in all kinds of amusements. About 1,000 infants were entertained at the schools, and the elder children also had to return thither for tea, there being, unfortunately, no arrangement for providing it on the ground. The old people were not forgotten, about 350 persons receiving six tickets of the value of 6d. each, which could be exchanged for goods at the shops of various local tradesmen.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE

CELEBRATION IN BROMLEY.

The great event of the year has come and gone, and Bromley has thrown itself heartily into the festivities, and is warmly to be congratulated on the manner in which its decorations and jubilations were carried out. Numbers of the inhabitants jubilee'd in London, and the trains up to the metropolis in the early morning were crowded. Many more, however, were—much to their subsequent regret—dissuaded from journeying to see the Royal procession, which, as it turned out, could be seen in comparative comfort by even pedestrians in the streets. Those who stayed at home and witnessed the celebration in their midst had at least the experience of seeing as crowded streets as those who visited London.

Entering the town from Bromley Common one had time to admire the bunting and brilliant colouring displayed on many of the private houses, Dr. Chatterton, in particular, making a patriotic show.

THE HEAD OF THE PROCESSION IN THE HIGH STREET.

At the entrance to South Hill House—the residence of Mr. W. Willis—at the foot of Masons-hill, a very elaborate electric light illumination had been erected, consisting of the letters "V.R.I." in white, and a crown and two stars in colours, which made a most brilliant display, the colours glittering like gems, and attracted a large concourse of people to admire it each evening. From the L.C. & D. Railway Station up to the Market-square the town presented a most gay and striking appearance, such as is generally associated with visits of Royalty, the whole roadway being over-arched with bunting suspended from red-covered poles stationed at short intervals, the decorations being carried out by Mr. G. Pyrke. The Market-square was not so fully decorated, but nearly all the shops displayed some flags or bunting. The illuminations along the route were very bright and pretty, and special mention should be made of those over Mr. Ayling's boot shop in the Broadway, Dr. Playfair's house in the High-street, the Conservative Club, the "White Hart," Mr. Pamphilon's, Mr. Howard's, The Creamery, Lauriston, and Mr. Ayling's in London-road, while Mr. Vass provided the best bit of illuminative work at the College end of the town.

Sunday, June 20th, being the actual anniversary of the Accession, special services were held at all the places of worship in the town. At the Bromley Parish Church the Bromley Detachment of the 2nd Vol. Batt. Queen's Own Royal Kent Regiment attended the service under the command of Major E. Latter, accompanied by several other officers. The service opened with the Bishop of Wakefield's hymn, and after the special order of morning service, with its appropriately chosen psalms and lessons, an eloquent and impressive sermon was preached by the Vicar, the Rev. A. G. Hellicar, from the text, "And David said to all the congregation, 'Now bless the Lord your God.'" At the conclusion of the service the National Anthem was sung, and in the evening the Vicar again delivered a very appropriate and interesting sermon. It may be mentioned that, by request, both the Vicar's sermons are to be printed.

On Tuesday, in spite of the vast number of people who left Bromley at an early hour for the metropolis, the town presented a most lively appearance. The procession with which the festivities commenced, assembled in Widmore-road at two o clock, but long before that time the line of route was crowded at all points. The procession, headed by the band of the Bromley Detachment 2nd Vol. Batt. Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment, followed by a good muster of Volunteers, comprised also the Bromley Fire Brigade, members of the Bromley Urban District Council and of the Jubilee Celebration Committee in carriages, the postmen and telegraph messengers headed by Mr. W. Beale (the Bromley Postmaster) on foot, juveniie members of friendly societies, the St. Luke's Boys' Brigade with drum and fife band, the brass band of the Bromley Foresters, members of the Bromley Cycling Club and other cyclists, the friendly societies with their handsome banners and regalia, including A.O.F. Court "Robin Hood," No. 2629; A.O.F.

Court "Pride of Masons-hill," No. 5545; Independent Order of Oddfellows, "Orphans' Friend" Lodge, No. 223; I.O.F. "Lord Homesdale" Lodge; United Order of Anglo-Saxons, Independent Order of Rechabites, United Builders' Labourers' Union, the Juvenile Branch of Oddfellows, St. Mary Cray District; the P.S.A. Brotherhood, Hearts of Oak (Bromley division), National Deposit Friendly Society, &c., &c., and decorated carriages of all kinds—prizes being offered for the best—many of the vehicles being very tastefully adorned. They proceeded by Widmore-road, Tweedy-road, Market-square, High-street, to the L.C. & D.R. Station, returning by Elmfield-road, High-street, and Glass-mill-lane to the Queen's Mead, where a "feu-de-joie" was fired by the Volunteers, the band playing a portion of the National Anthem between the three volleys, and after the last round the public joined in singing "God save the Queen." The prizes for the most artistically decorated bicycles and conveyances were then awarded as follows:—

Best decorated cycle and costume.—1st, Mr. Humphrey (who rode one of Mr. Newland's "Vivid" machines); 2nd, Mr. Trower, jun. A special prize was awarded to Mr. G. R. Menham.

Best decorated four-wheel van.—1st, Mr. C. Satterthwaite (Spring Hill Dairy); 2nd, Mr. S. Soan.

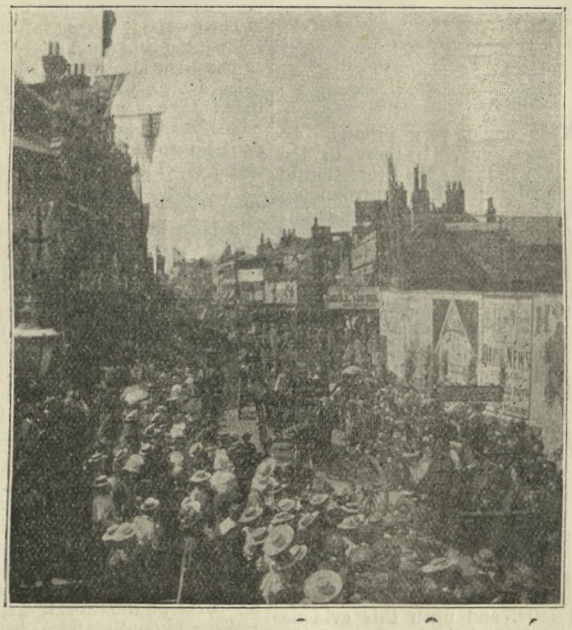
Best decorated two-wheel vehicle.—1st, Mr. A. L. Smith (milkman); 2nd, Mr. Browning (greengrocer); and 3rd, Mr. J. Hopton.

Best decorated private carriage.—1st, Mrs. Kirby; 2nd, Mr. Isard. Special prizes were also given to Mr. Hitchcock and Mr. Barrett.

Athletic sports were then the order of the day, and the events, in spite of the heat, were keenly contested and followed with the greatest interest by a large crowd from beginning to end. At the conclusion of the races the prizes, which were very handsome, were presented by Mrs. R. Gordon Mullen, to whom an enthusiastic vote of thanks was accorded.

In the evening a crowd, roughly estimated at about 20,000, assembled on Martins-hill to witness the lighting of the bonfire, which formed the climax of the day's festivities. The night proved an ideal one for the occasion, there being no wind, and the flames shot up to a great height, brightly illuminating the animated and striking scene. Many persons also proceeded to Keston, where there was a very large bonfire, and from that height about a dozen similar conflagrations might be observed on the horizon.

Wednesday was the day set apart for the entertainment of the children, who assembled about three o'clock at their different schools and made their way to the Recreation Ground. Here a plentiful provision had been made for their amusement, and the youngsters thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Over 4,000 children sat down to a plentiful tea, the teachers and their friends finding plenty to do in attending to the wants of this large family. After tea came Punch and Judy shows, conjuring and sports, and fire balloons were sent up during the evening. A Jubilee mug and book were presented to each child.



THE DECORATED VANS

It is gratifying to know that amid all the Jubilee holiday-keeping the inmates of the Bromley Union Workhouse were not forgotten. The Guardians, acting under the powers given them by the Local Government Board, had made ample provision for a capital repast—similar to that served at Christmastide—and the Jubilee dinner gave great delight to the 390 inmates. It consisted of roast beef, pork, and ham, with new potatoes, and rhubarb and gooseberry pies, and was done ample justice to by all. Outdoor amusements were provided, and the Orpington band discoursed excellent music during the afternoon. The Workhouse officials superintended the arrangements, and the day's festivities will long be remembered by all sheltered within this institution.

We are glad to be able to record that there was not one charge arising out of the holiday that required investigation by the Bromley police magistrates the following day, although we regret to say some mischievous person cut the fire-hose that was on Martins-hill ready to extinguish the bonfire if occasion required. A detachment of the Bromley St. John Ambulance Brigade was on duty during the afternoon, but fortunately their services were

not required. Another portion of the brigade were on duty in London, where they rendered useful assistance.

The employees of the Bromley Urban District Council were entertained at dinner by the members of the Council in honour of the Jubilee on Friday, June 25th.

The following gentlemen composed the Bromley Jubilee Celebration General Committee:—Messrs. T. Davis (Chairman), Adams, W. Beale, Colin J. Campbell, W. L. Crossley, M. L. P. Crozier, T. J. Davis, Martin J. Dickins, A. Elliott, W. Everest, E. A. Forrester, H. J. Gibbins, E. Harris, J. King, Captain B. Latter, Messrs. W. R. Layton, R. J. Leavey, J. H. Lepper, G. Loly, W. R. Mallett, R. Gordon Mullen, G. W. Perkis, Colonel E. Satterthwaite, and Mr. H. P. Steer, with Mr. F. H. Norman (honorary secretary).

We are indebted to Mr. G. Weeks, jun., for the loan of the negatives from which the above two photographs were prepared.

KENTISH CASTLES.

SANDGATE.

The castles of Kent might very properly be divided into two classes, viz., (1) those in the interior of the county or built for the protection of a place against the inhabitants of the surrounding districts, and (2) those commanding the sea-coast, and specially designed as a protection against foreign enemies or those approaching in ships. To the former class belong the majority of the earlier castles in the county, the reason being that in the earlier part of our history as a kingdom the chalk cliffs afforded a sufficiently strong barrier against unwelcome visitors from foreign shores.

By about the time of Henry VIII., however, the improvements in the machinery of warfare, and especially the use of fire-arms, became a source of such evident danger that that monarch determined to build a series of castles at various weak points around the shores of England as a necessary precaution against menaces of invasion.

The Kentish castles built at that period, and under those circumstances are those of Deal, Walmer, Sandown, and Sandgate. It is with the last-named that we are at present concerned.

A castle at Sandgate is mentioned in a writ of Richard II., dated 1398, and upon this evidence several historians have formed the hasty conclusion that the castle built at Sandgate in Kent by Henry VIII. was not the first fortress erected there. Upon examination, however, it is found that the Sandgate referred to was Sangatte, about nine miles from Calais on the French coast, and there is no evidence whatever of a mediæval castle at the Sandgate near Folkestone. It is known that from an early date the gate from the shore through the Kentish cliffs into the country was the object of daily and nightly watch and ward, but it is doubtful if there was any stronghold or watch-tower there.

Accounts are still existent of the building of Sandgate Castle by Henry VIII., and there is nothing therein to show that any old foundations were encountered. In plan, Sandgate Castle resembles those of Sandown and Walmer, but it has been entirely altered on the seaward face, and is now somewhat in the shape of an ace of clubs, the double bastions being actually in the street of the town, and the front one projecting below high water line. This part was converted into one of the Martello towers, erected by William Pitt, in 1806, during the French War, to protect all assailable points on the line of the S.E. coast where a landing might be effected.

By the Escheat Rolls of the 7th year of Edward VI., it appears that the king granted to Edward, Lord Clinton and Saye, "the castle and fort of Sandgate," to hold *in capite* by knight's service; but it soon afterwards reverted to the crown, in which state it has ever since remained.

Records state that Sandgate Castle formerly had eighteen pieces of ordnance. It may be presumed that the apartments were commodious, for, when Queen Elizabeth made her famous progress to the coast, in 1588, to inspect the defences adopted against the projected Spanish Armada, Her Majesty honoured this fortress with her presence, and was entertained and lodged there by the governor. The accommodation afforded, however, must have been decidedly limited and totally inadequate to the requirements of a large train of courtiers or attendants.

One of the apartments, known as the "Queen's Room," was preserved until the year 1785. It contained the identical bedstead upon which Queen Elizabeth slept, and was decorated with tattered remains of tapestry hangings.

The building, having fallen very largely to decay, and having been often altered, was in 1805 and 1806, as has been mentioned, adapted to the purpose of defence according to the practice of warfare at the time. It was made to mount ten pieces of ordnance, known as "twenty-four pounders." The martello tower constructed in the centre of the castle is of considerable height, with a platform on the roof which is bomb proof, and carries a "twenty-four pounder" on a traversing carriage. The diameter of the tower is thirty feet ten inches within the walls, the latter being of great thickness. It is capable of lodging forty men, and provides storage for a large magazine of ammunition. In the earlier years of the present century Sandgate Castle must have been a formidable object to an enemy's cruisers when they ventured towards the shore, but the improved methods and materials of warfare now in vogue would easily shatter its walls and raze them to the foundations.

DEATH OF MR. G. BUCHANAN, C.E.—We regret to record the death, which occurred on June 7th, of Mr. George Buchanan, C.E., at his residence, Towerfields, Keston. The deceased gentleman had been seriously ill from paralysis for twelve months. Mr. Buchanan was by profession a civil engineer. He had carried out works of great importance in all parts of the world. He constructed the first railway in South Africa, between Durban and Port Natal. He also erected iron bridges, wharves, &c., for the Indian Government, iron piers in British Burmah, and rice and sugar factories for the King of Siam. He made a special study of sugar machinery, which he brought to a high state of perfection. In 1878, at the Paris Exhibition, he was awarded the highest prize and only gold medal given to British exhibitors for his exhibits there. Mr. Buchanan spent considerable time and money in improving the neighbourhood of Keston. Amongst other things, he planted with trees a portion of the road between Keston and Bromley. He was held in high esteem by all who knew him, and by his death the poor people have lost a generous helper and a sympathetic and valuable friend. The deceased gentleman was interred in St. Luke's Cemetery, Bromley Common.

Mr. Philip Norman has been appointed Treasurer of the Society of Antiquaries in succession to Dr. Edwin Freshfield.

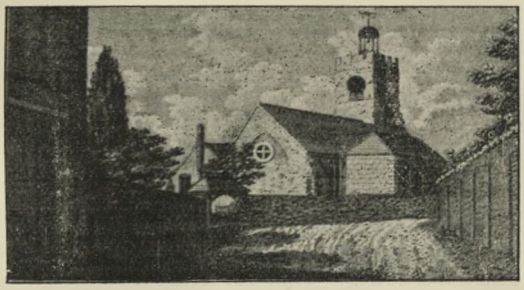
Mr. H. C. Fischer, C.M.G., of Bromley, the Controller of the Telegraph Service, had the honour of handing to Her Majesty the Queen the button by which she telegraphed the message to her people all over the world on Jubilee Day.

BROMLEY AND DISTRICT, 1837.

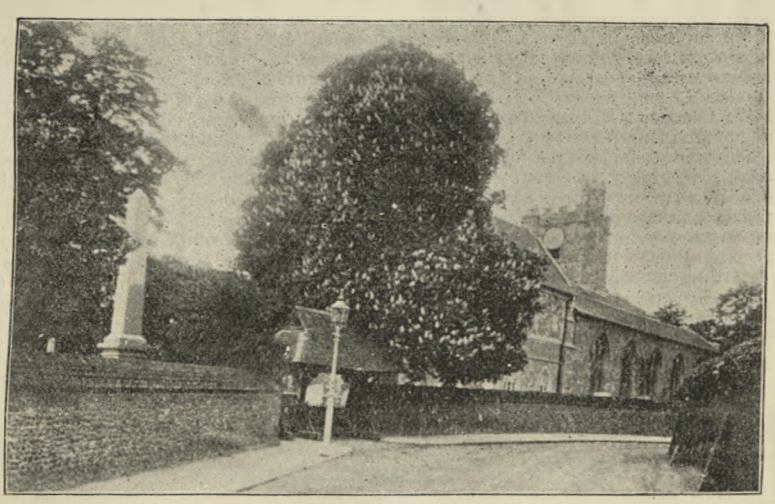
SOME OLD VIEWS.

Last month we published some views illustrating a few of the changes that have taken place in the town of Bromley since Queen Victoria ascended the throne. This month we have another batch of similar views to lay before our readers, though the area dealt with is wider. First, however, we would draw attention to the two engravings of Bromley Parish Church, crowded out of our June issue, which show the difference between that edifice as it existed in 1828 and as it is now.

The next print represents what was formerly a fine old farm-house standing at the top (right-hand side) of Masons-hill, being the first building—and in fact at that time the only one for some distance—past the "Tiger's Head." The site is now occupied by two houses, but the remains of the cottages stood on the spot and were inhabited by several families well on into the seventies, though their architectural features had by that



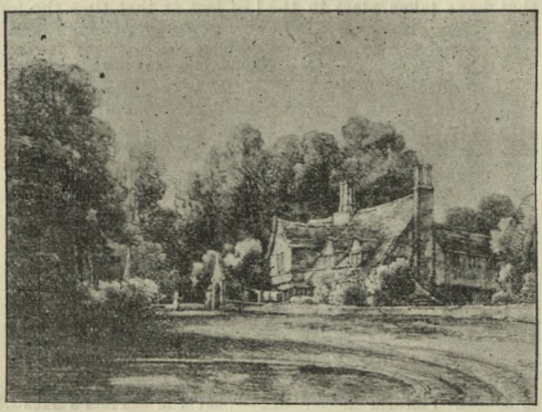
BROMLEY PARISH CHURCH, 1828.



Harman] BROMLEY PARISH CHURCH SINCE 1884. [*Bromley*

OLD COTTAGES AT MASONS HILL (NOW PULLED DOWN.)

time almost vanished, but they continued to be picturesque to the last, though hardly perhaps sanitary or comfortable according to our present understanding of those terms.



OLD COTTAGE, WIDMORE.

The next view will be recognised as the picturesque cottage occupied by Miss Ellis at Widmore. The picture appears to have been taken from close to the "Bird-in-Hand," and it shows a pond close to the inn which no longer exists. The date over the gateway is 1599, and Dr. Beeby records some interesting facts in connection with the cottage. When the floors were re-laid by the Misses Telford in 1861, many old coins were found, and several Roman Catholic Latin and English books were discovered concealed in the floors and wainscoting. Written inside one of the books is a copy of verses which convey a Roman Catholic or Protestant sentiment according as they are read, from top to bottom, or from right to left. The lines are as follows:—

"I hold as faith
What Rome's church saith
Wheare the King's heade
The flockes misleade
Where the altares drest
The people are blest
He is but an asse
Bat shunnes the masse
What England's church allowes
My conscience disallowes
The church can have noe blame
That houldes the Pope supreme
The sacrifice is scarce divine
With table bread and wine
Who the communion flyes
Is catholique and wise."

BECKENHAM.

No parish in the Bromley Union has experienced such a change during the Queen's reign as has Beckenham. About 1837, Beckenham village was described by Hone as consisting of "two or three old farm-like looking houses, rudely encroached upon by a number of irregularly built dwellings and a couple of inns; one of them of so much apparent consequence as to dignify the place." There was also, of course, the church, and there was, too, a "cage" and "pound." In 1821 the population was 1,180, while in 1861 it was 2,200, being less at that time, as is shown by the table given below, than Chislehurst, though now it contains a population about three times as large as that parish, being fully 25,000. The accompanying illustration shows the parish church as it existed in 1837. The church was completely re-built in 1886, though the spire, which has often been talked about, has not yet been erected. The old church also possessed a clock, which has been much missed.

BECKENHAM CHURCH BEFORE ITS LAST RESTORATION.

CHISLEHURST.

This parish has grown steadily during the last forty years, the population having increased during the period from 2,286 to about 7,000. Except for

having been the place of residence of Napoleon III. and his family, its history has throughout the reign been uneventful. Camden House has had several different occupants, and has known as great a difference in tenants as there is between an ex-emperor and a golf-club. The parish church was restored and altered in 1849, and in 1857 the new tower and spire were burnt down. The view we print shows the church, from the south, in 1837.

	Population.		
	1861		1891
Chislehurst ...	2,236	...	6,557
Beckenham ...	2,200	...	20,705
Orpington ...	1,727	...	4,099
St. Mary Cray	1,464	...	1,988
Cudham ...	987	...	1,103
Chelsfield ...	784	...	1,122
Farnborough	750	...	1,283
West Wickham	737	...	1,262

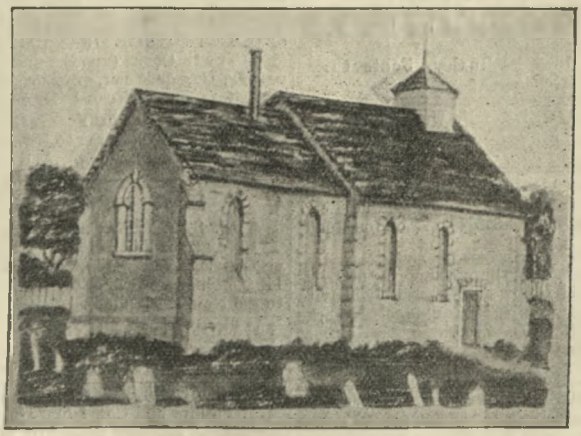
CHISLEHURST CHURCH, 1837.

OTHER VILLAGES.

The following table of population shows at a glance the difference between the populations of the parishes in the Bromley Union on the occasion of the last census and in 1861—nearly 40 years ago. We have already dealt with Bromley, Beckenham, and Chislehurst. It will be seen that in one case—North Cray—there has been a decrease in the population within the last 60 years; and that with the exception of the parishes of Foots Cray and Orpington, the growth has been by no means striking. The chief part of the increase in the number of the inhabitants of Foots Cray is due to the springing up of Sidcup, which is situate, it may be remarked, in three parishes.

Keston	688	...	746
Knockholt ...	617	...	872
Hayes	598	...	804
North Cray ...	578	...	549
St. Paul's Cray	532	...	1,028
Downe	496	...	581
Foots Cray ...	286	...	3,487

The records of most of the above-mentioned parishes for the last sixty years are quite uneventful. In almost all it will be found there has been some restoration of the church, though not in most cases so much as will be seen by the accompanying view to have taken place in the case of Keston Church.



KESTON CHURCH (BEFORE IT WAS RESTORED).

We are again indebted to Mr. J. Cabban for the opportunity of reproducing many of the above views

Births.

BRIGGS.—On the 25th May, at Fyrsbank, Lower Camden, Chislehurst, Kent, the wife of Edgar Francis Briggs, Solicitor, of a son.

DAVIES.—On 26th, May, at Berkeley Lodge, Shortlands, Kent, the wife of R. Vaughan Davies, of a daughter.

COOMBES.—On the 29th May, at Broadlands, Oakwood-avenue, Beckenham, the wife of Percy B. Coombes, of a daughter.

LEES.—On the 2nd June, at Ambleside, Croydon-road, Beckenham, Kent, the wife of Arthur J. Lees, of a daughter.

SMITH.—On the 25th June, at Orchard Villas, Bromley Common, the wife of Mr. Joshua W. Smith, of a son.

BARBER.—On the 5th June, at Chislehurst, the wife of C. Gilbart Barber, solicitor, of a son.

BELL.—On the 13th June, at Southwood, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Thos. B. Bell, of a daughter.

ALLAN.—On Wednesday, June 16th, at Knoll House, Beckenham, Kent. the wife of James M. Alian, of a daughter.

BOUCH.—On the 18th June, at Park Hill House, Shortlands, the wife of Ernest R. Bouch, of a son.

WYBORN.—On the 3rd June, at 284, Camden-road, N., the wife of Walter E. Wyborn, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Lond., formerly of Bromley, of a daughter.

Marriages.

HAWES—COURT.—On the 10th June, at the Parish Church, Nutfield, Surrey, by the Reverend Henry Biron, rector of Lympne, Kent, and the Reverend Canon Murray, rector of Chislehurst, assisted by the Reverend C. Hartwell-Jones, rector of the parish, Alexander Travers Hawes, of Nizels, Chislehurst, Kent, to Ada Lucy, eldest daughter of the late Percy Simpson Court, of Dover.

FILMER—HALL.—On the 28th June, at St. Anne's, Copp, Lancashire, by the Rev. Maurice Larcombe, Vicar of St. Aidan's, Liverpool, brother-in-law of the bride, assisted by the Rev. Charles Pakes, Vicar, Reginald Harry Filmer, of Hillside, Bromley, Kent, to Carrie, youngest daughter of the late Matthew Hall, Esq., of Great Ecclestone, Lancashire.

Deaths.

MUNDAY.—On 29th May, at 15, Cedars-rd, Beckenham, Clement, the dearly-loved husband of Ada Munday, and eldest son of George James Munday, of Fernside, Snaresbrook, Essex, aged 43.

BOND.—On May 31st, at Bath, the Rev. F. H. Bond, M.A., late fellow of Exeter College, Oxford, and formerly Head Master of Marlborough Grammar School, aged 76.

BOULTON.—On the 3rd June, at Frogpool, Chislehurst, Kent, Thomas Boulton, aged 78 years.

BUCHANAN.—On June 7th, at Keston, Kent, George Buchanan, M.Inst.C.E., F.R.G.S., aged 70.

ROUTH.—On Tuesday, 15th June, at Rydal, Bromley, Kent, Adele Saumarez, daughter of the late H. L. Routh, Esq.

ALLEN.—On the 18th June, at Ruxley, Foots Cray, Robert Allen in his 84th year.

FUNERALS.—J. HUMERSTON, Undertaker and Appraiser, 17, East Street, Bromley; Upholsterer and Cabinet Maker. rc132

MONUMENTS, HEADSTONES, CROSSES, in Stone, Marble, or Granite. Imperishable Lead Letters, &c.—W. HINCHLIFFE, Mason, London Road, Bromley, Kent.

MONUMENTAL.—Before purchasing a MONUMENT, T. CANDY would earnestly invite parties requiring the same to visit his extensive Works (Miners End Road, Beckenham), where the largest Stock in the Trade may be seen. Ten minutes from Kent House Station.

CHISLEHURST, BICKLEY PARK, and surrounding districts. Gentlemen seeking Residences, &c., in this healthy, convenient, and favourite neighbourhood, are invited to apply to Mr. DAVID J. CHATTELL, for more than 20 years the resident local Agent, who has for disposal nearly all the available properties. A personal interview saves trouble to all parties, and greatly facilitates business.—No. 29A (corner of) Lincoln's Inn Fields; and Lower Camden Chislehurst (close to the Railway Station).

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THE PRINCIPAL HALL

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There is seating accommodation for 700 and sufficient space for 1,000 people.

There is a SMALL HALL 50ft. by 30ft. to seat about 200. The Hall is situate close to the Market Square, from the main road with good approach and entrance; there are two stages which can be fixed according to requirement.

The charge of hiring is very moderate and can be obtained on application to the Secretary, 19, Market Square, Bromley, Kent.

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A FEW HOURS' DAILY TEACHING required by Governess. Senior Cambridge certificate. Good references.—H.M., 1, Elmfield Park, Bromley. rp/397

MORNING ENGAGEMENT desired by Certificated Governess. Good references. H.M., 1, Elmfield Park, Bromley. rp383

REV. T. T. NORGATE, Senior Curate, S. George's, Bickley, can undertake the tuiton of three or four pupils. Classics, Mathematics, Modern Language. 11, Broadway, Bromley. rp396

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MRS. BRITTON, Shirt Maker and Refitter, and all kinds of good Machine work, 20, Beckenham Lane, Shortlands. rp395

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TAKE CHARGE OF A HOUSE, or any position of Trust, Cook (good), undertakes small or large parties, Day or Week, or where assistance is required—Mrs. Rose, 36 Park-road Bromley.

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PIANOFORTES TUNED and Repaired by H. Morley Phillips and Co., tuners to the "Bromley Musical Society," "Bromley School of Music," &c. Orders by post receive immediate attention. High Street, Bromley, Kent.

PIANOFORTES EXCHANGED.—A liberal price given for old Pianofortes in Exchange for High Class Instruments with the latest improvements. Full Cash Discounts allowed. H. Morley Phillips & Co., High Street, Bromley, Kent.

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HOUSE WANTED to Rent or Purchase, near Bromley, Kent. Small Detached Residence, good garden.—State full particulars and situation to "Ego," Deacon's Advertising Offices, Leadenhall Street, E.C. rp/399

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WANTED.—OLD HISTORIES OF BROMLEY.—Apply E., *Bromley Record* Office, 14, Market Square, Bromley, Kent.

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A. D. WEBSTER, F.R.S.E.,

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A

BAZAAR

IN AID OF THE

Building Fund, of S. Mark's Church

BROMLEY,

WILL BE HELD ON

TUESDAY, JULY 6th,

AND

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7th, 1897,

IN THE GROUNDS OF BROMLEY PALACE,

(By kind permission of Coles Child, Esq., J.P., C.C.)

The Bazaar will be opened on July 6th, at 2.30 p.m., by

LADY SOPHIE SCOTT.

LADY PATRONESSES:

Mary Countess of Derby,
The Ladies Pratt,
Lady Farquhar,
Lady Sophie Scott,
Lady Lennard,
Lady Lighton,
Lady Lubbock,
Lady Bruce,
Hon. Mrs. Forster,
Mrs. Coles Child,
Mrs. Norman,
Mrs. Gerard Norman,
Mrs. Torrens.

The following Ladies have kindly undertaken Stalls:

Lady Bruce, Mrs. Soames, and Mrs. H. Ilott.
Mrs. Child (Refreshments).
Mrs. Hellicar and Mrs. Gerard Norman.
Mrs. Dewey and Mrs. Dashwood.
"The Ladies of Bickley" (Mrs. Chalmers).
Mrs. Eden.
Mrs. Grinsted and Mrs. G. Weeks.
Mrs. C. R. Ford (Flowers).
Miss Aitken (Dairy Produce, &c.)
The Misses Hellicar (Sweets and Toys).

The Stallholders will all be glad to receive contributions for their stalls.

The Band of the Royal Artillery has been engaged for the first day, and the Band of the 2nd Vol. Batt. Queen's Own (Royal West Kent) Regt. for the second day.

The Bazaar will be open from 2.30 to 9 p.m. on both days. The charge for admission will be on the 6th, 2s. 6d. from 2.30 to 6 p.m.: after 6 p.m., 1s. On the 7th 1s. from 2.30 to 6 p.m.: after 6 p.m., 6d. Season and Family *Tickets can be obtained, if taken before Saturday, July 3rd,* at the following prices:—Season Ticket, 3s.: Family Ticket to cover both days, and to admit four, 10s.: Family Ticket to admit five on the first day, 10s.

Tickets to be obtained of the Hon. Secretaries to the Bazaar Committee. Rev. J. M. Tamplin, M.A., 29a, Masons Hill, and R. B. Aitken, Esq., Daresbury, Bickley; or of S. Bush & Son, 42, High Street, and E. Strong & Sons, 14, Market-square, Bromley.

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Members are eligible to join any Classes which are, or may be, connected with the Institute, on payment of a small additional subscription.

Members are also admitted to Lectures, &c., at reduced prices. This privilege, however, may be occasionally withdrawn.

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SHORTLANDS HOUSE, SHORTLANDS,

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF

H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF TECK.

On July 3rd, at 3.30 p.m.,

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If there are a sufficient number of Entries,

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Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper's Auction Sales

(CONTINUED).

KENT, SWANLEY.—Two Freehold Villa Residences, each let at £35 per annum; a Freehold Ground Rent of £21 per annum; and 16 Plots of Freehold Building Land, each having a frontage of about 40ft. with considerable depth. In lots.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, July 21st, 1897, at 2 o'clock precisely, the pair of Residences, being Nos. 1 and 2, Beaumont Villas, Hextable, each producing £35 per annum; a Freehold Ground Rent of £21, amply secured upon the detached residence, "New Villa," Dartford Road; together with 16 Plots of Freehold Building Land, each with possession, and having a frontage of about 40ft.

May be viewed, and particulars with plan and conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Chamberlayne and Short, Solicitors, 62, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.; at the Mart, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, KNOCKHOLT.—One-and-a-half miles from Brasted (S.E.R.), and four miles from Halstead station. A charming detached Freehold Country Residence known as "Scotts Lodge," together with stabling, farmery, two cottages, pleasure grounds and paddock, in all some six acres. Possession on completion.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, July 21st, 1897, at 2 o'clock precisely, the above country property, placed in a most picturesque and healthy position. The accommodation of the house includes six bedrooms, bath-room, &c., entrance hall, three reception rooms, and ample offices, and cellarage, conservatory, a range of greenhouses, good stable, coach-house, farmery, and outbuildings; two cottages. The grounds are thoroughly matured, well timbered, and include tennis lawn, walks, shrubbery, &c., and flower and kitchen gardens. In addition are two paddocks, the whole containing about six acres.

May be viewed, and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Allen & Son, Solicitors, 17, Carlisle Street, Soho Square, W.; at the Mart, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E,C.

KENT, SWANLEY.—Four Plots of Valuable Freehold Building Land situate at Hextable, commanding very fine views and suitable for the erection of Country Cottages, Poultry Farming, or for Horticultural purposes. The Plots have frontages to the Hextable, Dartford, and Rollo Roads, varying from 45ft. to 85ft., with very considerable depths. Possession on completion.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, July 21st, 1897, at 2 o'clock precisely, Four Plots of Valuable Freehold Land as above described.

May be viewed, and particulars with plan and conditions of sale, obtained of Messrs. Mann and Taylor, Solicitors, 109 & 111, New Oxford Street, W.C.; at the Mart, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

For remainder of Auction Sales see following pages.

BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER,

Land & House Agents,

Auctioneers, Surveyors & Valuers,

BROMLEY AND BECKENHAM, KENT,

AND

69, KING WILLIAM STREET, E.C.

Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper's Auction Sales

(CONTINUED).

By Order of the Trustees of Mr. C. H. Mitchell, deceased

KENT, BROMLEY.—The valuable Freehold Premises, comprising the shop, residence and outbuildings, being No. 51, Beckenham Lane, occupying a fine corner position in the Main road from Bromley to Beckenham. The premises contain good residential accommodation also a fine double-fronted shop, store, necessary out-buildings, large bakehouse and stabling. Held on lease by Mr. Smith, baker and corn merchant, for a term of 14 years from Michaelmas, 1894, at a rental of £50 for the first seven years, increasing to £55. Also, Two Plots of Valuable Freehold Building Land, each with a frontage to Beckenham Lane of 24ft. 6in. with a good depth. In addition to the foregoing properties are 20 shares in the Bromley Volunteer Hall and Gymnasium Co., Limited.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, July 8th, 1897, at 7 for 8 o'clock precisely, in Five Lots, the valuable Business Premises, together with Two Plots of Building Land and Twenty Shares in the Drill Hall Company.

The Property may be viewed and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Hulbert and Crowe, Solicitors, 4, Broad Street Buildings, Liverpool Street, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

By Order of the Executors of the late Mr. R. Crowhurst.

KENT, BROMLEY—The Valuable Freehold Compact Property, known as "Sussex Lodge," Bromley Common, embracing a snug detached Residence with conservatory, greenhouse, small stabling and out-buildings, with a well-matured garden and paddock, the latter ripe for building purposes if so desired. The house contains 5 bedrooms, dressing-room, 3 sitting-rooms, conservatory, and ample offices. Also, three Freehold Houses, with large gardens, being "Thorne Villas," Nos. 28, 29 and 30, Freelands Road, each containing good accommodation, (No. 28 is let at £35 per annum, No. 29 is in hand, No. 30 is held at a rental of £38); together with two attractive Freehold Residences, of good dimensions, being "St. Martin's" and "Dunleigh," Nos. 1 and 2, London Road, the houses have recently been let at £50 and £55 per annum respectively, and are in hand simply for the purposes of the sale.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, July 8th, 1897, at 7 for 8 o'clock precisely, in six Lots, the above valuable Freehold Properties, suitable either for investment or occupation.

May be viewed and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Willet& Latter Solicitors, Bromley; at the "Bell" Hotel; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, ORPINGTON.—A little over a mile from the Railway Station. The compact Residential Property known as "Sunnydale," with pleasure grounds, orchard, paddocks, and woodland, in all about nine-and-a-quarter acres. Possession on completion.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, July 21st, 1897, at 2 o'clock precisely, the above-named compact Freehold Property, comprising a comfortable Family Residence, on two Floors, approached by a Carriage Drive, and containing six capital bedrooms, dressing-room, bath room, &c., three large reception rooms, conservatory, and ample offices and out-buildings; detached stabling, coachman's cottage, glass houses, farmery, poultry houses, range of sheds, &c. The pleasure grounds are charming, and include tennis and other lawns, flower beds, banks and borders, &c., and good kitchen garden. There is also an orchard, paddocks, strawberry field, and woodland, in about 9¼ acres. Hunting is within easy reach, and golf links.

May be viewed and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Pattersons, Snow, Bloxam & Kinder, Solicitors, of 25, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.; at the Mart, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

For remainder of Auction Sales see following pages.

Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper's Auction Sales

(CONTINUED).

KENT, BECKENHAM.—The very desirable modern detached Family Residence known as "Cintra," Albemarle Road, standing in a high and open situation.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, July 7th, 1897, at Two o'clock precisely, the above named commanding Family Residence, affording the following well-planned accommodation, viz :—Ten bedrooms, dressing and bath rooms, three very fine reception rooms, smoking room and very complete and convenient domestic offices, including servants' sitting room. Capital cellarage in basement. The grounds, extending to about one-and-a-half acres, are fully matured and well stocked, and include tennis and other lawns, orchard, and flower and kitchen gardens, &c. There are greenhouses, summer-house, potting sheds, and tool house. Held for an unexpired term of 66½ years at a moderate ground rent. Possession on completion.

May be viewed, and particulars with conditions of sale, obtained of Messrs. Young, Jones and Co., Solicitors, 2, St. Mildred's Court, Poultry, E.C.; at the Mart, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Land Agents and Auctioneers, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, FARNBOROUGH. Within a mile of Orpington station.—The Freehold Estate known as Glentrammon Park, Green-street-Green, comprising 88a. 3r. 19p., of valuable land, divided into plots to suit the requirements of Poultry Farmers, Fruit Growers, Horticulturalists and Private Buyers. Possession on completion.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, July 7th, 1897, at Two o'clock precisely, in twenty-six Lots, the above named Freehold Estate situate on the South West Side of the Hill, and close to the Village and Post Office. The Land will be offered in Plots, varying from one to fifteen acres and there are many choice Sites, offering magnificent views.

May be viewed and particulars with plan and conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Hores Pattisson and Bathurst, Solicitors, 52, Lincoln's Inn Fields; of Messrs. Rashleigh, Son & Hall, Solicitors, 60 Lincoln's Inn Fields; at the Mart, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Land Agents and Surveyors, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, ST. MARY CRAY.—Freehold Building Land on the Fordcroft Estate, especially adapted for the erection of cottages, for which there is a great demand.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, July 8th, 1897, at 7 for 8 o'clock precisely, 36 Plots of Freehold Building Land, situate as above named, each with a frontage of about 30ft. There is main drainage and water supply from the Kent Water Company's Works. The district is thickly populated and there is a great lack of cottages for the labouring classes.

May be viewed, and particulars with plan and conditions of sale, obtained of Messrs. Pontifex, Hewitt & Pitt, Solicitors, 16, St Andrew Street, Holborn Circus, E.C.; at the place of sale; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, BROMLEY.—A well secured Freehold Investment, or Residence for Occupation.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the "Bell" Hotel Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, July 8th, 1897, at 7 for 8 o'clock precisely, the pretty detached Freehold Residence being "Grasmere," Sandford Road, containing six good bedrooms, dressing room, bath room, &c., entrance hall, three capital reception rooms and ample offices. Large garden. Let to an excellent tenant at the moderate annual rental of £70. Possession can be had at Christmas next.

May be viewed by permission, and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Todd, Dennes & Lamb, Solicitors, 22, Chancery Lane, W.C., and South End, Essex; at the place of sale; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 66, King William Street, E.C.

For remainder of Auction Sales see following page.

BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER,

LAND & HOUSE AGENTS,

AUCTIONEERS, SURVEYORS & VALUERS,

UNDERTAKE VALUATIONS of FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD ESTATES, and all kinds of PROPERTY for SALE either by AUCTION or PRIVATE CONTRACT.

A MONTHLY LIST is published of LOCAL RESIDENCES,

also one of Country Houses and Estates to be Let or Sold (Furnished or Unfurnished) in the Home Counties and elsewhere, together with a separate List of Farms, Free on Application.

AUCTION SALES OF LOCAL PROPERTIES

will be held at the "BELL HOTEL," BROMLEY, on

Thursday, July	11th	Thursday, September	23rd	Thursday, November	11th
Thursday, August	19th	Thursday, October	7th	Thursday, December	2nd

Properties will be offered at a small agreed charge to cover out-of-pocket expenses. The usual commission in cases of sale.

AUCTION SALES will be held at the MART, TOKENHOUSE YARD, E.C., on the following days during the year 1897, also on special days when required:

Wednesday, July	7th	Wednesday, August	18th	Wednesday, October	6th
Wednesday, July	21st	Wednesday, Sept.	15th	Wednesday, November	10th
Wednesday, August	4th	Wednesday, Sept	22nd	Wednesday, December	1st

KENT, BROMLEY.—Household Furniture comprising iron bedsteads, bedding, 2 pine bedroom suites, wardrobes, chests of drawers, washstands, Brussels and tapestry carpets, dining room furniture, mahogany extending dining table, engravings, valuable old glass and china, quantity of plated goods, 400 volumes of books, kitchen utensils, fittings and miscellaneous effects.

MESSRS. BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction on the premises, "Ivy Lodge," 30, Palace Grove, Bromley, on Friday, July 2nd, 1897, at 1 for 2 o'clock precisely, the Furniture and Effects.

May be viewed the day prior to the sale, and catalogues obtained of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Auctioneers and Surveyors, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, SHORTLANDS.—Four desirable Freehold Modern Residences with large gardens, situate in the Valley Road. With possession.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, July 7th, 1897, at 2 o'clock precisely, in Four Lots, Four attractive semi-detached Freehold Residences, adjoining "The Limes." Each House is estimated to produce £60 per annum, and contains six bedrooms, bath-room, lavatory, &c., three sitting-rooms and well arranged domestic offices with cellarage. Gas and water are laid on, and electric bells throughout; Tradesmen's entrance. There is a capital garden with lawn, flower borders and kitchen garden.

May be viewed, and particulars with conditions of sale, obtained of Messrs. Bowerman & Forward, Solicitors, 3, Grays Inn Square, W.C.; at the Mart, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

For remainder of Auction Sales see preceding pages.

OFFICES:—BROMLEY AND BECKENHAM, KENT,

AND AT

69, KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Agents to the Sun Fire and Life Offices; Burglary Insurance; Railway Passengers' Plate Glass Assurance, &c.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, E. Strong and Sons, 14, Market Square, Bromley, Kent.

THE

BROMLEY RECORD

AND

MONTHLY ADVERTISER.

No. 469. AUGUST, 1897. Price One Penny.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER'S
Special
LOCAL REGISTER
(Published on the 1st of each Month)
contains reliable particulars of almost every available property to be Let or Sold situate in the undermentioned favourite districts of

WEST KENT:

Bromley	Cudham	Knockholt
Beckenham	Downe	Orpington
Bickley	Farnborough	St. Mary Cray
Chislehurst	Grove Park	Shortlands and
Chelsfield	Hayes & Keston	West Wickham

Gratis on application. Particulars inserted free.

BROMLEY.—Valuable Building Land in undeniably good positions. Advances to builders. Moderate ground rent.

BROMLEY. — A delightfully well-built Detached Modern Residence in charming grounds, near to station, gravel soil. Price freehold £2,300.

BROMLEY.—Capital detached double-fronted Residence, close to station. Room to build stabling. Price £1650 freehold.

BICKLEY.—Ten minutes' walk of two stations. A beautiful Residential Property, embracing a substantial and well-arranged Residence in grounds of 5¾ acres. Rent £300

BROMLEY COMMON.—Bijou Cottage Residence, with stabling, paddock, glasshouses. Price £2200 freehold.

SHORTLANDS —Well-built double-fronted Detached Residence. Good garden. Rent: unfurnished £100 per annum; furnished 5 guineas per week.

DARENTH.—Desirable Family Residence, overlooking Darenth Valley. Stabling. Grounds of 7½ acres. Rent £110.

FARNBOROUGH.—Detached Country Residence on two floors. Stabling, orchard, and grounds of about one acre. Four bedrooms, dressing room, three sitting rooms and offices. Rent £45.

BROMLEY.—Charming Double-fronted Residence, six bedrooms, dressing room and bath room. Rent £75 or would be sold with adjoining House for £2,400 freehold.

BEXLEY HEATH.—Detached Family Residence, standing in grounds of about 15 acres. Stabling, cottages, orchard. Rent £175.

BICKLEY.—Semi-Detached Cottage Residence with stable, conservatory and large garden. Five bedrooms, bath room, two sitting rooms. Rent £60.

BICKLEY.—Charming Freehold Residential Property standing in grounds of about 5 acres, with stabling, farmery, glass houses, &c. Eleven bedrooms, dressing and bath rooms, four reception rooms. Price £7,000.

Further details and fuller particulars, together with orders for viewing the above can be had of Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper,

10. MARKET SQUARE, BROMLEY,

and Beckenham, Kent, & 69 King William Street, E.C.

BROMLEY SCHOOL OF MUSIC, 5, Aberdeen Buildings, High Street, Bromley (branch of the Beckenham School of Music and Art, Established 1883.) President: The Duke of Fife, K.T. Vice-Presidents: Sir Arthur Sullivan, Mus. Doc.; Prof. C. Villiers Stanford, Mus. Doc., D.C.L.; Prof. Joseph Joachim, Mus. Doc. Examining Visitors: Miss Fanny Davies, Sir Walter Parratt, Mus. Doc., Walter Macfarren, Esq., Otto Goldschmidt, Esq., Josef Ludwig, Esq. William Shakespeare, Esq. Director of Studies: Arthur O'Leary. Fifty eminent Professors, selected from the Royal Academy of Music, Royal College of Music, Guildhall School of Music, &c. Thirteen Scholarships and Prizes offered annually. Fees from £1 11s. 6d. per term of 12 lessons.

Particulars by letter to the Secretary, or personally on WEDNESDAYS from 2.0 to 4.

BECKENHAM SCHOOL OF ART, 10 and 11, The Parade, Beckenham. Director of Studies and Visiting Examiner: John Brett, Esq., (Associate of the Royal Academy). Art Master: Mr. Oscar Tolhurst. Particulars by letter to the Secretary, or personally at Beckenham, on Wednesdays from 9.30 to 12.30.

"SPENLOVE" SCHOOL OF ART,
"THE YELLOW DOOR" Studios,
(near Ry. Stations). BECKENHAM.
Principal and Director:
Mr. FRANK SPENLOVE-SPENLOVE, R.B.A.,
(by Royal Charter) Royal Academy, Paris, &c.
THIS SCHOOL is one of the most important in England, and is instituted for highest class MODERN training in all branches of Drawing and Painting, Figure (from life), Landscape, &c. Also "BLACK and WHITE" for Illustration. SPECIAL JUNIOR Classes. Prospectus upon application.

DR. A. MADELEY RICHARDSON, M.A., Mus. Doc., Oxon., F.R.C.O., Organist and Director of the Choir of S. Saviour's Collegiate Church, Southwark.—Address: 32, Hammelton Road, Bromley.

MR. F. FERTEL (Organist and Choirmaster Bromley Parish Church) gives lessons on Pianoforte, Organ, Singing & Harmony. Holmcroft, Holwood Rd., Bromley.

DRAWING AND PAINTING in Oil and Water Colours, and Sketching from Nature. Miss Davis gives Lessons in the above. For particulars, apply at No. 1, Elmfield Park, Bromley.

BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.—Y GARN, Ravensbourne Road, Bromley. Principals: The Misses Hurst, assisted by certificated governesses. Pupils successfully prepared for Exams. Preparatory Class for little Boys.

MR. NORMAN BATH (Pupil of the late H. Wiest Hill, Esq., and B. Hollander, Esq.) Violin and Viola. Has vacancies for pupils. For terms, Address 46, Glebe Road, Bromley, Kent.

OF UNRIVALLED REPUTATION.

4/- PER BOTTLE.

THIS WHISKY IS FROM A VERY OLD ESTABLISHED FIRM IN SCOTLAND, WHICH HAS ENJOYED FOR MANY YEARS A HIGH REPUTATION FOR THIS PARTICULAR BLEND. GUARANTEED PURE HIGHLAND MALT, AND TEN YEARS OLD.

V.O.S

G. PAMPHILON & SON,
WINE MERCHANTS,
BROMLEY, KENT.

Established 1775.

FACSIMILE OF LABEL.

48/- PER DOZEN.

MELLOW, SOFT AND WITH FINE FLAVOR.

G. PAMPHILON & SON,

WHOLESALE & FAMILY WINE MERCHANTS.

ILLUSTRATED REVISED CASH PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

Champagnes. *per doz*

Louis Pamphilon, Epernay	1889 Vintg.	60/-
Ditto ditto	extra quality	78/-
Pol Roger	1889 vintage	
Bollinger	1892 "	
Mumm, G. H. & Co.		
Louis Roederer	1892 "	
E. Irroy & Co., Carte D'or	1892 "	
Pommery & Greno	1892 "	
Heidsiecks Dry Monopole	1889 "	
Perrier Jouet, P D.C.		

Market Prices.

Specialites for Invalids.

Champagne in Quarter Bottles.

Louis Pamphilon, Cuvee Reserve.. 18/-
Perrier Jouet 24/-

Other Sparkling Wines

Asti Spumante (Italian) 36/-
Saumur 36/-
Sparkling Burgundy, 1st Quality ... 60/-
Ditto Hock 54/
Ditto Moselle 54/

Half Bottles, 6/- per 24 extra
Single Bottles same rates.

Still Hocks.

	per doz. bot.	*per doz. half-bot.*
Laubenheimer	18/-	11/-
Nierstein	24/-	14/-
Erbacher	30/-	17/-
Hochheim	36/-	20/-
Liebfraumilch	42/-	23/-
Red Hock	36/-	

Australian Wines.

	pr doz.	*pr bot.*
Sauvignon	16/-	1/4
Branxton Cabernet	21/-	1/9
Tintara	26/-	2/2
Riesling (White)	24/-	2/-
Highercombe (White)	30/	2/6

In Quart Flagons.

Red & White Burgundy 30/- 2/6
Tintara and Ophir 42/- 3/6
6d. each allowed for Flagons when returned.

Italian Wines

	pr doz.	*pr bot.*
Vino da Pasto	12/-	1/-
Valtellina	18/-	1/6
Chianti	24/-	2/-
Capri (White)	24/-	2/-
Vino Vermouth	36/-	3/-
Sparkling Asti	36/-	3/-

Chianti.

In Tuscan Flasks.

18/- & 36/- per doz. 1/6 & 3/- each.

California Wines.

Burgundy 18/- 1/6
Hock 30/- 2/6

Aerated Waters. *per doz.*

Schweppe's Soda, Seltzer & Potass 3/-
Ditto Lemonade and Ginger Ale..... 3/6
Soda, Seltzer & Potass 2/-
Lemonade & Ginger Ale 2/6
Syphons — Soda, Potass, Seltzer, Lemonade 4/-
Johannis's Appollinaris, Ginger Beer in Stone Bottles.

Burgundies.

	pr doz.	*pr bot.*
Macon 1893 vintage	20/-	1/8
Beaujolais 1892 "	24/-	2/-
Beaune 1891 "	30/-	2/6
Pommard 1889 "	36/-	3/0
Volnay 1884 "	42/-	3/6
Pommard, Superior, 1887 "	42/-	3/6
Chambertin 1881 "	72/	6/-
Chablis	24/- to 36/-	

Half Bottles.

Macon 12/- 1/-
Beaujolais 13/6 1/2
Beaune 16/6 1/5
Pommard 19/6 1/8
Volnay 24/- 2/-

Ports.

Good Young 24/- 2/-
Fine old Tawny 36/- 3/-
Ditto well-matured 48/- 4/-
Superior old fine quality 54/- 4/6
Ditto Crofts No 1 ..... 60/- 5/0
Ditto, ditto Grand Wine 66/- 5/6
Ditto very choice 72/- 6/-
Ditto rare old wines ..... 84/- to 150/-

Tarragona. *pr doz.*

Superior Wines ..... 12/- 18/- & 24/-

Liqueurs. *pr bot. pr ½bot.*

Curacoa	5/-	2/9
Maraschino	5/-	2/9
Chartreuse yellow	8/-	4/6
Ditto Green	10/6	5/9
Benedictine	7/-	3/6
Kirsch Wasser		3/6
Kummell Riga		4/-
Noyeau, Pink		2/6
Angostura Bitters		2/9
Heering Copenhagen Cherry Brandy	4/6	2/6

Cordials. *pr bot.*

Pamphilon's Cherry Brandy 3/-
Orange Bitters 3/-
Peach Bitters 3/6
Ginger Brandy 3/- 3/6
Rum Shrub 2/6 3/-
Peppermint 2/- 2/6
Cloves 2/- 2/6
Noyeau 3/-
Milk Punch 3/6
Lovage 2/6

Bottled Ales, Stout, Etc.

pr doz. Imp pts.

Pamphilon's Special Dinner Ale 2/6
Ditto Nourishing Stout 2/6
Light Dinner Stout 3/-
Bass Pale Ale (½ pints 2/6) 4/-
Bass No. 1 Burton in ½-pints 3/6
Pamphilon's Pale Ale 3/-
Pilsener Lager Beer (½ pints 2/6)..... 4/6
Guinness' extra Stout (½ pints 2/6)..... 4/-

Clarets. *pr doz.* *pr bot*

Claret		12/-	1/-
Vin Ordinaire		15/	1/3
Vin de Medoc	1893 vintage	18/-	1/6
St. Julien	1893 "	24/-	2/-
Pauillac	1891 "	30/-	2/6
Margaux	1890 "	36/-	3/-
Chateau Margaux	1889 "	54/-	4/6
Chateau Palmer	1890 "	54/-	4/6
Ch. Lafite	1893 "	60/-	5/-
Sauternes, Graves		21/- to 36/-	

Stock in Half-Bottles.

Claret	9/-	9d.
Medoc	10,6	11d.
St. Julien	13/6	1/2
Pauillac	16/6	1/5
Margaux	19/6	1/8

Sherries.

Natural Sherry	16/-	1/4
Sherry	18/-	1/6
Light Sound Wine	24/-	2/-
Old-fashioned Brown	30/-	2/6
Pamphilon's Dinner Sherry	30/-	2/6
Nutty Character	36/-	3/-
Golden, Generous	42/-	3/6
Very Fine Brown	42/-	3/6
Pale old Dry	48/-	4/-
Ditto very Choice	54/-	4/6
Choice old Rare Wines	60/- to 100/-	

Marsala. *per doz.*

Ingham & Woodhouse ..... 18/- 21/- & 24/-

Madeira.

Various ..... 36/- to 60 -

Scotch Whiskies.

	pr gal	*pr doz*	*pr bot*
Good	15/-	30/-	2/6
Fine old	18/-	36/-	3/-
Superior 5 years old	21/-	42/-	3/6
Glenlivet Bd, 7 years old	22/-	44/-	3/8
Very fine Highland Malt	22/-	44/-	3/8
Pamphilon's **VOS**, guaranteed 10 years old	**24/-**	**48/-**	**4/-**

Irish Whiskies.

Good	15/-	30/-	2/6
Fine old	18/-	36/-	3/
Superior old	21/-	42/-	3/6
Do., J. Jameson's, old Bonded	24/-	48/-	4/-

Rum.

Jamaica	15/-	30/-	2/6
Old Jamaica	18/-	36/-	3/-
V. O. Jamaica		3/6 and	4/-

Brandies.

Pale	18/-	36/-	3/-
Fine old Pale *	24/-	48/-	4/-
Fine old Cognac **	27/-	54/-	4/6
Finest old Cognac ***	30/-	60/-	5/-
Choice old Cognac ****	34/6	69/-	5/9
Curious Old Cognac	100/-		8/6

Gins.

Cordial & Unsweetened	12/-	24/-	2/-
Fine old Tom	15/-	30/-	2/6
Ditto Finest	16/-	32/-	2/8

Sloe, Orange, and Hop Gin.

CASK ALES.

OUR SPECIALITÉ **F.P.A.** BREWED FROM PURE MALT & HOPS

Per Kild., 18/- ; Per Firkin, 9/6 ; Per Pin, 4/9.

ALL THE LEADING BRANDS OF **HAVANA CIGARS** CLUBS AND THE TRADE SUPPLIED

QUERNMORE HOUSE SCHOOL,

PLAISTOW LODGE, BROMLEY, KENT.

Established, 1880.

Boys from 5 to 16 years of age prepared for the Public School Entrance and Scholarships, the Navy, &c., and for Business.

Large Staff of Graduates. Every facility for *Sports*, under the supervision of Masters.

Large Iron Play-room.

Special classes for very young or backward boys conducted by Ladies, aided by Masters for French and Latin.

Dancing, Drill, and Gymnastic Classes in School Gymnasium.

Vocal Music and Sight Singing under Mr. F. Lewis Thomas.

For Prospectus and further information apply to Mr.

G. LOLY, B.A., Head Master.

GEORGE PYRKE,

147 & 148, HIGH STREET, BROMLEY, KENT

FURNITURE REMOVED OR WAREHOUSED.

ESTIMATES FREE ON APPLICATION.

Staff of experienced workmen for carefully removing Furniture, Pianos, Pictures, Glass, &c., to or from any part of the world. Rout Seats, Plate, Glass, China, Mirrors, Linen, Dancing Cloths, Marquees, and every requisite for every class of Entertainments, Supplied on Hire.

Pianos (New and Second-hand), Bought, Sold, Lent on Hire, and Tuned by Contract or otherwise.
Furniture Repaired, Polished, and Re-stuffed by efficient workmen on the premises.

SECOND-HAND FURNITURE BOUGHT TO ANY AMOUNT

JAMES YOUNG,

LATE

J. K. HUNTER,

PRACTICAL COACH BUILDER

LONDON ROAD, BROMLEY.

Carriages built on the most approved principles.

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BATCHELAR & SON,

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CLEARANCE SALE.

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REMNANTS, SILKS, TAPESTRIES, VELVETS.

Special Prices for Re-upholstering Dining and Drawing-room Furniture.

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LIMITED,

BROMLEY.

Head Offices - - - - - - - - - CROYDON.

APPOINTED BY SPECIAL ROYAL WARRANT

SOAP MAKERS TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

SUNLIGHT & LIFEBUOY SOAP COMPETITIONS.

£66,156 in PRIZES OF CASH BICYCLES* WATCHES† BOOKS GIVEN FREE during 1897.

RULES.

1. Competitors may enter EACH or EVERY MONTH for EITHER or BOTH "Sunlight" or "Lifebuoy" Competitions, but must SEND IN the "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY" Coupons in SEPARATE PACKETS carefully marked on the outside of the postal wrapper "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY."

2. For this Competition the United Kingdom will be divided into 7 Districts, and the prizes will be awarded every month during 1897 in each of the 7 districts as stated below.

3. Competitors to save as many "SUNLIGHT SOAP" or "LIFEBUOY SOAP" Wrappers as they can collect. Cut off the top portion of each wrapper—that portion containing the heading "SUNLIGHT SOAP" or "LIFEBUOY SOAP." Enclose with these (called "Coupons") a sheet of paper stating Competitor's full name and address, and the number of coupons sent in, and forward same (see Rule 1.) postage paid to Lever Brothers, Limited, Port Sunlight, near Birkenhead, marked on the Postal Wrapper (top left-hand corner) with the NUMBER of the DISTRICT Competitor lives in, and the word "SUNLIGHT" or "LIFEBUOY," whichever coupons the packet contains.

4. The competition will CLOSE the LAST DAY of EACH MONTH. Coupons received too late for one month's competition will be put into the next.
All parcels on which Postage has not been fully paid WILL BE REFUSED.

5. Competitors who obtain wrappers from unsold soap in dealers' stock will be disqualified. Employees of Lever Brothers, Limited, and their families are debarred from competing.

6. A printed list of winners in competitor's district will be forwarded to competitors in about 3 weeks after each monthly competition closes.

7. Lever Bros., Ltd., will endeavour to award the prizes fairly to the best of their ability and judgment, but it is understood that ALL WHO COMPETE AGREE TO ACCEPT THE AWARD of Lever Bros., Ltd., as final. LEVER BROS., Ltd., Port Sunlight, nr. Birkenhead.

No. of district.	NAME OF DISTRICT.
1	IRELAND.
2	SCOTLAND.
3	LONDON, MIDDLESEX, KENT, SURREY.
4	WALES, LANCASHIRE, CHESHIRE.
5	NORTHUMBERLAND, DURHAM, WESTMORLAND, CUMBERLAND, YORKSHIRE, ISLE OF MAN.
6	SHROPSHIRE, HEREFORDSHIRE, MONMOUTHSHIRE, STAFFORDSHIRE, WORCESTERSHIRE, WARWICKSHIRE, DERBYSHIRE, LEICESTERSHIRE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, OXFORDSHIRE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, BERKSHIRE, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, RUTLANDSHIRE, LINCOLNSHIRE, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.
7	NORFOLK, SUFFOLK, ESSEX, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, BEDFORDSHIRE, HERTFORDSHIRE, SUSSEX, HAMPSHIRE, ISLE OF WIGHT, CHANNEL ISLANDS, WILTSHIRE, DORSETSHIRE, SOMERSETSHIRE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, DEVONSHIRE, CORNWALL.

PRIZES FOR SUNLIGHT COUPONS.	Total Prizes in all Districts during 1897.
The **1** Competitor in each District who sends in the **largest number** of **Sunlight** coupons from the District in which he or she resides, will receive **£21 cash**	£1,764 0 0
The **10** Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number** will **each** receive, carriage paid, at **winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Helical **Premier** Bicycle,* with Fleuss pneumatic tyres, **price £21**	17,640 0 0
The **40** Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number** will **each** receive, **at winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Rolled Gold Watch,† **price £4 4s.**	14,112 0 0
The remaining **Sunlight** Competitors will **each** receive **Cloth-bound Books**, by Popular Authors, in the proportion of **1 Book** for **every 50 Sunlight** Coupons sent in	10,000 0 0
Total Prizes for Sunlight Coupons during 1897	£43 516 0 0
PRIZES FOR LIFEBUOY COUPONS.	
The **1** Competitor in each District who sends in the **largest number** of **Lifebuoy** Coupons from the District in which he or she resides, will receive **£21 cash**	1,764 0 0
The **5** Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number** will **each** receive, carriage paid, at **winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Helical **Premier** Bicycle,* with Fleuss pneumatic tyres, **price £21**	8,820 0 0
The **20** Competitors in each District who send in the **next largest number** will **each** receive, at **winner's option**, a Lady's or Gentleman's Rolled Gold Watch,† **price £4 4s.**	7,056 0 0
The remaining **Lifebuoy** Competitors will **each** receive **Cloth-bound Books**, by Popular Authors, in the proportion of **1 Book** for **every 50 Lifebuoy** Coupons sent in	5,000 0 0
Total Prizes for Lifebuoy Coupons during 1897	22,640 0 0
GRAND TOTAL of all Prizes given for Sunlight and Lifebuoy Coupons, 1897	£66,156 0 0

* These Bicycles are the celebrated Helical (Spiral) Tube **"Premier"** Cycles, 1897 Pattern, manufactured by the New "Premier" Cycle Co., Ltd., of Coventry and 19 & 20, Holborn Viaduct, London, fitted with the Fleuss Tubeless Pneumatic Tyres, Lamplough Saddles and accessories.

† These are 14-carat Half-Hunter Rolled Gold Watches, jewelled, 3-plate.

The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

AUGUST, 1897.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st—*Seventh Sunday after Trinity.*

2nd—Bank Holiday. "The Ticket-of-Leave Man" at Bromley Grand Hall, 7.45 p.m.

3rd—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

4th—Meeting of the Mottingham Parish Council, at the Schools, High-road, Mottingham.

8th—*Eighth Sunday after Trinity.*

9th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, at 10.30.—Monthly Meeting of St. Luke's Burial Board, at the St. Luke's Institute, Raglan-road, Bromley Common.

11th—Monthly sitting of the Bromley County Court, Court House, Bromley.—Summer show of the Alexandra Horticultural Society, at Elm Grove Meadow, Newlands Park, Sydenham.

12th—Bromley Bible Flower Mission, at Parish Room, West-street, Bromley.—Half-yearly meeting of the Bromley Gas Company at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, at six p.m.

13th—Meeting of the West Kent Main Sewerage Board at 96, High-street, Bromley.—Meeting of the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board, at 96, High-street, Bromley.

15th—*Ninth Sunday after Trinity.*—Annual Church Parade of the Friendly Societies of Bromley and neighbourhood, at St. Mary's, Plaistow.

16th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court House, Bromley, at 10.30.—County cricket match, Kent v. Surrey, at Beckenham Cricket Club Ground, Foxgrove-road (and following days).

18th—Race meeting of the Bromley Cycling Club, on the Cricket Ground, Widmore-road, Bromley.

22nd—*Tenth Sunday after Trinity.*

23rd—Meeting of the Bromley School Board, at Wharton-road Schools, Bromley.

25th—Annual Licensing Ssssions, Court House, Bromley, at 10.30.

26th—Bromley Bible Flower Mission, at Parish Room, West-street, Bromley.

29th—*Eleventh Sunday after Trinity.*

30th—Bromley Petty Ssssions, Court House, Bromley, at 10.30.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

This Council met on June 29th and July 15th, when several matters which had previously engaged considerable attention, were again brought forward, among them being

THE DUST DEPOT.

At the first meeting, among the bills passed for payment by the Finance Committee was one of £50 for the hire of the dust depot.

Mr. Lawrence thought the time had come when the Council should be paid for the dust instead of having to pay for the use of a depot. He proposed that they should give notice to discontinue the use of the shoot.

The Chairman remarked that there was no agreement in force now, and probably the owner would allow them to continue to deposit the dust at the same place without payment, if he was so glad to have it.

THE JUBILEE REJOICINGS.

At the close of the business Mr. Grinsted referred to the festivities in celebration of the Jubilee which had passed off so successfully, and to the great assistance rendered by the Chairman and several members of the Council and the officers, to all of whom he proposed that a vote of thanks should be tendered.

Mr. Dickins seconded the proposition, which was supported by Mr. Worley, and unanimously carried.

In replying, Mr. Davis said the whole celebration had passed off without a hitch and had given the greatest satisfaction to all concerned. He also endorsed the expression of thanks to the Council's officers.

Mr. Mallett (the vice-chairman) also suitably replied, stating that the part he had taken in the work had given him great pleasure.

UNDISCOVERED OWNERSHIP.

In reply to Mr. Peill, who inquired if the Clerk had obtained any information respecting the ownership of a piece of land in Chatterton-road, upon which the Council had a lien for making up the road, the Clerk said he had not been able to ascertain the whereabouts of the owner. The Council must, he said, proceed against an individual.

Mr. Peill suggested that the land should be enclosed with a temporary fence, but nothing was done.

THE WIDENING OF GLASSMILL BRIDGE.

After repeated appeals from residents in the locality to the Council to take some steps to remedy the dangerous corner at the bottom of the lane, where several serious cycling accidents had occurred, the Council had authorised the Surveyor to temporarily widen the bridge, and it was now reported that this work had been completed.—The work of proceeding with the permanent bridge widening, estimated to cost £140, was recommended by the Highways Committee, and after some discussion, this was agreed to.

THE JUBILEE GIFT OF LAND.

At the first meeting Mr. Nye wrote enclosing a petition urging the Council to convene a public meeting to consider Mr. Coles Child's gift of the "White Hart" field, but the Council refused to grant the request. The matter was again introduced at the second meeting, by the receipt of several communications from Mr. H. Nye, enclosing copies of resolutions passed at open-air meetings protesting against the Council's acceptance of Mr. Coles Child's "conditional gift"—as it was termed— of the "White Hart" field, and Mr. D. Grinsted's action in making an entrance from his garden into the proposed pleasure grounds.—The Chairman pointed out that the Council's resolution accepting the offer could not, even if it was desired, be rescinded within a period of three months, and he hoped by that time persons would calm down and be able to consider the matter quietly.

DAMAGE BY FLOODING.

A lengthy letter was received from Mr. H. Podger's solicitors, respecting the flooding of Mr. Podger's house and laundry works in Homesdale-road, Bromley Common, and asking that the Coun-

cil would give them a definite assurance that steps would be taken immediately to remedy the evil, caused, it was alleged, by the admission of storm and rain water into the sewers.—The Chairman pointed out that, in the days of the old Local Board, he had opposed the admission of rain water into the sewers, and that it was contrary to their agreement with the West Kent Board.—Mr. G. Payne said the Committee were doing all they could to find out the cause of the damage and to remedy it.—It was agreed to refer the matter to the Drainage and Sanitary Committee, and to send the solicitors (Messrs. Venn and Woodcock) a copy of the resolution passed by the Council authorising the Surveyor to examine the sewer and to forthwith remedy any defects that might be found.

Rowdyism of Excursionists.

Copies were received from the Kent County Council of bye-laws made by that body for the suppression of obscene language, and disorderly conduct in public places, and the playing of musical instruments, &c.—In reply to Mr. Bond, who complained of the great annoyance caused by street noises, the Chairman pointed out that the Council had no power, but he promised to ascertain from the police authorities what steps they proposed to take to carry out the bye-laws.

Widening of Beckenham Lane.

The seal of the Council was fixed to a conveyance of land from Mr. Dyas to the Council for the widening of Beckenham-lane, to the extent of about 18 feet between Blyth-road and Mr. Cawston's estate, and a cheque was also ordered to be drawn for £250 for payment of the purchase price.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

This Board has met twice during July, the proceedings on each occasion being more lengthy than usual, owing to the variety of matters which were introduced and discussed. At the first meeting, held on July 5th,

The Board's Purchase of Land

In Jaffray-road for the Raglan-road Schools was discussed, the Clerk reporting that Messrs. Baxter, Payne, and Lepper had declined to re-open the question of price. Eventually it was decided to complete the purchase.

The Meeting-Place.

The Board's decision to hold the meetings at the Wharton-road Schools, instead of at the District Council Offices, was again opposed by Mr. Gomer, who sought to rescind the resolution; but his motion failed to find a seconder and accordingly fell through. Mr. Gomer contended that the old meeting-place was more convenient, and that no saving of money would be effected by the change.

The Use of Playgrounds.

A proposition made by Mr. H. W. Amos in favour of the school playgrounds being thrown open to the children at all suitable hours was also considered, the mover and seconder (the Rev. R. Silvey) urging that it would provide means of withdrawing children from the streets. After some discussion, it was decided to refer the matter to the School Mangement Committee, and at the next Board meeting their recommendation that the playgrounds should be thrown open on week-days from eight a.m. to eight p.m., for a period of three months, was adopted.

Pupil Teachers' Instruction.

The question of making some alteration as to the instruction of pupil teachers, for which the head teachers are at present responsible, was also debated. In a letter from the Education Department it was pointed out that pupils teachers' centres had been used by School Boards for the instruction of their own pupil teachers, and when so used pupil teachers from other schools had been allowed to attend on payment of a fee sufficient to prevent any additional charge falling on the rates. —The Chairman said the Board felt that the time had arrived when they ought to relieve the head-teachers of the labour of coaching up pupil teachers and provided adjacent Boards would co-operate in the establishment of a pupil teachers' centre, it could, he believed, be carried out without any extra expense. The sum paid by the Board in extra grants to teachers was equivalent to about half the amount necessary to obtain the exclusive services of one teacher, so that if other authorities contributed *pro rata*, the idea could easily be carried out.—It was agreed to refer the matter to the School Management Committee, and in the meantime to communicate with neighbouring school authorities on the subject.—At the next meeting the Committee reported that they had adjourned consideration of the question.—The Rev. R. Silvey suggested that pending the settlement of the matter the head-teachers should be communicated with, stating that the Board wished the instruction better attended to, and he proposed that three points should be emphasised (1) that the instruction should be given in the school buildings; (2) that the time of instruction must be fixed by the head-teachers and sanctioned by the Board and not altered without the Board's consent; and (3) that the time of instruction should come not closer to the time of the scholars' instruction than fifteen minutes.—Ultimately the Rev. R. Silvey withdrew his proposition, the Chairman promising that the points raised by him should be considered by the Committee.

Parents Wrongfully Summoned.

At the second meeting, held on 19th July, in moving the adoption of the School Attendance Committee's report, Mr. Loly called attention to the fact that many parents had been unnecessarily summoned in respect of their children's attendance, their children having put in over 80 per cent. of attendances. The cases ought not to have been brought before the Attendance Officer by the teachers; and Mr. Weeks agreed that some injustice had been done.

The Board's Finances.

From some statistics quoted by the Chairman from the balance-sheet for the year, it appeared that the grants had amounted to £1,989 15s., as compared with £1,882 7s. 9d. in the preceding year, and the expenditure was £3,584 12s. 8d. as against £4,140 15s. 1d. in 1896. The expenditure was less than in 1896 owing to the fact that in 1897 they spent £371 in repairs as compared with £953 in 1896.

Evening Continuation Classes.

The proposal to resume the holding of evening continuation classes, originally brought forward by Mr. Packham, was discussed at some length, Mr. Loly expressing the opinion that the Board should first take steps to ascertain the probable number of intending pupils before they repeated an experiment which had previously been a failure.—The Chirman (Mr. Gedney) supported the Committee's recommendation that the classes should be held, pointing out that they could easily be stopped if the support was not sufficient. The total cost of the previous classes, after deducting the fee grant of £67 15s. 9d., had been £129 18s. 4d.—Miss Heppel also spoke in favour of the classes being re-established, and it was agreed that the Aylesbury-road Schools be opened for the classes for men and boys' and the Wharton-road Schools for women and girls on the first Monday in October.

The Board agreed to adjourn for the summer holiday until August 23rd, the schools also being closed until the same date.

KENTISH CASTLES.

SANDOWN.

Of "the three castles which keep the Downs," viz., Sandown, Deal, and Walmer — Sandown, though now in an advanced stage of ruin, was usually considered the most important. It has been so generally the custom to regard these three castles as of the time of Henry VIII., that one is rather startled to find that one of them—that now under consideration—has good claims to be regarded as having been in mediæval times a first-class fortress, and one of the most powerful of the land defences of the south-east coast of England.

The architecture of this castle has long been misunderstood, and it is a curious fact that it is not until this late stage in its demolition, when the waves of the sea are tearing its stones apart, and grinding them into fragments on the foreshore or rounding them into pebbles and boulders, that the true history of this structure has been brought to light.

From two points of view—architectural and historical—Sandown Castle is a place of very considerable interest, and it is much to be regretted that some means have not been found by which the walls could have been preserved from the encroaching waves. At present little is left, much having been broken and battered by the natural elements, as well as by the guncotton of the sappers and miners, who, a few years ago, endeavoured to demolish the tottering walls, in the belief that they were a possible source of danger to the public.

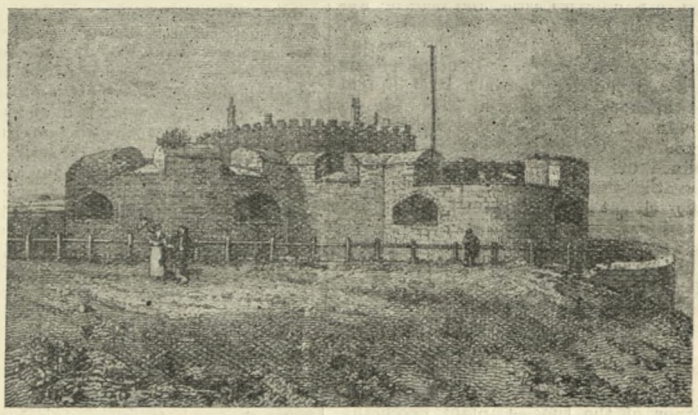
To the uninitiated in these matters the ruins present a great scene of confusion, but as recently as last year an architect—Mr. C. J. Ferguson, F.S.A.—made a careful examination of the remains and came to the conclusion that this castle was undoubtedly of Norman workmanship, of the same date and character as the well-known church of St. Margaret-at-Cliffe, near Dover.

At Sandown Castle he observed the same facing-stones from Caen and marks of the same diagonal strokes of the hatchet upon them as are to be found at St. Margaret's Church. At Sandown Castle, moreover, sections are exposed showing the thin encasement of the walls in a specially prepared facing and a core of concrete—features of construction peculiarly charasteristic of Roman and Norman work.

The remains of the fortress, according to Mr. Ferguson's opinion, show that Sandown Castle consisted of a great circular keep or donjon about eighty-five feet in diameter, with walls upwards of twelve feet in thickness. Within it was a central shaft twenty-four feet in diameter, with a well-hole inside it six feet in diameter; and at a distance of about twenty feet was a wall of counter guard, with four semi-circular bastions projected from it, each with a diameter of seventy feet, and walls equal in thickness to those of the donjon itself. A plan in the British Museum, dated 1735, seems to indicate that beyond the encircling wall it had a great ditch of something like fifty feet in width.

Sandown Castle was, therefore, a very large and strong fortress indeed, containing a notable example of a circular keep in any country, and without a rival of its kind in England. The remains to show that to this earlier building, doors, windows of Caen stone, and vaulting of the most beautiful red brick were added in Tudor times. The fragmentary remains of both Norman and Tudor work were last year in almost perfect condition.

If Mr. Ferguson's conclusion as to the date of the fabric of this Castle be correct, it is clear that the Normans of the twelfth century did not trust to the land defences of Dover alone, but erected a fortress of the first class to protect the southern point of the famous Bay of Sandwich, at that time London's chief outlet to the southern seas.



SANDOWN CASTLE.

(From an engraving about 1830.)

There is not much to add with regard to the fabric, except that the walls and masses of concrete are being slowly but surely fretted away by the lapping waves in summer, by the ever-grinding shingle on the foreshore, and by the frantic waves which in the wintry season dash against the ruin with irresistible fury.

Little is recorded of the military history of Sandown Castle, although doubtless it has taken its part in the defence of the sea coast at this point. During the 16th, 17th, and part of the 18th century a garrison was maintained within its walls under the direction of a *custos* or keeper. In 1626 Sir Thomas Love, Knight, had a grant under the privy seal of the Keepership of the Castle for life, and in the following year John Pennington had a similar grant for his life: in 1635 was appointed Keeper, and in the reign of George I. John Hardres, Esq., held the office. In 1779 William Ker, Marquis of Lothian, was Keeper, and at the end of the last century J. Robinson, Esq., was Captain, and John Bray, jun,. was Lieutenant under him.

It may be interesting to note the rate of payment and the number of the garrison in the 17th century. The establishment in 1662 was a Captain receiving £20 a year and 20d. a day; a

Lieutenant, receiving £12 per annum; upper and under porters, and eight gunners. The total cost of this staff was £156 17s. 4d. a year.

The chief feature of historical interest is the association of this castle with the fortunes of Col. John Hutchinson, the regicide. Colonel Hutchinson, who represented Nottingham in the Long Parliament, was appointed Governor of Nottingham Castle in June, 1643, which post he held stoutly against the forces of the King. He received from Lord Fairfax in the following November a commission to raise a foot regiment, and was finally appointed by Parliament Governor of both the town and castle of Nottingham.

Hutchinson was much employed by Cromwell, who, in 1649, appointed him a member of the first Council of State, but after the breaking up of the Parliament by Cromwell, Hutchinson left him, and retired into private life at his own property of Owthorpe. Here, in October, 1663, he was arrested, brought a prisoner to Newark, and thence to London, where he was placed in the Tower, a close prisoner, on the charge of conspiracy.

In April, 1664, a warrant for Hutchinson's transportation to the Isle of Man was prepared, but for some reason it was decided that he should be imprisoned in Sandown Castle, and here he was accordingly brought on May 3rd, 1664. His wife accompanied him, living at Deal, as she was not allowed quarters in the castle. Information, in considerable detail, on Hutchinson's brief life at Sandown Castle is to be found in "The Life of Colonel Hutchinson," written by his widow. In this work Sandown Castle is described as a lamentable, ruined old place, the rooms all out of repair, not weather-proof, with no kind of proper accommodation either for lodging or diet, or any convenience of life. The chamber appointed to the prisoner was a thoroughfare, and he was forced to glaze it; it had five doors, one of which opened on a gun platform exposed to the bleak air of the sea, which at times washed the front of the walls, "and though the walls were four yards thick, yet it rained in through the cracks in them; and then one might sweep a peck of saltpetre off them every day, which stood in a perpetual sweat upon them."

The Governor of the time—Captain Freeman was a rough and sour person, and Hutchinson endured much extortion at his hands. Yet he bore it all so cheerfully that he was never more pleasant and contented in his life. "When no other recreations were left him," says his biographer, "he diverted himself with sorting and shadowing cockle shells, which his wife and daughter gathered for him." After a time an order was with difficulty obtained giving him leave to walk by the sea with a keeper, which made the imprisonment less irksome.

In August Mrs. Hutchinson left to go home on account of her children and to get supplies for the Colonel, who had fallen into bad health, having been seized with fever and ague, and the illness, due to the inclemency of his lodgings, increased so rapidly that he sank and died September 11th, 1664, aged only forty-eight. The doctors made affidavit "that the place had killed him." The grief-stricken widow obtained permission to bury her husband's body at Owthorpe.

The Rainfall. — The rainfall for June, as measured in Widmore-road, Bromley, amounted to 4.56 inches, the largest amount registered in one day being 1.65 in. on the 6th. In the corresponding month last year it was 3.34 inches. For the first six months of the year the total rainfall has measured 14.97 in., while for the first six months of last year it only reached 8.49 inches.

GRAND BAZAAR AT BROMLEY PALACE.

One of the chief local events of the month has been the Bazaar in aid of St. Mark's Church Building Fund, which was held in the beautiful grounds of Bromley Palace, at the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Child, on July 6th and 7th. Fortunately the weather, though at first threatening, proved all that could be desired, and the scene was very bright and animated. The stalls had been erected and the approach to the bazaar tastefully decorated by Mr. G. Pyrke, and these, with the light and varied colours of the lady visitors' dresses made a gay and picturesque contrast to the dull red brick of the House, and the green of the stately trees and sloping lawns, while in the distance there was a lovely view of the hills towards Knockholt. The bazaar was opened on the first day by Lady Sophie Scott, wife of Sir Samuel Scott, Bart., of Sundridge Park, who was accompanied by Mr. E. Packe, and after the ceremony she made the tour of the stalls, accompanied by the Vicar, the Rev. A. G. Hellicar, and made a number of purchases.

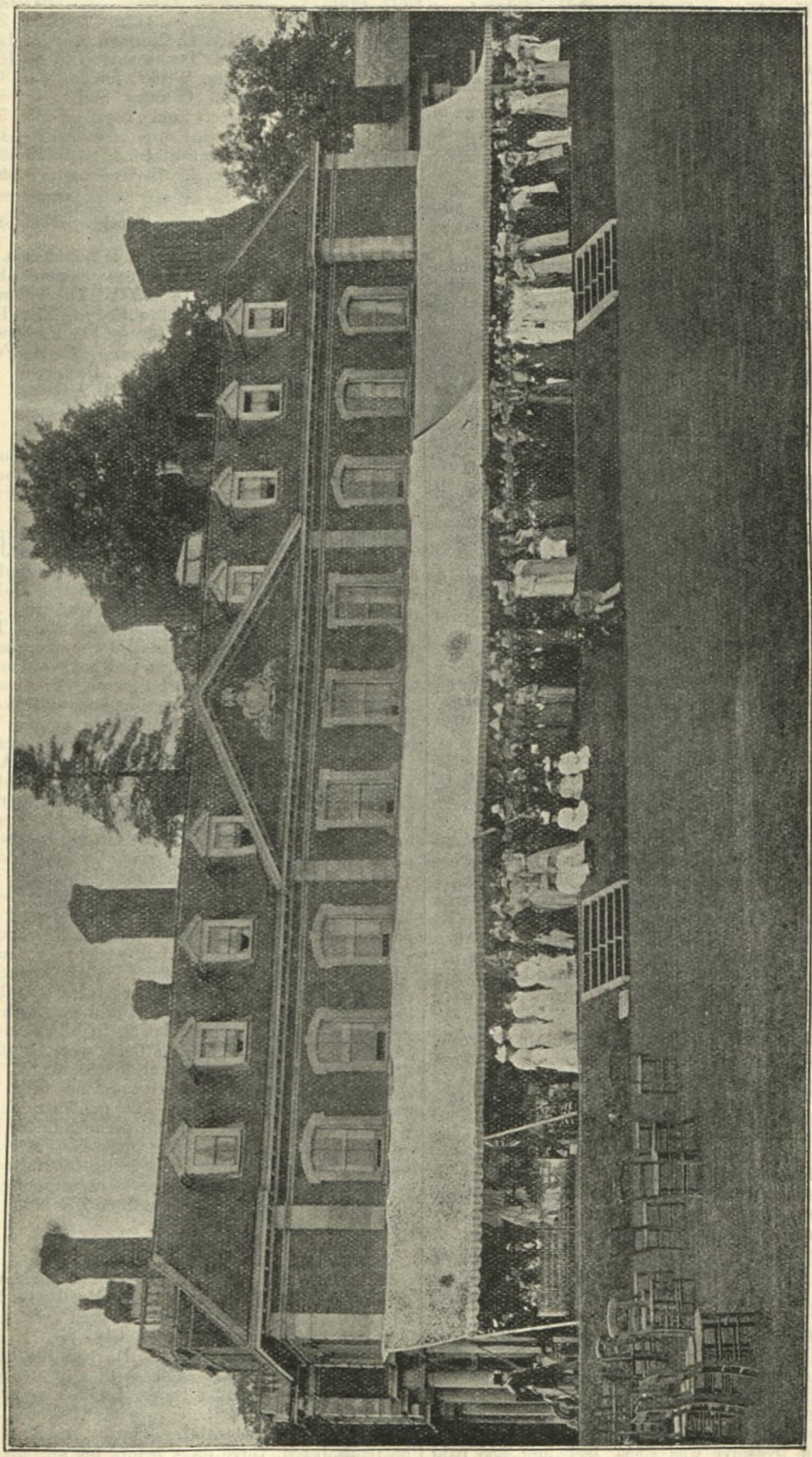
At such gatherings much depends, of course, on the attractive arrangement and display of the saleable wares, and a glance round the stalls at once revealed considerable taste and ingenuity on the part of the ladies who had undertaken this task. Each stall was set out as temptingly as possible, and though with the fancy stalls there was necessarily some similarity of colour and of articles, yet at each department special features appeared to be displayed. On approaching the lawn the first to attract notice was a sweet and toy stall, situate on the right-hand side, where the Misses Hellicar were in charge, assisted by Miss Hutchinson and Miss Gordon. Boxes of choice confections, large and small, were exhibited, American sweets being evidently the speciality, and during the two days the lady attendants received very encouraging patronage, while a good demand for toys had also to be met.

The fancy stalls were ranged side by side, that undertaken by "the ladies of Bickley" being at the end nearest to the entrance. Here, a splendid assortment of miscellaneous articles was tastefully set out, including some handsome juvenile garments, and beautifully worked cushions, while among the smaller goods writing utensils, vases, and many nic-nacs were conspicuous. One novelty —introduced by one of the lady attendants—which found a capital sale, consisted of a neatly printed "Everybody's early-rising chart." There was also a parcels department in connection with this stall, at which purchasers were able to have their goods carefully packed. The ladies superintending the Bickley stall included Miss Evered, Mrs. Lambert, Mrs. Chalmers, Mrs. Leishman, and Miss Fryer.

Mrs. Hellicar and Mrs. Gerard Norman, assisted by Miss Marzetti, Miss Devas, and Miss Norman, attended another fancy stall, where a great variety of handsome goods found a place, whilst some excellent photographs of the Vicar of Bromley formed another noticeable feature.

Another stall laden with fancy goods was presided over by Mrs. Eden, who was assisted in the sale by Miss Blackwood, Miss A. Blackwood and Miss Colvill. Prominence was given at this department to come capital water-colour paintings, and there was also a varied collection of hand-painted plaques, specimens of crewel-work, table-centres, &c., &c.

The adjoining stall was very tastefully set out with fancy articles, made or collected by Mrs.



ST. MARK'S CHURCH BAZAAR AT BROMLEY PALACE.—OPENING CEREMONY.

[*Bromley and Beckenham.*

Lavender & Co.]

Dewey and Mrs. Dashwood, the ladies in charge, who were assisted in their labours by the Misses Dewey (3). Fine embroidery work and other fancy things, too numerous to enumerate, were arranged on this stall, while a collection of articles brought from the Holy Land, and sent by Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Lucas ,of Bromley, found a ready sale.

Mrs. Grinsted and Mrs. G. Weeks had charge of the next stall, where fancy goods were also on sale, and they had as their assistants: The Misses Grinsted, Miss Davis and Miss Weeks. The stall was very prettily aranged, and its speciality consisted of some beautiful lace-work, designed and executed by Mrs. Grinsted. Some fine views, taken by Mr. Weeks, were shown, and there was an abundance of fancy goods of the usual kind which find a ready sale on such occasions, including photo-frames, crewel and crochet-work, d'oylies, &c., &c.

Lady Bruce, Mrs. Soames and Mrs. H. Ilott were the ladies in attendance at the next stall, where a charming stock of suitable articles was nicely aranged. Dolls daintily dressed, cushions and tea-cosies richly embroidered, and some fine metal-work ornaments were a few of the most prominent lines, while a valuable collection of Worcester china and glass ware, &c., was exhibited on an adjoining stand attended to principally by Mrs. Soames. A special feature of attraction at these ladies' stall was the exhibition of a pair of shoes, worn by Her Majesty when Princess Victoria, which could be viewed on payment of a very small charge. Miss Ilott, Miss Soames, Miss M. Ilott, Miss Bruce and Miss M. Bruce assisted at this stall.

Down on the lawn, under the cool shade of a large tree, a stall for the sale of dairy produce was arranged, Miss Ethel Aitken being in charge, assisted by Miss Helen Clutton-Brock and Miss Helen Mugliston. Poultry, butter, cream, &c., were temptingly set out, with numberless baskets of strawberries. The young ladies were attired in becoming costumes, and the stall was a source of considerable attraction.

The flower stall was situate at the opposite end of the lawn, and here baskets of flowers, bouquets and dainty button-holes were exhibited under a huge Japanese covering, fixed with cords covered with many-cloured flowers. Here Mrs. C .R. Ford presided, and Miss Crosbie Hill, Miss Alice Stokes and Miss Kent gave their assistance in attending to customers. The flowers had been given by many ladies resident in the district, and were shown to the best advantage.

A little further back, the indispensable refreshment stall was to be found, the tables, arranged under a large tent, being filled with delicacies of all kinds. Mrs. Coles Child presided over this department and had a band of young ladies to assist her, amongst them being Miss Alice Brown, Mrs. Torrens, Miss Torrens, Miss Tweedy, and Mdlle. Perriet. A "bran-pie" cleverly designed in the shape of a crown, was another attraction, and this was looked after by two young ladies—Miss Marjorie Child and Miss Mabel Lighton.

There was also a fortune-teller's cave in another part of the grounds, which was visited by a good number of people, and here Miss Maud Hamilton presided.

On Tuesday the Band of the Royal Artillery performed an excellent programme of music, while the same service was rendered by the Band of the 2nd V.B. "Queen's Own" Royal West Kent Regiment on Wednesday. There was a good attendance on both days, and the full amount handed in to the treasurer was £564, including £65 paid for admission. The amounts realised at the respective stalls were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Lady Bruce, Mrs. Soames and Mrs. Ilott	100	12	9
Ladies of Bickley...	100	2	4
Mrs. Hellicar and Mrs. G. Norman ...	72	12	0
Mrs. Dewey and Mrs. Dashwood ...	65	16	10
Mrs. Grinsted and Mrs. Weeks, jun....	45	4	1
Miss E. Aitken (West Country Stall	43	3	6
Misses Hellicar (Sweets and Toys)...	23	3	4
Mrs. Eden	20	1	6
Mrs. Child (Refreshment Stall)... ...	13	10	8
Mrs. Ford (Flowers)	9	6	3
Total...	£433	13	3

When all expenses are paid it is hoped that the amount still required for the new church—about £3,000—will be reduced by £500. The following gentlemen formed the Committee:—The Rev. A G. Hellicar (chairman), Messrs. T. C. Dewey, and D. Grinsted (joint treasurers), C. R. Ford, Eckford, Hodgkinson, E. Latter, Dashwood, the Rev. J. M. Tamplin and Mr. R. B. Aitken.

Heavy Fines for Betting.—At the Bromley Petty Sessions on July 12th, William Nobbs, a young man carrying on business as newsagent and tobacconist at No. 10, Masons-hill, Bromley, was summoned for using his premises for the purpose of betting with persons resorting thereto, on June 11th and other dates. Mr. Muskett appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Commissioner of Police, and evidence was given by detectives, who had kept a watch on the premises from the "Two Brewers" public-house opposite, of the shop being frequented by numbers of men and boys—as many as 30 entering within a short time on one occasion—who handed defendant slips of paper and money for the purpose of betting on horse races. The money and slips, it appeared, were subsequently delivered to a bookmaker named Edwards. After a lengthy hearing the Magistrates fined defendant £90 and costs, and in default of payment sentenced him to six months' imprisonment. Nobbs elected to go to prison.—At the same sitting the bookmaker, John Edwards, who was also described as a laundry-man, of Southlands-road, Bromley, was charged with using the "Signal" public-house, Masons-hill, on June 25th, and other dates for the purpose of betting. Evidence was given by police officers, who had seen defendant register bets made with a large number of persons, including porters, cabdrivers, labourers, and others, at the public-house, and on one of the dates a raid was made on the house, when 11 slips relating to bets made in eight minutes, and a betting book were found in his possession. After deliberation the Magistrates imposed the same fine as in the previous case, and defendant paid £60 down.—The publican, James Knight, was then charged with permitting his premises to be used for betting purposes, and was fined £12 and costs, his licence being ordered to be endorsed, but against this latter sentence notice of appeal to Quarter Sessions has been given.

The will of the late Mr. John Biddulph Martin, of 17, Hyde Park-gate, brother of Mr. R. B. Martin, M.P., of Chislehurst, has just been proved, the personal estate being valued at £147,128 15s. net, and £171,778 12s. 4d. gross. He was the holder of 10,000 shares of £20 each, with £10 each paid up thereon, in Martin's Bank, Limited, of which Mr. R. B. Martin, M.P., is now the chairman. Mr. Robert Martin, the testator's father, died, it will be remembered, three days before his son, and he left in personalty £90,000, including £16,000 in shares in Martin's Bank.

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DIARY.

July.

3rd—Pastoral plays in the grounds of Shortlands House, Shortlands, by Mr. Percy H. Vernon and a talented Company, in aid of the Phillips Memorial Homœopathic Hospital, Bromley. The pieces performed consisted of "Gringoire" and the garden scenes from Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night."—Beckenham Cricket Club's thirty-first annual athletic sports at Foxgrove-road, a very successful gathering resulting.

5th—Jubilee celebration fete at West Wickham, the prizes, in the various sports, being distributed by Lady Lennard.—Sixth annual excursion, arranged by the Bromley Temperance Council, to Hastings and St. Leonards, the trip being well patronised.

6th—Lady Sophie Scott opened a grand bazaar at the Bromley Palace grounds, in aid of the St. Mark's Building Fund. The bazaar, which continued open on the following day, was largely attended, and realised about £500.—Jubilee fete in the grounds of Mottingham Hall, Mottingham.

7th—Annual business meeting of the Bromley and District Football League, at the Co-operative Hall, Mr. G. Rendall being re-elected President.—Bromley Congregational Sunday School scholars had their annual trip to Ramsgate and Margate.—Meeting of Bromley's Jubilee Celebration Committee, when a deficit of £90 was reported.

8th—Local Government Board inquiry at Bromley concerning Urban Council's application for loans for fire brigade purposes and for sewerage and surface water works.

10th—Annual garden meeting of the Bromley and Shortlands branch of the Women's Total Abstinence Union, in the grounds of Bonnington, Blackbrook-lane, Bickley, the Rev. T. Eynon Davies, of Beckenham, presiding.—Lawn tennis inter-county cup contest between Kent and Middlesex at Beckenham, Middlesex being victorious

12th—Bromley newsagent named John Nobbs and a bookmaker named Edwards fined £90 each and costs, the former for using his shop for betting purposes and Edwards for using the "Signal" public-house, Bromley, for betting; James Knight, the landlord of the "Signal" was fined £12 and had his license endorsed for allowing his licensed premises to be so used.—Bromley and Chislehurst Foresters held their combined excursion to Dover and Folkestone.

14th—Annual show in connection with the Chislehurst Cottagers' Association at the Rectory Meadow and Village Hall.—Address on famine work in India by the Rev. J. Parson at Bromley Wesleyan Church.—Fifteenth annual cricket match between coachmen and gardeners of Beckenham, followed by a dinner at the Public Hall.

17th—Bromley Common District Cottagers' Society's annual show and athletic sports at the Park, Bromley Common.—Beckenham Abbey School sports.

19th.—Beckenham's third annual cricket week commenced.—Audit of the West Kent Main Sewerage Board's accounts, Mr. E. S. Harris raising several objections.—Inquest at Bromley touching the death of Miss C. Craker, an old resident, who was knocked down by a cyclist. Death was due to apoplexy, and a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

21st—Al fresco fete at the Widmore-road cricket ground in aid of the local Jubilee Celebration Fund. Very inclement weather prevailed and greatly interfered with the gathering.—Bromley Workhouse inmates entertained at Baston Manor, Hayes, by Captain and Mrs. Torrens.—Corporal Borer, West Kent Yeomanry (of Bromley) won the Dewar prize at Bisley.—Annual meeting of the Bromley Congregational Church.

22nd—Plaistow School children's annual treat at Sundridge Park.—Hayes Flower Show, Sports, and School Treat.

23rd—Church parade of the Bromley Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, at St. Luke's, Bromley Common.

24th—Quernmore House School annual sports at Plaistow Lodge.—Twenty-sixth annual fete of the Keston Lodge of Oddfellows at Bromley Common.

28th—Bromley Cycling Club's race meeting at the Widmore-road cricket ground.—Beckenham Flower Show at the Croydon-road Recreation Ground.

On Bank Holiday evening, August 2nd, Mr. Tom J. Morton and Mr. Ernest Dod, will bring a strong Company to give a representation of Tom Taylor's well-known play "The Ticket-of-Leave Man," at the Bromley Grand Hall. The caste will include Tom J. Morton, Harold Cleaver, and Miss Kate Bedderwick, and the piece will only be given for one night. Tickets may be obtained at E. Strong and Sons, 14, Market-square, Bromley.

Mr. W. H. Forster, M.P., has paired for the remainder of the session, and has gone abroad with Mrs. Forster. The hon. member is one of the directors of the Yukon Goldfields, Ltd., a company formed to work the newly-discovered goldfields of Alaska.

The Duke of Cambridge distributed the prizes at the Royal Naval School at Mottingham on July 26th, and delivered an address to the boys.

Prince Kropotkin is about to journey to Toronto to attend the meetings of the British Association, which will this year be held in that city.

Sir John Bennett, whose death, at the age of 83, took place last month at St. Leonards, formerly resided at Chislehurst.

The Rev. E. A. Graham, late curate-in-charge of St. Michael's Church, Beckenham, last month resigned his curacy, and has been received into the Roman Catholic Communion.

The death took place at St. Leonards-on-Sea on July 19th, of Mrs. Reed, widow of the Rev. George Varenne Reed, rector of Hayes and Rural Dean, who died in December, 1886. Mrs. Reed, who was much loved and respected in the parish, in which her husband had worked for about 40 years, had latterly resided at St. Leonards, and had reached the advanced age of 79 years. The funeral took place at Hayes, where her husband lies buried.

"IVA KILDARE,"

By Mrs. L. B. Walford,

Author of "Mr. Smith," "Cousins," "Frederick," "A Mere Child," "The Baby's Grandmother," etc., etc.

CHAPTER VII.

"TREY'RE QUEER THINGS, THE BOYS!"

It was easy to say "If I don't take care," but how on earth was Lady Tilbury to take care? She could not shut Reggie Goffe out of the house, or Iva up in her room. She could not begin now to put a stop to his looking in at all hours, and searching round in all places. He had been accustomed to have the run of Tilbury Court from his youth up, and the roots of long habit were too deeply struck by this time to be torn up without a wrench altogether disproportionate to the occasion.

As she had herself said to Iva, any change of manner on her own part would be provocative of an outcry on that of all the rest; even Maud and the younger ones would have stared and looked at each other; yet to have the usual easy intimacy continue unabated would certainly seem like courting peril.

On the other hand was Iva's "We can't have this sort of thing now!" Iva was safe so far, when she could say that. Her tongue would have been tied had there been any secret misgivings, any lurking consciousness; for Iva was a truthful girl, and would have scorned by dissimulation to throw her mother off the scent.

Still, that was no criterion for the future. "Didn't I say to my own foolish heart over and over again that I cared no more for Jack Kildare than the post by the garden gate, and didn't I just jump at him the moment he said the word?" reflected the widow, with a smile and a sigh; "and didn't I think Sir Thomas Tilbury a mighty fine man, and Tilbury Court a beautiful place, and wasn't it all I could do to bring myself to say 'Yes' when *he* proposed? How is a poor girl to know what she will feel like when the time comes? Maybe, just the very other way to what she felt before!" cogitated she, smiling and murmuring, as the profundity of her wisdom set her up in her own eyes. "Oh, they're queer things, the boys! A boy may talk and talk, and pay you fine compliments, spend his breath and his money upon you; and another just gives a lift of his eye——." Then Lady Tilbury paused, and the Irish girl stiffened into the baronet's lady and county dowager. "It would be a wretched marriage for Iva. Sir Thomas always told me that Iva ought to marry well, and predicted that a single season in town would be all that she required. She had her season, and made nothing of it. She went everywhere, and was seen everywhere. She looked her best. But what was her 'best' was other girls' 'best' as well. Florence, Ethel, Evelyn," running over in her mind a list of *debutantes*, "their mothers thought the same of them as I did of Iva. Oh, I'm not a fool!" (Lady Tilbury was right. She was by no means a fool.) "Sure enough, *I* think no one can touch my Iva—my pretty Iva—with the blue mist in her eyes and the red paint on her lips; but though she is there before them, and they need be stone-blind not to see the difference, they don't see it. Say they to me—to me—Iva's mother: 'Have you heard how immensely dear Florrie was admired at the Embassy ball?'"—mimicking—"or 'I suppose I ought not to refuse that invitation of the Duke's for darling Ethel. They make such a point of her going. They say the whole party is got up for her.' I'm very fond of Lady Christopher Bell—I am indeed; but when she goes raving on about that affected, airified daughter of hers, gazing at her as if she were a goddess, and whispering where she gets her dresses, as if we were all just dying to hear, I do feel inclined to say; 'Sure, we don't care if Evelyn pulls her clothes out of the rag-bag!' They don't catch me thrusting Iva down their throats Her mother isn't going to be her trumpeter. I just sat still as a mouse, thinking to myself: Silly sheep! I see through you all. It's something for a girl to have a clever mother like me. But I couldn't make Iva *go*, cleverness and all," reflected Lady Tilbury, her complacency dying out. "Anyhow, she didn't go off. To be sure, we made fun of some of them that might have come after her; there was that fat Jemmy Tong—but I never could abide a fat man, no more can Iva; and then there was the red-headed Vernon; Vernon's a good name, and he was a good-natured decent creature—but red hair, and freckles, and a mouth that met at the back! Iva is like myself; we do fairly *turn* at ugly men. Well, now, Reggie Goffe is not particularly good-looking," continued the lady, turning to more practical reflections. "I wonder if I'm not making a mountain out of Reggie. A mole-hill he may not exactly be, but there are degrees. I shall just have to take care," she concluded, as she had begun.

This reverie took place on the afternoon of the day when the young gentleman brought up his broken finger-nail to be nursed. He had appeared at noon, stayed luncheon, and hung about the doors till three o'clock, when he had formed a fishing-party, and swept off the whole four girls and the governess to the river.

Of course they caught nothing; it was very seldom they ever did catch anything; but it was useless to try and stop their going. Useless, that is to say, from the wisdom point. Lady Tilbury could have pronounced an arbitrary "I won't have it!" She would have done so promptly enough on another occasion, but she knew better than to risk the "Why not?" which would have burst from all alike, had she ventured on the prohibition now.

Iva had said that her mother was to be "formal and serious, which was all very fine. What good would formality and seriousness do if shared by nobody? Iva herself was in a gay, ironical mood, not at all adapted to check the spirits of the rest; while the younger sisters, instead of eating their dinners phlegmatically, as was their wont—the while they kept their ears open for any scraps of information over which to gloat in private—were all on the giggle. Lady Tilbury, who, with all her partiality for her first-born, was still the mother of them all, looked from one to another benignantly, and could not find it in her heart to restrain the mirth so seldom evinced. "They are all stupid. They are not like Iva and me," she would say to herself. "Poor things! it is not their fault; Sir Thomas's daughters—although Sir Thomas was a fine man—but still, how can they be anything else?" And if one of the three by a mere chance was smart or shrewd, the saying was applauded, and the speaker patted on the shoulder, with an amount of approval never accorded to Iva.

"Pooh! You can't help having an Irish tongue in your head!"

Iva had once taken her mother to task for commending a small jest of Maud's as though it were a fine original aphorism, and Lady Tilbury had tossed her head, and retorted as above.

What was instinctive in a Kildare was creditable and to be encouraged in a Tilbury. "Sir Thomas, poor man, never knew when I was laughing and when not," cried she. "I can see his face; Iva, you know how he used to look—so puzzled and bewildered; and then he would say in his slow, solemn way: 'Of course, if you are *joking*—but why did you not tell me you were joking? As if one needed to tell! It is the English way, my dear; I soon grew accustomed to it, and liked Sir

Thomas none the less. Indeed, he was a very fine man; Iva, always remember that your stepfather was a fine, generous, high-minded gentleman—ah, but he was different from my poor Jack, who, if he had lived—he wasn't as good a man as Sir Thomas, Iva——"

Here Iva would break in with a stormy remonstrance, which would sometimes be listened to, sometimes not.

Either way, her mother would adhere obstinately to what she had said, for, albeit the girl's passionate partisanship for the father whom her infantile eyes alone had beheld was music in her ears, recollection was too keen, and frankness of disposition too ineradicable.

In moments of confidence, truth would out. "He was just a wild scamp, that's what he was! Indeed, 'twas well he was taken." Lady Tilbury would wipe her eyes and shake her head. "He would have broken my heart if he had lived, Iva, my darling;" and by that time, having heard all she had heard, and hung her head for shame during the recital, Iva would listen in silence; and, the past being very real and vivid before her when thus depicted, would wonder a little to see her mother as merry and cheerful as ever an hour afterwards.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE "IRISHWOMAN."

"There go those Irishwomen and their adorer!" exclaimed Miss Sophia Lossett, one autumn afternoon shortly after this.

The light was waning, but Miss Sophy's eyes were sharp, and she had time ere Lady Tilbury's open landau rolled past over the cobbles, to see that it contained not only her ladyship and her eldest daughter, but Reginald Goffe, the latter leaning forward comfortably to address them from the front seat.

"One would think that, having done so well for herself, my lady would know better than to have that poor penniless Reggie hanging on to Iva," continued the spinster, gazing after the carriage, while addressing herself to someone within. "He is never away from them; and of course he can't go there as he does without being encouraged. It's not as if there were any man or boy at Tilbury Court for him to go about with; he must be with the girls the whole time; and Lady Tilbury will only have herself to thank if anything comes of it."

"I don't suppose Lady Tilbury will ask your advice in the management of her affairs." Major-General Lossett, V.C., who was seated napping in his armchair by the fire, and who had received his daughter's opening comments with a solitary grunt, here so far woke up to the occasion as to make a testy response. He had no greater affection for Lady Tilbury than Sophia had. Shall we tell our readers why?

On Sir Thomas Tilbury's demise, three years before, the old general, who had taken up his abode in the village—in one of the respectable dwelling-houses embowered in shrubs of which previous mention has been made—was observed to hold his head higher and step out more briskly than was his wont. New suits came down for him from London, and certain threats of growing a beard to save the trouble of shaving, which had for some time off and on distracted Miss Sophy (who had a horror of beards), were heard of no more.

Sophy may have guessed what this meant, or she may not. Probably she had her suspicions; but if so, like a dutiful daughter, she kept them to herself, being tolerably sure that she need not trouble her head as to anything coming of it all.

"Does he think I'd take *him* for a third?" could not have been ejaculated with greater vehemence by Lady Tilbury herself than it was in effect by the general's middle-aged daughter, who was also, truth to tell, Lady Tilbury's contemporary and rival.

For Sophy had her own grudge against the mistress of Tilbury Court, and calling her "the Irishwoman," as Marie Antoinette was derisively styled "the Austrian," relieved her spleen on her own account, as well as on her father's.

Miss Lossett would fain have been Sir Thomas's wife; the general had sought to succeed Sir Thomas as Lady Tilbury's husband.

On first becoming inhabitants of the village of Little Cary, far from the haunts of men—as haunts go in these days—the two were younger by sixteen years than they were on this, our first introduction to them. The general, just retired from the army, spruce, upright, energetic, was, in his own opinion, an addition to any neighbourhood, and equal to "making his market" in any society.

His daughter, to be sure, was an encumbrance; but Sophy was a good-looking lass still under thirty; an eligible widower or mature bachelor might be found for her; and in pitching upon The Gate House, Little Cary, as a good camping ground, it is probable the wily soldier took into account the proximity of Tilbury Park, with its free and unclaimed owner.

Here was the very man for Sophy! A man of sixty, and a confirmed bachelor—but with no occasion for being so. A stalwart, ruddy-faced country gentleman, who in all probability hated fine ladies and fashionable persecution; who, it was understood, seldom quitted his own neighbourhood, but had no dislike to social intercourse if carried on within its limits. Sophy would have every chance; and Sophy thought so too.

It did seem a piece of the cruellest ill-luck that the gentleman in question, having remained quiescent throughout previous long years of bachelorhood, should within six months of the Gate House, being inhabited, bring over from The Sister Isle a bright-eyed dame, with a free tread and youthful bloom, though accompanied by a little maid, three years of age, a saucy, babyish edition of herself.

Everybody took kindly to the bride, moreover. She was called upon by the principal ladies of the neighbourhood, and speedily took her place among them. The duchess, in spite of living a dozen miles off had found her way over to Tilbury Court after meeting the Tilburys at dinner, and laughing till she cried over Irish stories told with Irish spirit and vivacity. Sir Thomas had been deeply gratified by the attention, and by finding that the same ready speech and joyous laugh which had tickled his own ears, had power to charm others.

Secretly, he had been a little nervous about the new Lady Tilbury's success in county society. All the sayings anent foolish marriages and doting elderly husbands which had ever come to his ken marshalled themselves in array before him now; and, aware that he had recklessly let himself go, and succumbed to the pretty widow's charms without a struggle, he told himself stoutly that he must now be prepared to stand by her, should the worst come to the worst.

At any rate, he took comfort in the reflection that no one could deny his Molly's looks, nor her native grace and elegance. She would outshine her sex one and all, as far as these were concerned; but if they took to looking down upon her on other grounds, turning up their dashed noses, because she was (with a gulp) a nobody who came from nowhere—confound the impudence of women! this was just what they were sure to do!—*he* would glare them down, and see them far enough before one of them should set foot in Tilbury Court! Three neckties did Sir Thomas ruin and fling away as he pursued his fierce ruminations on the occasion of the first county dinner.

But that dinner sounded the bugle note of recall. He recanted every word he had uttered against

the wives and daughters of his good friends and neighbours. They were a very decent set of old girls; he never wished to live among a better. They had taken Molly by the hand, and—and actually made a fuss about her! He had seen his bride not merely put forward and seated in a place of honour—that was inevitable—but honestly and genuinely the centre of attraction. One and another had murmured flattering asides in his delighted ear.

And Molly herself seemed quite at ease, chatting away on the big central ottoman, beneath a blaze of overhanging light, which made her look dazzlingly fresh and fair, so that her proud proprietor could scarce keep his own eyes properly turned in other directions. He saw that the seats on either side of Lady Tilbury were never vacant; that men stood in front of her; and when she sang, as she did presently, a wild, sweet ditty of her native land, and when at its close there was a deep-drawn breath from all, followed by a burst of applause and gratitude, Sir Thomas's triumph was complete.

It was complete so far as it went; but even such a triumph was capable of extension, as was evident within a brief space.

An invitation came from the dean and the dean's wife, and this having been accepted, and the evening having arrived, Lady Tilbury, with an idea of suiting herself to her company, donned the most sober costume in her wardrobe, and then, fearing she had gone too far, relieved it by putting on the whole of her diamonds.

The result was simply enchanting; she had never looked better in her life.

And unconsciously she followed up the idea when it came to talking time. As she was in a clerical house, and dignitaries of Church and State were present—including the duke and a ducal party—Molly of Athlone, who had never been in company of the kind before (though no one would have guessed as much, and only Sir Thomas knew it for a fact), sat demure and graceful throughout the early part of the evening, speaking only when spoken to, and keeping her dancing eyes upon the table-cloth when the fun of others induced her almost irresistibly to take part in it—and then all at once, as she had bejewelled herself because too plainly garbed before her mirror, so did she flash out into witty sayings and rippling laughter so soon as it seemed she was overdoing her part of mute auditor in a gay general conversation.

After this it was that the ladies in the drawing-room had such a treat as the dean's dinner-parties rarely afforded.

And it was on the same occasion that the animated, "Your wife has charmed us all, Sir Thomas. May I be allowed to drive over to Tilbury Court and improve our acquaintance?' of the duchess, as she shook Sir Thomas by the hand on departure, stamped Sir Thomas's choice as a success for all time.

Nor had the good impression once created ever been suffered to die out. Lady Tilbury was a person to disarm the foul fiend himself—unless under special conditions. These conditions only attaching to two people—so far, at least, as come within the limits of these pages—all the other inhabitants of the district were on the best of terms with the frank and blithe young madam.

They did not resent her cleverness, for they did not know she was clever. She did not talk intellectually, nor even always sensibly. She simply "ran on" and made them laugh.

And the laughter was often led against herself. Her blunders, her mishaps, the unlucky days she had when everything went wrong, and the comical figure she cut in her misery would be depicted so graphically and with such absence of any *amour propre* that no one could resist the fascination.

"Is she not rather a silly person?" the very profound and prosaic dean's wife did once or twice adventure when well away from her friend the duchess. "I should never say so at Heath Castle, for Lady Tilbury is such a favourite there; but I do sometimes feel that the mother of all those children——"

No one else, however, seemed to think that the children had anything to do with it. They came in rapid succession, Maud, Mabel, and Marianne—it was Sir Thomas's whim to confine them to one initial letter—and still Lady Tilbury looked as young as ever, was as sprightly as ever; but her character was unimpeachable, and her life irreproachable.

She even advanced in public favour, as it was seen that she accommodated herself to the traditions of the neighbourhood, and adopted its manners and customs—in short, naturalised herself as completely as though she had gone through the ceremony at a consul's office. Nothing was further from her purpose than to fly her own flag and sail away from the old-established fleet. On the contrary, she was anxiously careful to manifest on every possible occasion her desire to do as others did, and, as Sir Thomas Tilbury's wife, to be catalogued with all the other wives of her own standing in the county, joining in their schemes, assisting in their charities, participating in their businesses and pleasures.

Sir Thomas's purse was at her command, and it was well filled—fuller than that of any landowner around—but Lady Tilbury knew better than to oppress the neighbourhood with lavishness. She never made a mistake in giving too large a donation, nor in proposing amalgamations on too expensive a scale. "There was a time when a shilling was a shilling to me," she was wont to remind herself—and Sophy Lossett owed more than she ever suspected to that reflection.

All the same, Sophy could not forgive her supplanter—not even when the reverend lady at the Deanery came to own that lightheartedness and levity were different things, and that if Lady Tilbury had "not much mind," she had at any rate "a kind heart."

Lady Tilbury, it may just be mentioned, chanced after a time to have it in her power to render Mrs. Chancellor a service, what she herself deemed only a trifling service, but which struck a tender, tremulous chord in the stern matron's soul—(for it affected a son who ought to have been prodigal, but was not)—so that the poor woman, who might otherwise have been a formidable critic, was disabled, being the prey of a deep-seated reticent gratitude, which acted in future like a drag on the wheel if ever Lady Tilbury's name were set a-rolling in her presence, and loosened tongues might otherwise have sought to be-little her.

A set face with stiffened lips, or a few pungent words would soon let those beneath the deanery influence know what they were to think of Sir Thomas Tilbury's wife.

Within the seclusion of her boudoir, Mrs. Chancellor would be still more explicit. "My dear Caroline"—she had a sister named Caroline, and Caroline acted as her mouthpiece towards outlying acquaintances—"my dear Caroline, Lady Tilbury is not a person of any cultivation; her abilities are not by any means first-rate. Besides which there can be no doubt that her manners are flighty—decidedly flighty. But she has a kind heart, Caroline, a kind heart, as—ahem!—I have occasion to know."

It was not necessary for Caroline to be informed as to the "occasion," for, of course, Caroline was perfectly aware to what her poor dear sister referred.

"Lady Tilbury has a kind heart," the dean's wife would proceed with emphasis—warmly too,

for her; "and, my dear, what is more to be desired in man or woman than a kind heart?"

People whose hearts were not exactly kind were apt to take off Mrs. Chancellor when thus delivering herself of a platitude. Quip, the organist, could do it to the life. She was called pompous, and sententious; but few persons realise how difficult it is for a dean's wife not to be pompous and sententious. Even Mr. Dean himself permitted his opinions to be stolen, re-hatched, and presented to him again as new and original.

So then it was laid down by diaconal law that Lady Tilbury had a kind heart; and as it had taken four or five years for the discovery to be made, it was valued in proportion; it put the coping stone on the favour which its unconscious object had been building up for herself in the interim.

Whatever else Lady Tilbury might or might not be, she had a kind heart, for the dean's wife had said so; and then another voice gave tongue to the same tune—that of a man not addicted to caring for things pure, lovely, and of good report. "Lady Tilbury? She's a pretty woman, an' a good woman; an' Tilbury's a deuced lucky fellow!" growled Puddington, the ill-mannered, savage M.F.H., whose wife was always on the sofa, and a thorn in his flesh on other grounds besides, as all the world knew. "Men who wait to get married till they are well away in their second half-century can afford to pick a rosebud without thorns," uttered he, thinking of his prickly home.

But his harsh, strident tones would insensibly soften when addressing his friend's wife; and those who knew the man would find it almost pathetic to see how he watched with the tail of his eye Sir Thomas's big bulky form hovering about the waggonette wherein sat his radiant young wife in the midst of her flock, all turned out spick and span for the meet.

Iva would be on her pony, keeping fast by her step-father's side, panting for the run to begin; and Sir Thomas would be every whit as proud of her as if she had been one of his own.

Poor Puddington, who had an empty nursery, and was not even allowed to be jolly with associates of his own sort because of crabbed, lynx-eyed jealousy, would mark Sir Thomas strut and crow over his brood like the worthy old gamecock he was—and himself scuffle off after the hounds with something like an oath at his heart.

After his own fashion, Puddington would have been a domestic man; but early wedlock in search of gold had barred fast the way. His one possibly unconscious wish now was that it might at last open clear before him, clear as Sir Thomas's had done, and that he also might find a —Lady Tilbury.

But when Sir Thomas died, Mr. Puddington was still shackled as fast as he had ever been, and Major-General Lossett, V.C., had no need to dread him as a rival. Puddington was not among those who marched smiling up to the widow's door, and slunk frowning away.

And he still swore by Lady Tilbury—instead of swearing at her. In consequence, the general called him a "jackass," and Miss Sophy thought him scarce worth waiting for; since even if the invalid wife were to drop off at last, and make a final exit from her couch and her medicine bottles, it was more than likely that the emancipated M.F.H. would turn his eyes straight towards Tilbury Court, undeterred by the bones of the victims gone that way before him.

He was known to entertain a feeling that was almost respect for Lady Tilbury, and respect from a man like Puddington meant a great deal. "He'd be after her like a shot, if that wife of his would die," said Lossett.

(To be continued.)

Volunteer Inspection.—The annual inspection of the 2nd V.B. "The Queen's Own" (Royal West Kent Regiment) took place on Saturday, July 10th, at Charlton Park, by kind permission of Sir Spencer Maryon Wilson, in very pleasant weather. The Bromley Companies fell in at the Drill Hall, East-street, at 2.45, and headed by the Band, marched to the S.E.R. Station, where they entrained for St. John's, from thence proceeding to Headquarters, at Blackheath. The Detachment mustered 131, the officers present being Captain B. H. Latter (commanding the Detachment), Capt. M. C. Matthews, and Lieutenants Hitchins, Stringer, and White. The Battalion, which was nearly 700 strong, was commanded by Colonel E. Satterthwaite and Major E. Latter. The inspecting officer was Colonel Bayley, and his report of the inspection was on the whole very favourable. Various evolutions were carried out, the Bromley Companies being the best in the march past. The inspection was over shortly before eight o'clock, the majority of the Bromley men reaching home about ten.

Treat to Workhouse Inmates.—The inmates of the Bromley Union spent a very pleasant time on July 21st in the beautiful grounds of Baston Manor, Hayes, the residence of Captain Torrens. The party, numbering nearly 350, left the Union in the morning at about ten o'clock, and on arrival at Baston Manor they were received by Capt. and Mrs. Torrens. At one o'clock a sumptuous dinner, consisting of roast beef, ham, pickles, and vegetables, with beer and mineral waters, was served, after which tobacco was supplied to the men. During the afternoon races were held, for which capital presents were given by Mrs. Torrens. A large number of Guardians were present. After tea, a Jubilee mug and medal was presented to each inmate by Capt. Torrens.

Shocking Fatality at Addington.—On July 12th a shocking accident, ending fatally, occurred at Addington, a man named William Cole, aged 25, and belonging to Kemsing, being run over by a waggon attached to a traction engine. His head was completely smashed, death being instantaneous.—At the inquest subsequently held a verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned.

Mr. Wm. Schofield, contractor, of Beckenham Cottage, Wickham-road, was last month declared elected unopposed, in succession to Mr. R. Bowles, as a member of the Beckenham Urban District Council for the Lawrie Park Ward.

Mr. J. Allanson Benson, late organist and choirmaster of Victoria Park Church, Harrogate, a position he had held for over twenty years, has been appointed choirmaster of the Bromley Wesleyan Church.

Corporal Borer, of the West Kent Yeomanry, won the Dewar Prize in the Shooting Competitions at Bisley.

CHISLEHURST.

Flower Show and Sports.—The annual exhibition of the Chislehurst Cottage Gardeners Association was held in the Village Hall and Rectory Meadow on July 14th, in delightfully fine weather. The cottagers' classes showed a great advance on former years and there was a capital lot of exhibits, the large hall being completely filled with fruit, flowers, and vegetables. The dinner table decorations were a source of great attraction, being without exception choice and tasteful, and the groups of plants not for competition were greatly admired. The show was visited by large numbers of people, and a programme of athletic sports was carried out during the afternoon and evening.

HAYES.

The National Telephone Company propose extending their system to the village of Hayes, as applications have been received from several of the residents for a telephone service.

Jubilee Garden Party.—Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Hambro, of Hayes Place, gave a garden party in honour of the Queen's Jubilee on July 1st, to which all the inhabitants of the village were invited. At 4 30 the children, with a fair sprinkling of adults, sat down to a bountiful tea on the lawn, and two hours later the elders partook of a substantial dinner, when many of the principal residents of the parish were present and assisted the host and hostess in waiting upon their guests, of whom there were no fewer than 760 at the two meals together. After dinner the time was pleasantly passed in listening to the strains of the Village Band, in various games, and in strolling about the lovely grounds. The entertainment was brought to a conclusion by a grand display of fireworks.

KESTON.

Diamond Jubilee Fete.—Wednesday, June 30th, was the day selected by the parish for the local celebration in honour of the Jubilee. The proceedings opened with a service in the church at 2.30, after which the children marched in procession to Holwood Park, where a substantial and inviting tea was served to the youngsters in a large marquee, and medals were presented to each child by the Dowager Countess of Derby. At 5.30, the women of the parish sat down to tea, and two hours later the men were regaled at a substantial supper. In the course of the afternoon there were some athletic sports, the prizes for which were distributed by Lady Margaret Cecil, and cheers were subsequently given for the Countess of Derby, Lady Margaret and Lord Sackville Cecil.

WEST WICKHAM.

Jubilee Festivities.—This village held its Jubilee celebration on Monday, July 5th, in a field kindly lent by Mr. R. A. McAndrew, J.P. In the afternoon races for boys and girls were run, and a sumptuous tea was provided for the children. The adult parishioners, to the number of about 500, partook of a more substantial meal later. Men's sports followed, at the conclusion of which the prizes were presented by Lady Lennard, who was accompanied by Col. Sir John F. Lennard, Bart. Among the other amusements were an excellent display of fireworks, and dancing to the strains of the West Wickham Band.

DOWNE.

Diamond Jubilee Celebration.—The Downe Diamond Jubilee Celebration took place on July 1st. At three o'clock, headed by the Orpington Brass Band, all the children of the parish marched to a field kindly lent by the Hon. Evelyn Hubbard. Subsequently they assembled on Mr. Hubbard's lawn, when each child was presented with a medal. On returning to the field athletic sports were held, followed by tea, which was provided for all parishioners. In the evening there was more racing and dancing, and finally a magnificent display of fireworks, the gift of Mr. Hugh Lubbock. Each child received, in addition to the medal, a bun, a bag of sweets, and a Jubilee handkerchief.

Births.

Ingram.—On the 24th June, at Rathnew, Aldersmead-road, Beckenham, the wife of William G. Ingram of a daughter.

Lighton.—On the 30th June, at Craigievar, Bromley, Kent, Lady Lighton, of a son.

Mallett.—Jubilee Day, at "Bromley House," Tarkastad, South Africa, the wife of Harry Mallett, (*nee* Agnes Hilder) of a daughter.

Whyte.—On July 8th, at Ripley, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Robert Whyte, Junr., of a daughter.

Zwilgmeyer.—On the 26th June, at Oatlands, Bromley, Kent, the wife of George Zwilgmeyer, of a daughter.

Marriages.

Inglis—Basley.—On July 9th, at the Parish Church, Bromley, Kent, by the Rev. J. M. Tamplin, M.A., Maude Hilda, eldest daughter of the late Frederick Harold Basley, of Cadogan-place, to Walter Henry Inglis, son of W. W. Inglis, M.D., Glendower, Bromley.

Johnson—Milnes.—On the 24th June, at Christ Church Harrogate, by the Rev. Stephen C. Walley, Vicar of Kirkthorpe, Wakefield, assisted by the Rev. R. W. Fawkes Vicar, Fredk. James, eldest son of Frederick Joseph Johnson, of Hillside, South-hill, Bromley, Kent, to Lilian, fourth daughter of Eli Milnes, of Harrogate and Bradford.

Leury—Sentance.—On the 12th July, at All Saints', Margaret-street, by the Rev. Herbert Dale, of Folkestone, assisted by the Rev. Allen Whitworth, Vicar and the Rev. Hardinge Squire, Vicar of Kenley, Hugh, third son of Alfred Leury, of Bucklands, Dover, to Hilda Christine, of Bramley Lodge, Folkestone, sixth daughter of the late William Sentance, of Bickley, Kent.

Mathew — Bean.—July 1st, at St. Paul's Church, New Beckenham, by the Rev. Charles Green, assisted by the Rev. C. V. P. Day, Leonard Frank, son of Mr. Michael Mathew, of Beckenham, to Beatrice Royffe, third daughter of Mr. Bean, of Lyndwood, Hayne-road, Beckenham.

Munns—Tulloch.—On the 26th June, at St. Luke's Church, Bromley, Kent, by the Rev. R. I. Woodhouse, Rector of Merstham, Surrey, assisted by the Vicar, the Rev. E. L. Colebrooke, Hugh Summers Munns, B.A., B.C.L. Oxon., third son of Arnold S. Munns, Esq., of Bickley, Kent, to Harriette Georgiana, youngest daughter of Major Tulloch, C.B., Royal Engineers, Chief Engineering Inspector Local Government Board, Whitehall.

Deaths.

Doyle.—On the 17th July, at Clairvaux, Plaistow-lane, Bromley, Kent, Louisa Doyle, aged 53, wife of William Doyle, and younger daughter of the late D. J. Rearden, of Piccadilly.

Reed.—On the 19th July, at St. Leonards-on-Sea Mary Worley, widow of the Rev. Geo. Varenne Reed, M.A., Rector of Hayes and Rural Dean, in her 80th year.

Shakespear.—On the 29th June, at 57, Tweedy-road, Bromley, Kent, Louisa Caroline Shakespear, widow of Lt.-Col. John Davenport Shakespear, late R.A., and daughter of the late Robert Sayer, of Sibton Park, Suffolk, aged 69 years.

Skinner.—On the 14th July, at 8, Trinity-crescent, Folkestone, Hannah, wife of Thomas Skinner, M.D., of Waylands, The Knoll, Beckenham, Kent, and 6, York-place, W., aged 72.

Young.—On the 24th June, at Strathmore, Lennard-road, Beckenham, Kent, Amy, the beloved wife of Walter Hankins Young. Canadian papers, please copy.

FUNERALS.—J. HUMERSTON, Undertaker and Appraiser, 17, East Street, Bromley; Upholsterer and Cabinet Maker. rc132

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Good Young	24/- 2/-
Fine old Tawny	36/- 3/-
Ditto well-matured	48/- 4/-
Superior old fine quality	54/- 4/6
Ditto Crofts No 1	60/- 5/1
Ditto, ditto Grand Wine	66/- 5/6
Ditto very choice	72/- 6/-
Ditto rare old wines	84/- to 150/-

Tarragona.

	pr doz.
Superior Wines	12/- 18/- & 24/-

Liqueurs.

	pr bot.	pr ½bot.
Curacoa	5/-	2/9
Maraschino	5/-	2/9
Chartreuse yellow	8/-	4/6
Ditto Green	10/6	5/3
Benedictine	7/-	3/9
Kirsch Wasser		3/6
Kummell Riga		4/-
Noyeau, Pink		2/9
Angostura Bitters		2/6
Heering Copenhagen Cherry Brandy	4/6	2/6

Cordials.

	pr bot.
Pamphilon's Cherry Brandy	3/-
Orange Bitters	3/-
Peach Bitters	3/6
Ginger Brandy	3/- 3/6
Rum Shrub	2/6 3/-
Peppermint	2/- 2/6
Cloves	2/- 2/6
Noyeau	3/-
Milk Punch	3/6
Lovage	2/6

Bottled Ales, Stout, Etc.

	pr doz.	Imp pts.
Pamphilon's Special Dinner Ale	2/6	
Ditto Nourishing Stout	2/6	
Light Dinner Stout	3/-	
Bass Pale Ale (½ pints 2/6)	4/-	
Bass No. 1 Burton in ½-pints	3/6	
Pamphilon's Pale Ale	3/-	
Pilsener Lager Beer (½ pints 2/6)	4/6	
Guinness' extra Stout (½ pints 2/6)	4/-	

Clarets.

	pr doz.	pr bot
Claret	12/-	1/-
Vin Ordinaire	15/	1/3
Vin de Medoc ..... 1893 vintage	18/-	1/6
St. Julien ..... 1893 ,,	24/-	2/-
Pauillac ..... 1891 ,,	30/-	2/6
Margaux ..... 1890 ,,	36/-	3/-
Chateau Margaux 1889 ,,	54/-	4/6
Chateau Palmer ... 1890 ,,	54/-	4/6
Ch. Lafite ..... 1893 ,,	60/-	5/-
Sauternes, Graves	21/- to 36/-	

Stock in Half-Bottles.

Claret	9/- 9d.
Medoc	10/6 11d.
St. Julien	13/6 1/2
Pauillac	16/6 1/5
Margaux	19/6 1/8

Sherries.

Natural Sherry	16/-		1/4
Sherry	18/-		1/6
Light Sound Wine	24/-		2/-
Old fashioned Brown	30/-		2/6
Pamphilon's Dinner Sherry	30/-		2/6
Nutty Character	36/-		3/-
Golden, Generous	42/-		3/6
Very Fine Brown	42/-		3/6
Pale old Dry	48/-		4/-
Ditto very Choice	54/-		4/6
Choice old Rare Wines	60/- to 100/-		

Marsala.

	per doz.
Ingham & Woodhouse	18/- 21/- & 24/-

Madeira.

Various	36/- to 60 -

Scotch Whiskies.

	pr gal	pr doz	pr bot
Good	15/-	30/-	2/6
Fine old	18/-	36/-	3/-
Superior 5 years old	21/-	42/-	3/6
Glenlivet Bd, 7 years old ...	22/-	44/-	3/8
Very fine Highland Malt ...	22/-	44/-	3/8
Pamphilon's VOS. guaranteed 10 years old		24/- 48/-	4/-

Irish Whiskies.

Good	15/-	30/-	2/6
Fine old	18/-	36/-	3/
Superior old	21/-	42/-	3/6
Do. J. Jameson's, old Bonded	21/-	48/-	4/-

Rum.

Jamaica	15/-	30/-	2/6
Old Jamaica	18/-	36/-	3/-
V. O. Jamaica		3/6 and 4/-	

Brandies.

Pale	18/-	36/-	3/-
Fine old Pale ..... *	24/-	48/-	4/-
Fine old Cognac ..... **	27/-	54/-	4/6
Finest old Cognac ... ***	30/-	60/-	5/-
Choice old Cognac ... ****	34/6	69/-	5/9
Curious Old Cognac		100/-	8/6

Gins.

Cordial & Unsweetened	12/-	24/-	2/-
Fine old Tom	15/-	30/-	2/6
Ditto Finest.	16/-	32/-	2/8
Sloe, Orange, and Hop Gin.			

CASK ALES.

OUR SPECIALITÉ **F.P.A.** BREWED FROM PURE MALT & HOPS

Per Kild., 18/- ; Per Firkin, 9/6 ; Per Pin, 4/9.

ALL THE LEADING BRANDS OF **HAVANA CIGARS** CLUBS AND THE TRADE SUPPLIED.

QUERNMORE SCHOOL,

PLAISTOW LODGE, BROMLEY, KENT.

Established, 1880.

Boys from 5 to 16 years of age received as Boarders or Day-boys, to be prepared for Public School Entrance and Scholarships, the Navy, &c., and for Business.

Large Staff of Graduates. Every facility for *Sports*, under the supervision of Masters, in Playing Fields adjoining School.

Large Iron Play-room for wet weather.

Special classes for very young or backward boys conducted by Ladies, aided by Masters for French and Latin.

Dancing, Drill, and Gymnastic Classes in School Gymnasium.

Vocal Music and Sight Singing under Mr. F. LEWIS THOMAS.

Next Term begins 17th September.

For Prospectus and further information apply to Mr.

G. LOLY, B.A., Head Master.

GEORGE PYRKE,

147 & 148, HIGH STREET, BROMLEY, KENT.

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ESTIMATES FREE ON APPLICATION.

Staff of experienced workmen for carefully removing Furniture, Pianos, Pictures, Glass, &c., to or from any part of the world. Rout Seats, Plate, Glass, China, Mirrors, Linen, Dancing Cloths, Marquees, and every requisite for every class of Entertainments, Supplied on Hire.

Pianos (New and Second-hand), Bought, Sold, Lent on Hire, and Tuned by Contract or otherwise.
Furniture Repaired, Polished, and Re-stuffed by efficient workmen on the premises.

SECOND-HAND FURNITURE BOUGHT TO ANY AMOUNT

JAMES YOUNG,

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J. K. HUNTER,

PRACTICAL COACH BUILDER

LONDON ROAD, BROMLEY.

Carriages built on the most approved principles.

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BEDSTEADS, BEDDING.

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REMNANTS, SILKS, TAPESTRIES, VELVETS.

Special Prices for Re-upholstering Dining and Drawing-room Furniture.

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LIMITED,

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Head Offices - - - - - - - - - CROYDON.

APPOINTED BY SPECIAL ROYAL WARRANT

SOAP MAKERS TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

LIFEBUOY

Royal Disinfectant

SOAP.

A Doctor's Opinion.

TWYFORD, BERKS, *March 31st, 1896.*

DEAR SIRS,

We cannot overrate the value of cleanliness of person, that is of clothes and body. The bath, whether it be the daily cold tub, the evening warm bath, or the weekly Turkish, does far more than most people would believe. To avert sickness and maintain the body in health, such a soap as Lifebuoy Soap is beyond all praise, its softness and purity must commend it to all.

DR. GORDON STABLES, R.N.

A Nurse's Opinion.

5 PATSHULL ROAD, KENTISH TOWN, N.W.

DEAR SIRS,

I think it right that you should know I used your Lifebuoy Royal Disinfectant Soap for patients' clothing and rooms, extensively throughout the late epidemic. I never travel without it, and have found it invaluable. The more I use it the better pleased I am.

L. POLLARD,
Late Nurse of the R.H.S. and other Hospitals.

FOR SAVING LIFE.
FOR PRESERVATION OF HEALTH.

The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

SEPTEMBER, 1897.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st.—Race meeting of the Bromley Cycling Club, on the Cricket Ground, Widmore-road, Bromley.

4th.—"The Shaughraun" at the Grand Hall, Bromley (for one night only).

5th.—*Twelfth Sunday after Trinity.*

6th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

9th.—Annual visit of Lord John Sanger's circus to Bromley.—Bromley Bible Flower Mission at Parish-room, West-street, Bromley.

10th.—Revising Barrister's Court for the revision of voters' lists, at the Urban District Council Offices, Bromley.—Meetings of the West Kent Main Sewerage Board, and the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board at 96, High-street, Bromley.

12th.—*Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.*

13th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—"New Boy" company at the Grand Hall, Bromley. — Revising Barrister's Court at Beckenham Council Office, for Beckenham, Hayes, Keston, and West Wickham.

14th.—"New Boy" company at the Grand Hall, Bromley.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council, Council Offices, East-street, Bromley.

15th.—"New Boy" company at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

17th.—Annual visit of Lord George Sanger's circus to Bromley.

18th.—Annual meeting of the Bromley Hockey Club on the ground.

19th.—*Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.*

20th.—"The Geisha" at the Grand Hall, Bromley. —Bromley Petty Sessions, Court - house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

21st.—"The Geisha" at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

23rd.—Bromley Bible Flower Mission at the Parish-room, West-street, Bromley.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne, & Lepper, of furniture at "Somerton, Ravensbourne-road, Bromley; "Ashgate" and "Buckingham," Bickley; cottages at Farnborough; freehold cottages at Chelsfield, and 3, Market-square, Bromley, at the Bell Hotel, Bromley, at 8 o'clock.

24th.—Mr. Henry Chattell's company at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

25th.—Mr. Henry Chattell's company at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

26th.—*Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.*—Harvest Festival services, at the Church of the Annunciation, Chislehurst.

27th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—"The Mother of Three," at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

28th.—"The Mother of Three" at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

29th.—"The Mother of Three" at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

30th.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne, & Lepper of Freehold Building Land at Swanley Junction and "Keston Towers," Keston, at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, E.C.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

The Bromley Urban District Council held their last meeting before the summer vacation on Tuesday, July 27th, when only two representatives were absent.

OFFICERS' SALARIES.

A report from the Council in Committee was received, recommending increases—amounting to a little over £100 per annum—in the salaries of a number of the officials in the Clerk's and Surveyor's departments; and these were formally approved.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.

Upon the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee, the Council approved of the draft deed of transfer of the Electric Lighting Provisional Order, as amended by counsel, and decided to request Messrs. Todd, Dennes, & Lamb to furnish the names of those promoting the proposed Company, together with particulars of the proposed capital, for the Council's approval.

AN OVERPAID RATE.

A request from Dr. R. Parker Jeffreys, of "Stainsby," London-road, Bromley, to the Council to refund part of a rate he had over-paid, having left the house before he had anticipated, led to some discussion. Upon a division, the Council, by a majority of one, declined to make any repayment.

THE POSITION OF THE MORTUARY.

The Drainage and Sanitary Committee reported that they had given careful consideration to the ratepayers' memorial asking for the removal of the Mortuary from its present position in West-street, but they regretted that they were unable to find another suitable site.—Some discussion followed, in the course of which Mr. Dickins suggested that the Mortuary at the cemetery might be enlarged and the cost of its maintenance spread over the whole parish, so that it could be used for the purpose. He eventually moved an amendment in favour of the question being allowed to stand over, but this was defeated, and the Committee's report was then adopted.

CONNECTION OF PALACE-ROAD AND PALACE-GROVE.

Upon the recommendation of the Highways Committee, the Council adopted a scheme for the connection of Palace-road and Palace-grove, by means of Hawes-road, Mr. F. Pearce, the lessee, being prepared to co-operate in the improvement for certain considerations, one being the payment to him of a sum of £50.—The Chairman (Mr. T. Davis) remarked that it would be one of the greatest improvements that could be effected at a moderate cost in that part of the town.

THE FLOODING OF HOMESDALE-ROAD.

The Highways Committee also presented a special report dealing with the widening of Homesdale-road. They reported that the necessary land was available, and they recommended the carrying-out of the works, estimated to cost altogether about £800. It was pointed out that the improvement would remedy the flooding difficulty at Mr. Podger's laundry, inasmuch as the stream, which frequently overflowed, would take a straight course instead of going in two angular directions as before.—The report was unanimously adopted.

KENT ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

VISIT TO SEVENOAKS, CHEVENING, AND IGHTHAM.

The annual congress of the Kent Archæological Society, held on July 27th and 28th last, will long be remembered as one of the most enjoyable meetings of the Society in recent years, the magnificent weather making it possible to carry out successfully the attractive programme which had been mapped out for the members and their friends. The agenda for the two days included visits to four interesting houses, viz., Knole, Chevening, Yaldham Manor House, and Ightham, and to three churches, viz., Sevenoaks, Kemsing, and Ightham. It was, however, found necessary to omit the last-named edifice, the time occupied in driving from place to place having exceeded expectation.

A brief business meeting was held at the Sevenoaks Constitutional Club, under the chairmanship of the Earl Stanhope, the President of the Society, when the annual report was read by Mr. George Payne, the Honorary Secretary. This document showed that the Society is in a most flourishing condition, having had a large accession of new members, and possessing a highly satisfactory balance to its credit at the bankers. The deaths of Sir A. Wollaston Franks, P.S.A., F.R.S., and the Rev. W. A. Scott-Robertson, M.A., were referred to in appropriate terms, and after the re-election of the retiring members of the Council and other matters of formal business, progress was made to the parish church of Sevenoaks.

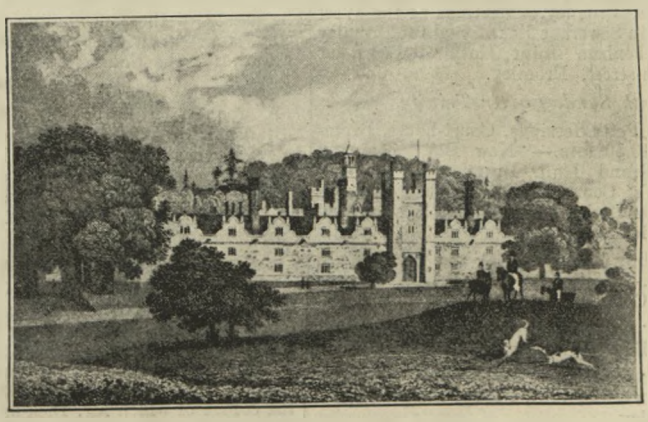
This church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is a large and handsome structure of perpendicular date, with some finely traceried windows and other good architectural features. Unfortunately, however, the hand of the modern restorer is very evident in some parts of the building, particularly in the absolutely new stone-work inserted in the place of original work in the windows. A cenotaph to Lambard, the "Perambulator of Kent, on the north wall of the church, was brought hither from Greenwich. Of modern work in the church special mention must be made of some beautiful stained glass windows by Kempe and other artists, and of the very artistic carved-oak desks and choir benches, designed by Sir Arthur Blomfield.

KNOLE.

After a brief space devoted to luncheon the members of the Society and visitors, numbering nearly three hundred, assembled at Knole. This house, so full of points of interest, so rich in its associations with past greatness, and still so lovely in spite of the ravages of time and numerous changes of ownership, was the most important item in the programme of the day.

Mr. Philip Norman, the Treasurer of the Society of Antiquaries of London, undertook the task of describing the charming old house, and in his brief but lucid account given in the courtyard just outside the entrance to the great hall he recalled the chief points in the story of the mansion.

The actual fabric of the house covers nearly four acres of ground, has 365 windows, 52 staircases, and seven courts, curiously coinciding with the number of days and weeks in the year and with the days of the week. Knole has been successively in the possession of the following persons:—Falcatius de Brent; Baldwin de Betun; William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke; Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk; Otho de Grandison; Geoffrey de Say; Ralph Lighe; and James Fiennes. In 1456, Knole was sold to Thomas Bourchier, Archbishop of Canterbury. This owner re-built the house and enclosed the park. He made it his chief residence, and on his death, which happened there in 1486, he bequeathed the manor with its appurtenances to the See of Canterbury, as a palace for his successors for ever.



KNOLE HOUSE.—NORTH FRONT.

The next archbishop, Cardinal Morton, frequently resided at Knole and spent large sums of money in repairing and enlarging the house. Archbishops Dean, Wareham, and Cranmer occasionally resided there, but during the time of the last-named prelate the manor of Knole, as also those of Wrotham, Bexley, Northfleet, and Maidstone were given up to the Crown, and Knole was ultimately granted with certain other estates by Edward VI. to John Dudley, Earl of Warwick. The next owner was Cardinal Pole, and he was succeeded by Henry Carey, Lord Hunsdown, afterwards Earl of Leicester, and next it came into the possession of Thomas Sackville, afterwards Earl of Dorset.

This distinguished possessor spent large sums upon the fabric of the house, and is said to have constantly employed two hundred workmen upon it. The elaborate screen in the hall, bearing his arms and those of his countess, were erected by him. Sackville was a distinguished poet and statesman, and is credited with the authorship of the first regular tragedy in our language—entitled "Gorboduc"—which was performed by the students of the Temple as one of their Christmas entertainments. It was also played in 1561 before Queen Elizabeth.

After Mr. Norman's lecture the party was divided into sections so as to be able to visit the various

apartments of the house and the gardens without inconvenience. The bedroom of James I. containthe elaborate bed with cloth of gold hangings, and the wash-stand and service of solid silver naturally attracted a good deal of attention, but nearly every room in this superb mansion is filled with costly and elaborate furniture and with paintings by the old masters. The time that could be spared upon this house was far too short to allow of even a cursory glance at all the objects of interest, but enough was seen to create a profound impression of the magnificence, the wealth, and the enormous artistic value of Knole House and its contents. The present owner and occupier is Lord Sackville, G.C.M.G., better known as Mr. Sackville West, British Ambassador to the United States.

After a drive through Sevenoaks and Chipstead, Chevening House was reached, where the company were most hospitably received by the Earl and Countess Stanhope.

CHEVENING HOUSE.

Chevening House, which was built in three different periods, was in part planned by Inigo Jones. This architect is responsible for the central portion or main building which was erected for Richard Lennard, Lord Dacre of the South, between the years 1616 and 1630. The Circular oak staircase in the hall was finished in or about 1722.

In 1717, Chevening came into the possession of General Stanhope, who was created Earl Stanhope in 1718. This possessor added shallow wings to the east and west sides of the house and erected large detached wings north-east and north-west of the house connected with the main building by means of two curved galleries.

During the possession of the house by Charles, third Earl of Stanhope (1786—1816) the red-brick work of Inigo Jones was covered by a facing of cream-coloured tiles, stone pilasters were added to the front, and stone-work was added about the front door and basement.

In the hall there are some interesting trophies of arms of the time of Queen Anne, which once belonged to a disbanded regiment of militia. In the principal apartments of the house are some most interesting portraits chiefly of members of the Pitt and Stanhope families, and the boudoir of Lady Stanhope is entirely hung with some beautiful tapestry presented in 1708 by Frederick the First, King of Prussia.

KEMSING.

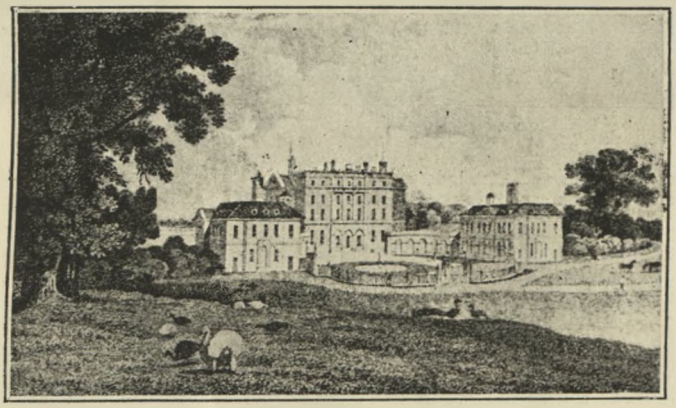
The second day's excursion included first a visit to the parish church at Kemsing. The ecclesiastical brass to Thomas de Hop, of early fourteenth century date, and the beautiful carved oak rood screen were the chief points of interest to archæologists. Of these the first has been unwarrantably removed from its original position to one in accordance with a mere nineteenth century "fad," whilst the rood-screen, once so beautiful in its mediæval simplicitity, has now been entirely overshadowed by an elaborate and altogether useless rood-loft. The effect has been to impart to the sacred edifice a new appearance which is entirely out of harmony with its real antiquity.

St. Edith's Well, in the village street, too, has been cleaned out, fenced round, and caged in with iron, and what used to be some twelve years ago a picturesque object is now naked and bald. The means taken for its preservation have rendered it unsightly.

A drive through beautiful country lanes and past some interesting specimens of early cottage architecture brought the visitors within sight of some fine old ornamental brick chimney stacks surrounded by masses of foliage. This was Yaldham Manor House, the next building to be visited by the Society.

History records the fact that the original name of this place was Ealdham (or "Old Dwelling") a name which is peculiarly appropriate to a manor house of this type. The three manors known as Great Yaldham, Little Yaldham, and West Yaldham were formerly owned by a family of the same name, one of whom, Sir Thomas de Aldham, was with Richard I. at the seige of Acon, in Palestine. His descendant, Sir Thomas de Aldham, possessed the three manors in the reign of Edward II., and on his death the property was divided between his three daughters, one of whom, Margery, married Martin Peckham. Yaldham Manor House thus became the property and home of the important family of Peckham, and it so continued until the eighteenth century—in fact, as long as it was a gentleman's seat. After about the year 1750 the house was converted into a farm-house. The fine hall still remains in a state of perfection, but the timbers of the roof have been painted in a somewhat unsympathetic and discordant style. Much of the brick-work of the original mansion remains, and the fine chimney-stacks, already mentioned, are original, but the house has again become a private residence, and a good deal of new work has been added to fit it for this purpose. The view from the lawn looking over the wealden scenery to the south is very fine.

Ightham Church, which was to have been next visited, had to be omitted, as time was running

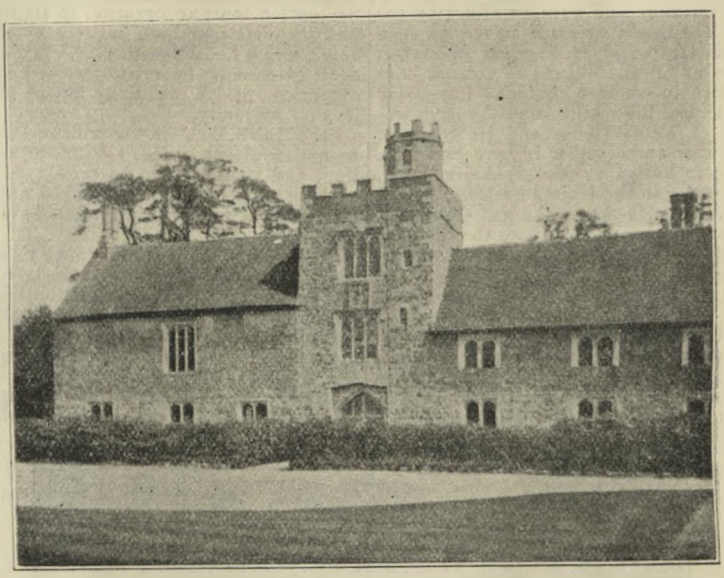


CHEVENING HOUSE.

short and all were anxious to see the Ightham Mote, which is situated at the southern extremity of the parish.

IGHTHAM MOTE.

As a house remarkable for architectural merit, beauty of natural situation, and that indescribable charm which results from the mellowing and soften-



IGHTHAM MOTE, WEST FRONT.

ing influences of the weather, Ightham Mote stands without a rival in the county. The first strong impression felt by a stranger on his first visit is perhaps the quietude and unmistakable antiquity of the place. One feels quite prepared to believe that there must have been a human dwelling-place here from the very earliest times. It is precisely the spot where one might expect to find remains of lacustrine dwellings. The situation, quite apart from the style of the existing architecture, speaks of centuries of habitation.

IGHTHAM MOTE, N.E. CORNER FROM KITCHEN BRIDGE.

As the old house now stands, its stained and crumbling walls rising above the glassy surface of the moat, it may be truly described as "a home of ancient peace." Such it has literally been for

centuries, and therefore its chronicles present no very important incidents.

The chief antiquarian interest of Ightham Mote centres in the architecture, and this was very ably described by Mr. Oldrid Scott, F.S.A. In his address he drew attention to the fine doorway leading to the hall, the hall window, and the lovely oak barge-boards visible from the interior of the quadrangle. The accompanying illustrations give a good general idea of the house, and convey better than any mere description can, an impression of its chief features—its grey walls, its ancient timbers, and the peaceful repose which it seems to enjoy after a long and useful existence.

IGHTHAM MOTE, INTERIOR OF CHAPEL, LOOKING EAST.

A visit to Ivy Hatch, where some so-called flint implements were exhibited, brought the congress to a close, every one agreeing that it had been a most successful function.

The accompanying views of Ightham Mote are from photographs kindly lent by Mr. G. W. Smith.

IGHTHAM MOTE, N.W. CORNER OF CHURCHYARD, SHOWING ENTRANCE TO CHAPEL.

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DIARY.

AUGUST.

4th.—Fourteenth annual flower and vegetable show, in connection with the Downe Horticultural Society.—Outbreak of fire at No. 3, Grove Park-terrace, Grove Park, occupied by Frederick Lock, a general dealer, considerable damage being done.

5th.—Serious accident at Foots Cray to a driver named John Pankhurst, who was badly injured, by being thrown out of a van, the horse running away at Sidcup Hill.

9th.—Meeting of the Keston Parish Council, at which a discussion took place respecting public rights over Keston Common and roadside wastes.

11th.—A Beckenham dressmaker named Miss Claxton recovered £20 10s. damages in the Bromley County Court, from Mrs. Booth, grocer, of Beckenham, for injuries received through the ignition of a box of "safety" matches in her hand, sold by the defendant.—Annual flower show under the auspices of the Alexandra Horticultural Society, at Elmgrove-road, Penge.

12th.—Half-yearly meeting of the Bromley Gas Consumers' Company, at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, Mr. A. Dickson (Chairman) presiding. The report showed increased business, and the usual dividends were declared.

15th.—Annual church parade of the Bromley friendly societies at St. Mary's Church, Plaistow, the sermon being preached by the Rev. J. W. Horsley. The sum of £9 2s. 6d. was collected for the Societies' Convalescent Home at Dover.

16th.—Kent v. Surrey cricket match at Beckenham and on following day, Surrey being victorious by 156 runs.

18th.—Second annual flower show at Farnborough.—One hundred miles scratch race for the "Vivid" Challenge Cup and Bromley Cycling Club championship, on the Catford track, C. L. Newland being the winner, with J. Steer second, and C. A. Marsh third.

23rd.—Annual business meeting of the Bromley Footbal Club at the "Bell" Hotel, Mr. R. Girling occupying the chair. Mr. Frank Gedney was elected captain for the season.

25th.—Licensing sessions for the Bromley Division held at Bromley. A few fresh applications for off-licenses were heard, but only one granted for the sale of beer.—Meeting held at Bromley Co-operative Hall to protest against the acceptance of Mr. C. Child's offer of the "White Hart" field, Mr. W. H. Bosanquet presiding.

THE RAINFALL.—The rainfall for July as measured in Widmore-road, Bromley, amounted to .92 in. Rain fell on seven days, the largest amount registered on one day being .54in. on 26th. For the corresponding month last year the fall was 1.84 in., and in 1895 it reached 3.38 inches.

BROMLEY FOOTBALL CLUB.—The members of the Bromley Football Club met at the "Bell" Hotel on August 23rd to transact the yearly business and elect officers. There was a large attendance, and Mr. R. Girling occupied the chair. The report was of a very satisfactory character, detailing the club's successes during the 1896-7 season—which included winning the championship of the London League, Division II.; and from the financial statement it appeared that the income had been upwards of £228, and there remained a small balance in hand. It was decided to raise the members' subscription from 5s. to 6s. Mr. R. G. Mullen was re-elected President; Mr. F. Gedney was elected captain; Mr. J. Jeary, secretary; Mr. A. W. Harvey, vice-captain; and Mr. Allen, financial secretary.

UNSAFE SAFETY MATCHES.—A case of considerable importance to the general public, and to shopkeepers in particular, was heard at the Bromley County Court on August 11th, being an action for £50 damages brought by Miss Claxton, a dressmaker, of 5, Manor-road, Beckenham, against Mrs. Booth, grocer, of Beckenham, the damages being for injuries arising through the ignition in her hand of a box of matches purchased as "safety" matches from the defendant's shop. Both parties were represented by counsel, and the hearing of the case lasted several hours. For the plaintiff it was contended that with the matches—stated on the box to strike only on the sides—supplied by the defendant a warranty was given, thus entitling the plaintiff to recover damages under section 14 of the Sale of Goods Act.—Counsel for the defence submitted that the term "safety matches" was only a trade name and gave no warranty.—His Honour Judge Emden decided, however, that "safety match" had come to be generally known as meaning a match that only ignited on the box, and was safe for that reason. He held that there was an implied warranty under the Act, and gave judgment for the plaintiff for £20 10s. damages, which would carry costs on the higher scale. It transpired during the hearing of the case that the foreign "safety" matches were supplied to the defendant by Messrs. Bryant and May, and defendant's counsel stated in explanation that it was only done to oblige the customer.

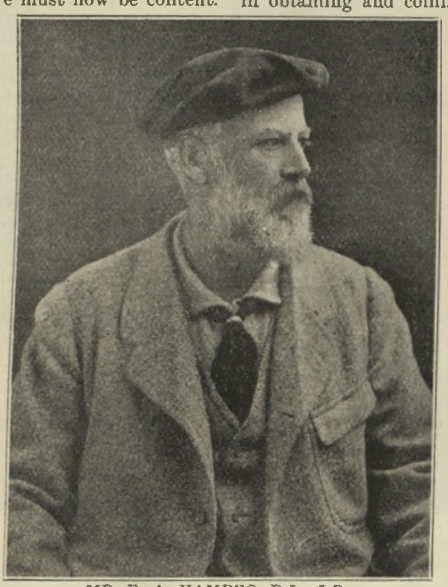
BROMLEY GAS COMPANY'S HALF-YEARLY MEETING.—At the half-yearly meeting of the Bromley Gas Consumers' Company, over which Mr. A. Dickson (the Chairman) presided, at the "Bell" Hotel on August 12th, the report of the directors showed a balance on the profit and loss account of £7,351 3s. 2d., and an increased make of gas amounting to seven million cubic feet. The usual dividends were declared. Reference was made by the Chairman to the proposed transfer by the Urban Council of the Provisional Order for Electric Lighting to a private company, and he expressed the opinion that there was scarcely any prospect of remunerative business being done with the electric light in this district. As the existing lighting authority the Gas Company had no fear of any competition, for, compared with the cost of the electric light, gas had a very considerable advantage.

NEW MUSIC.—From Messrs. Phillips & Page we have received for review four pieces of dance music composed by Helen, Lady Forbes. The "Hunting Tower" waltz; "Merry Boys" barn dance; "Dinna Forget" polka; and "H.M. Scots Guards" galop. All of these are easy of execution, and being decidedly tuney should become popular. The same composer has also written a short Jubilee ode, "Let the people praise her," containing a soprano solo, a duet, and chorus. This should be in demand among choirs that are not very ambitious.

RECORD PORTRAITS.

No. XXII.—Mr. E. A. HAMBRO, D.L., J.P.

As the subject of our sketch for this month we have pleasure in introducing an esteemed resident in the pretty village of Hayes—Mr. E. A. Hambro, D.L., J.P., a gentleman of prominence in the financial world, but better known in this neighbourhood as the owner and occupier of that celebrated country seat, Hayes Place. Many interesting associations, it may be noted in passing, attach to this residence, it being the birth-place of the Right Hon. William Pitt, and the spot where Lord Chatham himself breathed his last, while it was here also that General Wolfe dined last before starting for Canada, and is reported to have dined so well, after the custom of the day, that those who were sending him out thought they had made a mistake in their choice. Hayes Place was formerly a seat of the family of Scott, but was re-built by the Earl of Chatham, and in the gardens there can still be seen two fine trees said to have been planted by Lord Nelson and the Duke of Wellington. With these few particulars concerning the historical associations of the beautifully situated country seat of the subject of this sketch we must now be content.



MR. E. A. HAMBRO, D.L., J.P.

Mr. E. A. Hambro, who was born in 1842, was educated at Cambridge, and his connection with the old-established banking firm of C. J. Hambro and Sons, of Old Broad-street, began at about the age of twenty-four. The firm had been founded in Copenhagen by Etatsraad J. Hambro, who was born in 1780, and who in 1839 removed the business to London. He was succeeded by his son Charles J. Hambro, who was eventually created a Baron of the Kingdom of Denmark. Under his guidance, according to an account of the firm given in a banking journal some few years ago, the house introduced various Danish loans and otherwise facilitated and improved the commercial relations of England and Scandinavia. Baron Hambro afterwards retired into private life as a landowner in the south-west of England, and died about eighteen years ago.

Since Mr. E. A. Hambro's connection with the firm considerable change has, necessarily, been made in the direction of finance, but a large mercantile business is done, while the acceptance business proper is also an important item.

Of recent years the firm has been associated more particularly with Italian loans, but Scandinavian and Russian finances have also engaged their close attention, together with Greek bonds. Speaking of the firm's reputation some seven years ago, the "Bankers' Magazine" says: — "Altogether the financial career of the firm of Hambro and Sons has been successful. The firm has, of course, been interested in loans with which its name has not been openly connected; but, on the whole, nobody has had to complain of want of care or want of discrimination on the part of the firm in undertaking or recommending to the British public the various loans for which it has been in any way responsible. The firm has achieved a reputation, amounting to renown, in the skill with which it deals with exchange and bullion operations between countries. When the Government of Italy resolved to revert to a gold currency, Messrs. Hambro and their correspondents throughout Europe were entrusted with the collection and remittance of gold to the National Bank of Italy. This difficult task they achieved with wonderful smoothness and success throughout the operation, avoiding any such disturbances of the money markets of Europe as were occasioned in 1872-4, for instance, by the German Government, when the latter were engaged in obtaining and coining their new gold currency. The difference between skill and discretion used on the one hand, and abrupt, military, and, to a business man's eye, reckless order on the other, was marked on all sides. Whereas the German demand for gold had again and again disturbed the money market of London almost to panic point, the work of collection of a great deal of gold for Italy was managed by Messrs. Hambro with such dexterity that the world was hardly aware that twelve millions of gold had been collected and sent to Italy within a year or so. Seeing that ten millions are half the annual production of gold, the secretion of so much on account of an entirely new buyer of the metal was a feat of which the firm might well be proud."

The same journal, playfully alluding to Mr. Hambro's lofty physical stature, which causes him to tower over the heads of those who congregate on 'Change on Tuesdays and Thursdays, remarks that his mind also appears to be perched on high, broad, and solid shoulders, so to speak, whence he surveys financial and other matters with a peculiarly clear and comprehensive vision. Although

dealing with the most complicated questions of exchange, Mr. Hambro's ideas are always plain. He has the City faculty of summing up a conclusion in three words; his description of the situation at any period of difficulty or uncertainty in the money market is always terse and judicial. Add to these qualities a genial presence and quiet manners, and the result is a figure which would be greatly missed from mercantile and commercial matters. Among other numerous appointments Mr. Hambro is a director of the Bank of England, a Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Dorset, and a Justice of the Peace for Kent and Surrey. He is, however, seldom or never seen on the local Bench.

In Hayes, too, Mr. Hambro's is a prominent and highly respected personality, and during his residence in the village, he has invariably shown great interest in all parish affairs, and he is at the present time chairman of the Parish Council and of the Hayes Common Conservators. As a member of the latter body he has quite lately manifested his concern for the welfare of the parish by opposing, at his own expense, the Bromley Rural District Council's custom of taking gravel from the Common, the result of his action proving that the District Council are not entitled to deface and spoil the Common by digging large quantities of gravel without first obaining the consent of either the Conservators or the Magistrates.

The Parish Church, like many other local institutions, has frequently benefited by his benevolence, one of his gifts consisting of three of the fine peal of bells, while another most valuable present was a substantial addition to the burial ground, about nine years ago, which was securely walled in at his expense. Mr. Hambro is a regular worshipper at Hayes Church and recently he generously defrayed the cost of providing excellent heating and lighting apparatus.

Among his other activities in the parish has been the purchasing and re-building of many of the tumble-down old cottages, with which Hayes village formerly abounded, and a debt of gratitude is due to him for preserving the rural character of the neighbourhood so completely in the cottages by which he has replaced the old ones. In all such operations Mr. Hambro takes the closest personal interest; he may in fact be said to have little less than a passion for making improvements.

In charitable movements of all kinds in London and elsewhere he has always taken an active part, as may be gathered from the fact of his being appointed on the Prince of Wales's Hospital Council.

Mr. Hambro has been an ardent sportsman and no mean athlete, and he possesses a beautiful and noted herd of Jersey cattle, of which for many years he used to have an annual sale, which was the means of bringing together a large and influential company of lovers of the breed.

**We are compelled by pressure on our space to hold over this month's instalment of "Iva Kildare."

FASHIONABLE WEDDING.—At the Crescent-road Congregational Church, Beckenham, on August 26th, the marriage of Miss Edith Rose Way, daughter of Mr. E. Way, Ravenswood, Beckenham, and Mr. Rupert Wheatley, M. R. C. S., L. R. C. P., L.D.S., son of Mr. W. Wheatley, of Hull, was solemnized. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. T. Eynon Davies, and a fully choral service was rendered by the choir. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attired in a dress of ivory white satin, trimmed with chiffon and orange blossom. She carried a beautiful bouquet of choice exotics, the gift of the bridegroom, and was attended by Miss Millie Way, Miss Minnie Way, Miss E. A. Wheatley, and Miss C. Laverack as bridesmaids. These young ladies were becomingly dressed in cream Suran silk trimmed with chiffon fichus and buttercup sashes, with hats of chiffon trimmed with marguerites. They each carried a bouquet of yellow and white marguerites. The bridegroom's best man was Dr. J. W. Myler. A reception was afterwards held at Ravenswood, at which a large number of friends were present. Later in the day the happy pair left for Scotland, where the honeymoon will be spent. The bride's going-away dress consisted of a green cloth travelling costume with velvet hat to match. The presents received were both numerous and costly.

HAYES PLACE, KENT.

A BOOK OF CRICKET AND LOCAL HISTORY.*

The present season has witnessed a considerable addition to the literature of cricket. In addition to Prince Ranjitsinhji's excellent manual there have probably never been so many articles on the game in the monthly magazines written by brilliant men of letters like Andrew Lang, and famous exponents of the pastime like C. B. Fry. The volume from the pen of Mr. Philip Norman, as its name implies, does not, like the Prince's book, profess to give instruction in the art of playing the game, but is as chatty in style as any of the magazine articles, while it contains a vast amount of interesting information as to the history of the game and its players. The information given by Mr. Norman is mainly, of course, of local interest, but by no means exclusively so, and a better introduction to the study of Kent County Cricket can hardly be imagined, while the fact that the game took root earlier in Kent than anywhere else will convey that a perusal of it affords an excellent insight into the beginnings of what has since become the national recreation.

But a wider circle still will be interested in these "Annals," for interspersed among the scores are many excellent and racy stories concerning not only members of the local cricketing families, but also of some historic personages, and it may be said at once that Mr. P. Norman tells his stories well. But to anyone who combines an enthusiasm for cricket with an interest in his neighbours and neighbourhood the book is fascinating from beginning to end—and it is a long one too, containing nearly 400 quarto pages. As to Mr. P. Norman's fitness for the task he has undertaken there can be no question. His relationship to many of those who were among the earliest members of the club gave him unsurpassed opportunities of becoming acquainted with its traditions, while, besides being an enthusiastic lover of the game he was no mean performer himself, having been in the Eton eleven, and having done excellent service for the West Kent Club for many years with both bat and ball. His annotations of the scores are very full, and so far as we can judge, remarkably accurate, and the whole book gives evidence of most painstaking care.

Before the formation of the Prince's Plain, or any other cricket club, there is plenty of evidence that the game was played to a considerable extent, especially in our own county and neighbourhood. In 1711 we are told that there had been a match between Kent and All England, in which money had been lost and won, an action at law resulting therefrom. From Mist's Journal for May 26th, 1719, we learn that the Men of Kent played the Men of London in Lamb's Conduit Field for £60 a side. In 1731 the little village of Chelsfield even was deemed strong enough to play London. In 1751 Bromley was the scene of a meeting between the Gentlemen of the Neighbourhood and Dartford, which latter town was very strong in cricketers. Nearly a hundred years later, September 29th and 30th, 1846, on the White Hart field, Bromley, was played the historic single-wicket match between Alfred Mynn and "Felix," when Mynn won by one wicket. There is a coloured lithograph taken of them on this occasion, in the pavilion at Lords. With regard to the earlier matches having been played for money,

PLOUGH INN, BROMLEY COMMON.

there is a good story, not given by Mr. Norman, of a Town Malling umpire who, once when his decision was questioned, answered indignantly, "I said 'hout,' and hout it was; it's not as if there was stakes on the game." But the West Kent umpires were doubtless too good sportsmen to be influenced by any such corrupt motive.

The name Prince's Plain—a locality in the immediate neighbourhood of Messrs. Jones & Veness's brewery, Bromley Common—is said to have been given to the spot selected as a cricket ground at the first meeting of the club, for the reason that while the subject was under discussion the Prince of Wales drove by on his way to Tunbridge Wells. This was in 1812, and the Plain was then part of the Common.

In the year 1814 the Prince's Plain Cricket Club was composed of the following twenty-five members:—B. Aislabie, E. Barnard, H. W. Barnard, H. Berens, R. Berens, J. Cator, Hon. Eden, G. Grote, G. Grote (jun.), B. Harenc, H. Jenner, G. Jenner,

* Scores and Annals of the West Kent Cricket Club, originally the Prince s Plain Club, with some account of the neighbourhoods of Chislehurst and Bromley, and of the families residing there; compiled by PHILIP NORMAN. (Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, E.C.)

R. Leigh, J. Maberley, G. Norman, G. W. Norman, M. Rohde, S. Rohde, — Sparkes, G. Stone, R. Stone, — Taylor, J. Wells, H. Wells, Hon. Colonel Windsor, President.

Several of the above names will be recognised as those of families still having an intimate connection with the district, and Mr. Norman gives some interesting details concerning almost all of them. The Barnards lived at Woollet Hall, North Cray, the house in which Lord Castlereagh lived and put an end to his life, later occupied by the Goslings, of banking fame, and the Friends. The Berenses came from Kevington where members of the family still reside. John Cator was an ancestral connection of Sir John Farnaby Lennard, and lived at Beckenham Place. Eden was no doubt a son of Lord Auckland, of Eden Park, Beckenham. The Grotes were the historian and his father, and lived at Shortlands, then known as Clay Hill. The historian was a great friend of Mr. G. W. Norman, who introduced him to his future wife. It may be noted in passing that Mr. Philip Norman, the compiler of the book, is a son, and Mr. A. C. Norman (the present owner of the Rookery), grandson, of Mr. G. W. Norman. Mr. B. Harenc married a Miss Berens, and lived at Foots Cray Place. H. Jenner, afterwards the Right Hon. Sir Herbert Jenner-Fust, the eminent judge, resided at Hawkwood, Chislehurst, the house now occupied by the Edlmann family. Mr. Rohde lived at Oakley, Bromley Common (now Mr. Gerard Norman's). The Stones were of Coopers, Chislehurst, and were members of the banking firm of Martin, Stone, & Martin. J. Wells was a Wells of Bickley Park. Colonel the Hon. Henry Windsor was first President of the Prince's Plain Club, and, as Mr. P. Norman says, "played cricket under easy circumstances, as he was in the habit of bringing his coachman to run and field for him." Aislabie, the club's poet, thus introduced him into one of his cricketing alphabets:—

"W was a Windsor whose place was the chair,
X but exceedingly seldom found there."

Aislabie was honorary secretary of the Marylebone Cricket Club from 1822 until his death in 1842.

The Prince's Plain Club was definitely organised at a dinner held at the Plough Inn, Bromley Common, of which Mr. P. Norman gives a pretty drawing done by himself, which, by Mr. Norman's courtesy, we are able to reproduce, together with another of the back of the "Bell" at Bromley (now pulled down. Dinners, by the way, seem to have played a rather important part in cricket life in the old days. Though the Club has been in existence for so long a period as 85 years, it cannot claim to be the oldest club of its kind even in West Kent, for the Sevenoaks Vine played its centennial match as long ago as 1880, but there was a break of some years in the Vine's life, so that probably the Prince's Plain, or West Kent Club, as it has lately been known, has had the longest continuous existence of any club in the county, and as Mr. P. Norman remarks it is possibly the only cricket club that has ever had its rights preserved by Act of Parliament. The Act in question is that passed in 1886 placing Chislehurst Common under Conservators.

But we are anticipating, in 1821 an Act was passed for the enclosing of Bromley Common, and it became necessary to find quarters elsewhere. Chislehurst Common was selected, permission being given by Viscount Sydney, lord of the manor (father of the late Earl).

BACK OF THE "BELL" INN, BROMLEY.

No details are given by Mr. P. Norman concerning the enclosure of the extensive Common of Bromley; but as the subject is of considerable interest our readers would perhaps like to know something of the Act by which it was accomplished. That such actions were viewed in those days with very different eyes from what they are now is evident from the fact that contemporary writers viewed the occurrence not only with equanimity but with satisfaction, and expressed the opinion that the inhabitants generally were to be congratulated on the dreary waste being enclosed and cultivated, partly on the ground that a harbour would thus

no longer be afforded to footpads, vagrants, and other ill-disposed persons.

The Preamble to this Act, which received the Royal Assent on 6th April, 1821, sets out that: "Whereas there are within the manor and parish of Bromley, in the county of Kent, certain Commons and waste lands, containing on the whole, by estimation, three hundred acres or thereabouts; and also a certain tract of commonable or half-year land, called The Scrubs, containing, by estimation, fifty acres or thereabouts. And whereas the Right Reverend Father in God, Walker, Lord Bishop of Rochester, is Lord of the said Manor of Bromley, and as such entitled to the soil of the said Commons, Commonable and Waste Lands. And whereas George Norman, Major Rohde, and divers other persons, are or claim to be entitled to rights of Common upon the said Commons, Commonable and Waste Lands. And whereas the said Commons, Commonable and Waste Lands, in their present state, yield very little profit, and are incapable of any considerable improvement, and it would be greatly to the advantage of the several persons interested therein, if the same were to be divided and enclosed, and specific parts thereof allotted to the several persons interested, in proportion to their respective rights. But as the same cannot be effected without the aid and authority of Parliament: Be it enacted," &c.—and it was enacted—that a Commissioner should inquire as to how the lands should be allotted. It was further ordered that the award of the Commissioners when enrolled should be "deposited and kept in a tin box in the parish church of Bromley, in order that all persons interested may have recourse thereto at all seasonable times." The only benefits that the parish of Bromley seems to have derived from the enclosure were a site for a Workhouse, "not exceeding ten acres," and an allotment of a piece of ground to the Surveyor of Highways for the purpose of getting "stone gravel and other materials" for the purpose of making and repairing the roads.

The venue of the club being thus changed, it was necessary to alter its name too, and it is accordingly henceforth known as the West Kent Club—though as a matter of fact on at least one occasion that designation had been used before. On this ground some historic encounters have taken place, Kent having here several times tried conclusions with All England, and what is more, come off victorious. It may be said, too, that at some time or other one or more members of nearly every well-known cricketing family in England have found their way to Chislehurst to play either for or against the West Kent Club. The great W. G. has played against the club more than once, so also have A. N. Hornby, Charles Absolon, Lord F. Beauclerk, Lord Bessborough, Hon. Ivo Bligh, E. Bray, F. M. Buckland, the Lyttletons, Studds, and Webbes, C. E. Green, E. M. Hadow, R. A. H. Mitchell, Lord Harris, Lillywhite, T. C. O'Brien, A. W. Ridley, the Thorntons, the Walkers, and others too numerous to mention.

Those who have been most closely connected with the West Kent Club, and have been, in fact, its mainstays, are the Jenners (Jenner-Fust), Normans, Lubbocks, Dykes, and Berenses (four generations). So many members of the above families have played for the club at one time or another that it is impossible to mention them all in this notice. In fact, of both the Norman and Lubbock youth it may be said that they seem to take as naturally to cricket as young ducks take to water. Another family of whom the same remark is true is the Lyttletons, of whom Mr. P. Norman writes that all except one (who was delicate), out of a family of eight, were in the Eton eleven. Among those who have in a lesser degree contributed to the success of the West Kent Club must be mentioned F. Penn, who made six centuries for the club, and his two brothers, A. and W.; J. and L. A. Shuter, M. D. Chalmers, E. F. S. Tylecote, Parrs (three), while other names that appear in the scores are those of Gosling, Hoare, Rashleigh, Martin, Mayne, Harenc, Latter, Kirkpatrick, Pott, Dawson, Wells, Traill, Waring, Wathen, Bowden, Aitken, Christy, Edlmann, Lawrie, Deacon, Morris, Devas, Langdon, Pontifex, Mathews, Darwin, Sutherland, Streatfield, Tritton, Marchant, &c., &c. Among those belonging to the trading classes whose names appear for some reason or other in Mr. Norman's book may be cited those of Ayling, Draper, Doe, Crowhurst, Wells, Nash, Russell (Hayes), Willis, and Whomes (Chislehurst). It is one of the merits of cricket that it brings all classes together, but, like misfortune, it sometimes makes strange bed-fellows. In one match we find the name of H. M. Hyndman, the Socialist, next to that of Lord George Hamilton, the present Secretary of State for India!

As to whether the cricketers of a former day were stronger and more vigorous than those of the present time we should not like to express an opinion, but there must have been strong men in the earlier half of the century. Of one—Mr. Beldham—it is related that besides being the best cricketer of his day he lived to be nearly a hundred and had 39 children, 28 by his first wife. Another cricketer rode his horse up one morning from Sevenoaks to Woodford in Essex, played a match, and rode back in the night; while the Rev. J. Kirkpatrick, of Hollydale, Keston, rode from there to Maidstone, a distance of full 25 miles, carrying his bat and shoes, played in a match, and rode back in the evening.

We cannot refrain from reproducing one of Mr. Norman's good stories relating to Cardinal Manning. The Cardinal had lived at Combe Bank, Brasted, which was afterwards purchased by Mr. W. Spottiswoode. Together with other relics of the past Mr. Spottiswoode took over an ancient retainer of some ninety odd summers. This old gentleman was far from being a disciple of Sir Wilfrid Lawson, and it was suggested to Cardinal Manning, while on a visit to Mr. Spottiswoode, that a few words from an old acquaintance of such long standing might have a beneficial effect. So Manning, eager in the good work, went up to him and said, "Well, my old friend, I suppose you don't remember me?" Without the slightest hesitation the answer came back, "Not remember you, Master 'Arry, wot I used to carry a pick-a-back?" (A spasm of ill-suppressed laughter.) "Lord! Master 'Arry, Master 'Arry, you *wos* a bad lot, you wos." No temperance lecture took place.

With regard to the illustrations, which are by no means profuse, the frontispiece is a fine photograph of Mr. George Warde Norman, who was, as already remarked, one of the original members of the club, from a painting by G. F. Watts, R.A., while on the last page is a clever allegorical drawing called "Time and the Cricketer," by Bernard Partridge, the "Punch" draftsman. The Cricketer bears a strong resemblance to a Norman. Some of the views are by Mr. Philip Norman himself, who is well-known in the artistic world.

LICENSING SESSIONS AT BROMLEY.—There was very little of public interest at the annual licensing sessions for the Bromley division held at the Bromley Court-house on August 25th. Plans for the re-building and extension of the "Star and Garter" public-house, Bromley, and for an enlargement at the "Chatterton Arms," Bromley Common, were approved, and all old licenses were renewed without opposition, including that for the "Signal" public-house, Masons-hill, Bromley, to the landlord who was recently fined for allowing betting on his premises, and had his license endorsed. An appeal against this conviction is, however, pending. Only one fresh license, an off-beer license in Shortlands Valley, was granted.

Births.

AITKEN.—On the 12th Aug., at Daresbury, Bickley Mrs. R. Bruce Aitken of a daughter.

FINLEY.—On the 26th July, at Bromley, Kent, the wife of R. Mainwaring Finley, of Bushey, Herts, of a son.

INGLIS.—August 1st. at Lynton, Beckenham, the wife of A. N. Inglis of a daughter.

MANGER.—July 30th, at Maldon Villa, Chaffinch-road, Beckenham, the wife of C. E. Manger of a son.

RELF.—On the 19th July, at 39, Bromley-common, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Harry D. Relf, of a daughter

STONE.—On August 9th, at Farringford, Shawfield Park, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Arthur R. Stone, of a son.

THOMPSON.—On the 22nd August, at Thornton, Palace-grove, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Octavius Thompson, of a daughter.

YOUNG —On August 21st, at Seacombe, Bromley Park, Kent, the wife of Adam Turquand Young, of a daughter.

Marriages.

SCOTT—CROWDEN.—On the 22nd of July, at Holy Trinity Church, Beckenham, by the Rev. Chas Crowden, D.D., assisted by the Rev. Walter Latham, vicar, and the Rev. Allan Ellison, curate of the parish, David Francis Douglas, only son of the late D. Cooper Scott, of 16, Holland Park, and Mrs. Cooper Scott, of Leigham-court-road, Streatham, to Ida Nellie, youngest daughter of Robert Hill Crowden, of Newlands Park. Sydenham, S.E.

SARE.—WOOD.—On the 22nd July, by Archdeacon Davis, of S. James' Church, South London, David Sare, of Evergreen Avenue, South London, Ont., Canada, to Agnes Mary Wood, eldest daughter of the late Jabez Wood and Susanna Wood, of Clareville, Ethelbert Road, Bromley. Kent.

THORNTON—SHEERMAN.—On the 28th of July, at Holy Trinity, Beckenham, by the Rev. W. J. Latham, Frank Butler Thornton, M.B., B.S.Lond., of Derby, to Florence A. Sheerman, eldest daughter of Henry Sheerman, Esq., of Newlands Park, Sydenham.

UMNEY—ZEEDERBERG.—On the 3rd Aug., at Beckenham Parish Church, Herbert Williams Umney, A.M.I.C.E., McGill University, Montreal, third son of Charles Umney, of Sydenham and Southwark, to Anna Marguerite, eldest daughter of Roelof A. Zeederberg, of Sydenham, and Mowbray, Capetown.

[SILVER WEDDING.]

On August 14th, 1872, at S. Stephen's Church, Hampstead, by the Revd. Henry Sharpe, assisted by the Revd. Joshua Kirkman, Juliana Norton, only daughter of John Gould Avery, of Belsize Park, N.W., to Charles Bell, architect, son of the late Henry Bell, of Grantham, Lincolnshire.

Deaths.

GARWOOD.—On the 18th July, at Southborough, Risdon William, eldest son of Rev. W. Garwood, of Bromley, Kent.

GARWOOD.—On the 22nd August, at 34, Palace-grove, Bromley, Kent, Rev. William Garwood, in his 90th year. No flowers by request.

FUNERALS.—J. HUMERSTON, Undertaker and Appraiser, 17, East Street, Bromley; Upholsterer and Cabinet Maker. rc132

MONUMENTS, HEADSTONES, CROSSES, in Stone, Marble, or Granite. Imperishable Lead Letters, &c.—W. HINCHLIFFE, Mason, London Road, Bromley, Kent.

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Is 80ft. by 40ft., is well lighted and ventilated. It possesses a gallery and two retiring rooms, cloak room, etc.

There is seating accommodation for 700 and sufficient space for 1,000 people.

There is a SMALL HALL 50ft. by 30ft. to seat about 200. The Hall is situate close to the Market Square, from the main road with good approach and entrance; there are two stages which can be fixed according to requirement.

The charge of hiring is very moderate and can be obtained on application to the Secretary, 16, Market Square, Bromley, Kent.

Tuition.

KINDERGARTEN SYSTEM.—A Lady who has been for some time engaged in teaching little children has 1½ hours free in a morning; rudimentary English, drilling, and drawing, if required.—B.C., 30, Glebe-road, Bromley. rp411

Work Wanted.

DRESSMAKING wanted by Widow Lady.—Please Address, Mrs. Gilbert, 79, Simpsons Road, Bromley.

MISS ROBINSON, Dressmaker, 27, Palace Road. By the day or week: at home or ladies' houses. terms moderate. rp93

MRS. WALE, Upholstress, The Ferns, 66, Park End, Bromley.

TAKE CHARGE OF HOUSE.—Cook, good, undertakes large and small parties, and where assistance is required, by week, day or month. Disengaged. Mrs. Rose, 36, Park Road, Bromley, Kent.

Notices.

MRS. SAWYER, Furrier. Ladies' seal-skin jackets and fur-lined cloaks altered to present fashion, also carriage rugs made, repaired and freed from moth. 11, Centenary Place, West Street, Bromley (next door to the New Post Office).

PIANOFORTES TUNED and Repaired by H. Morley Phillips and Co., tuners to the "Bromley Musical Society," "Bromley School of Music," &c. Orders by post receive immediate attention. High Street, Bromley, Kent.

PIANOFORTES EXCHANGED.—A liberal price given for old Pianofortes in Exchange for High Class Instruments with the latest improvements. Full Cash Discounts allowed. H. Morley Phillips & Co., High Street, Bromley, Kent.

Wanted to Purchase.

WANTED.—*BROMLEY RECORD* for years 1858 and 1859, and other numbers. S., *Bromley Record* Office, 14, Market Square, Bromley, Kent.

WANTED.—OLD HISTORIES OF BROMLEY.—Apply E., *Bromley Record* Office, 14, Market Square, Bromley, Kent.

LEFT-OFF CLOTHES, Furniture, Jewellery, &c., the utmost value given by Mr. and Mrs. Hambleton, "The Old Curiosity Shop," 1 and 2, East Street, Bromley. Appointments kept. Established 1884.

BROMLEY HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS,

ELMFIELD ROAD, BROMLEY, KENT.

Head Mistress: MISS HEPPEL, B.A.

THE AUTUMN TERM WILL BEGIN ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st, 1897.

The Head Mistress will be at the School to see Parents on Thursday and Friday, September 16th and 17th, from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.

Prospectuses and forms of application for admission may be obtained at the School, or from the Secretary of the Girls' Public Day School Company Limited, 21, Queen Anne's Gate, London, S.W.

N.B.—A PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT IS ATTACHED TO THE SCHOOL.

Established 27 Years. **Purveyor to Her Majesty.**

LIDSTONE,

LIMITED,

Late H. G. COOPER,

FAMILY BUTCHERS,

13, WIDMORE ROAD, BROMLEY.

Families waited upon for orders in Bromley, Bickley, Shortlands, Plaistow, Hayes, Keston. &c.

Scotch & Welsh Mutton, Ox Tongues, Dairy Fed Pork, &c.

NOTE.—Nothing but First Quality Meat Sold at this Establishment.

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JAMES HOW,

Watch and Clock Maker, Jeweller, Silversmith, Electro Plater and Gilder,

WIDMORE ROAD, BROMLEY, KENT.

A choice assortment of Ladies' and Gentlemen's Gold and Silver Watches always in Stock. Jewellery in great variety, including a large Stock of

Fancy Solitaires, Studs, &c.

Watches, Clocks, Jewellery, and Plate repaired in an efficient manner by Experienced Workmen.

Turret and House Clocks repaired & wound by Contract.

ANTIQUE CLOCK CASES, CANDELABRAS, VASES, &c., RESTORED.

Agent to the Royal Exchange Fire and Life Office. A large participation in Life Profits.

H. G. DUNN,

Upholsterer, Cabinet Maker, Undertaker & Appraiser,

ESTIMATES FREE OF CHARGE.

REMOVALS TO ALL PARTS.

Manufactories and Stores & Warehouses

PARK ROAD AND MARKET SQ., BROMLEY

20, MARKET SQUARE, BROMLEY, KENT.

BUSINESS CARDS.

Charge for Business Announcements 1/-, *Alterations to be sent before the* 25th.

ACCOUNT BOOK MANUFACTURERS,	E. STRONG & SONS,	14, Market Square
BILL POSTERS & ADVERTISING AGENTS,		Offices: 14, Market Square
CORN, FORAGE, & BEST COALS.	D. GRINSTED.	High Street, and Railway Stations
DEALERS IN CORN, HAY, STRAW & CLOVER.	COOPER BROS.	19, Market Square
PLUMBER &c.	G. HAMMOND,	19, Freelands Road, Bromley
REAL SCOTCH OATMEAL (Fine, Coarse, & Medium).	COOPER BROS.	19, Market Sq.
SEED! SEED!! SEED!!!	G. HIND,	Grove Park

ESTABLISHED 1803.

COOPER BROS..

Corn Merchants

AND

DEALERS IN HAY, STRAW, AND CLOVER

19, MARKET SQUARE, BROMLEY.

Noted Stores for Genuine Scotch Oatmeal

Which the above Firm import direct.

Deliveries in Beckenham Daily. **Price Lists on Application.**

MEALS AND BIRD SEEDS OF ALL KINDS.

THE NATIONAL

TELEPHONE COMPANY,

LIMITED.

DISTRICT OFFICE:

71, CHURCH STREET, CROYDON.

Telephone Nos.:—Croydon, 102; Bromley, 40.

THE COMPANY draw attention to the increased facilities and low annual subscription for exchange connections to private or business addresses. Full particulars can be had at the

Local Office, 13, East Street, Bromley.

PUBLIC CALL OFFICE (Open Continuously)

Available for communications by Trunk Line with PROVINCIAL TOWNS and the METROPOLITAN AREA on payment of the usual tolls.

Private Wires erected and sold outright or maintained at an annual rental.

Head Office: OXFORD COURT, CANNON STREET, E.C.

W. E. L. GAINE, General Manager.

Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper's Auction Sales

(CONTINUED).

KENT, GREEN-STREET-GREEN, FARNBOROUGH—Eight Plots of Freehold Building Land, situate in Chelsfield Road, each with a frontage of about 17ft. by an average depth of nearly 110ft. The Land is ripe for the erection of Cottages for which there is a great demand in the District.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, the 23rd day of September, 1897, at 7 for 8 o'clock precisely, Freehold Building Land, suitable for the erection of Cottages, as above situate. Possession on completion.

May be viewed, and particulars with conditions of sale, obtained of Messrs. Willett & Latter, Solicitors, Bromley, Kent; at the place of Sale; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Auctioneers and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

Free Conveyances. Payments by instalments (if desired) extending over nine years.

KENT, SWANLEY JUNCTION.—Close to the Station (L.C. & D. Railway). Twenty-three Plots of Valuable Freehold Building Land, fronting the Main Road, leading to Swanley and Hextable, each plot has a frontage of about 20ft. and a depth of about 170ft. The land is fully ripe for building purposes, the demand for small villas and cottages being greatly in excess of the supply. No restrictions.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, City, E.C., on Thursday, the 30th day of September, 1897, at 2 o'clock precisely, in Lots, valuable Freehold Building Land as above described, situate in the rising district of Swanley.

May be viewed, and particulars with plan and conditions of sale, of Messrs. May, Sykes & Co., Solicitors, Suffolk House, Laurence Pountney Hill, E.C.; at the Mart, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, KESTON.—Close to the well-known Common and Holwood Park, about three miles from Bromley and Chislehurst, and one mile from Hayes Station. The Freehold Residential Property, known as "Keston Tower," occupied by the late G. Buchanan, Esq., consisting of a handsome Family Residence, approached by carriage drive with lodge at entrance, the accommodation includes porch, with entrance hall, (28ft. by 12ft. 4in.), conservatory, noble dining room, drawing room, morning room, ante room, lavatories, &c., six principal bedrooms, two dressing rooms, bath room, lavatory, &c., three secondary bedrooms, room in tower, and two other bedrooms, approached from offices The domestic arrangements include servants' hall, kitchen, scullery, pantry, laundry, extensive cellarage, &c. Ample stabling, yard, farmery, green-house and out-buildings. The grounds abound with grand forest trees and fine specimen shrubs, there is a tennis lawn, serpentine walks, banks, flower borders and shrubbery, kitchen garden and orchard, in all 5a. 3r. 33p. Possession on completion. Also well-planted Freehold Land adjoining, possessing a frontage of 156ft. 9in. and a depth of about 207ft., affording a pleasant site for a Residence, together with valuable Freehold Garden Ground, Orchard, and a pretty Detached Freehold Cottage, with good garden, known as "The Poplars," containing five bedrooms, two sitting rooms, and the usual offices. Stabling, greenhouse and out-buildings, at present let to a good tenant at £40 per annum.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, Token-house Yard, E.C., on Thursday, the 30th day of September, 1897, at 2 o'clock precisely, in Lots, the above described Properties, viz: The Valuable Residential Property, "Keston Tower"; Valuable Freehold Land, suitable for the erection of one or more Residences; a pretty Freehold Country Cottage, "The Poplars."

May be seen by order, and particulars with plan, view of house, and conditions of sale, obtained of Messrs. Van Sandau, Cumming & Co., Solicitors, 13, King Street, Cheapside, E.C.; at the Mart, E.C., and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Auctioneers and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent; and 69, King William Street, E.C.

For remainder of Auction Sales see following pages

Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper's Auction Sales

(CONTINUED).

KENT, BICKLEY,—A pair of attractive semi-detached Residences, situate in the Clarence Road, known as "Ashgate" and "Buckingham," with small stabling and capital gardens. Each house contains five bedrooms, bath room, &c., entrance hall, two large reception rooms, and ample offices. Good cellarage and tradesmen's entrance. The gardens are about 250ft. deep. "Ashgate" is in hand and "Buckingham" let to a good tenant at £47 10s. per ann.—In two lots.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, September 23rd, 1897, at 8 o'clock precisely, the above-named medium sized Residences, with stabling, &c., and good gardens, sub-soil gravel. Held on a lease for a term of 99 years from December, 1869, at a Ground Rent apportioned at £9 each house.

May be viewed, and particulars with conditions of sale, obtained of C. W. Saffell, Esq., Solicitor, 68, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.; at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Auctioneers and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, CHELSFIELD.—About ten minutes' from the railway station, and one-and-a-half miles from Orpington.—Freehold Cottages being Nos. 1a, and 1 to 12, Chelsfield Road, Green-street-Green, containing good accommodation, and let to weekly tenants, at rentals producing £184 12s. 0d. per ann. Also adjoining (with possession) a Freehold Shop and Premises, including a good dwelling house, corner shop, large bakehouse with oven, loft, store, and two-stall stable and coach-house, together with a Plot of Freehold Land, admirably suited for the erection of glass-houses.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, the 23rd day of September, 1897, at 8 o'clock precisely, in Nine Lots, valuable Cottage Property as above situate, together with a Freehold Shop and Premises, and Plot of Freehold Land.

May be viewed, and particulars with conditions of sale, obtained of Messrs. Edell & Gordon, Solicitors, 4, King Street, Cheapside, E.C.; at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Auctioneers, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, FARNBOROUGH.—About one-and-a-half miles from Orpington Railway Station, and within four miles of Bromley.—A pretty Freehold Country Cottage, with stabling and out-buildings, known as "Ebury Villa," standing in a large well-planted garden, and having in addition a fruit plantation. The property is in the occupation of the Vendor, who will sell with possession or take the same on a yearly tenancy at £60 per ann. Also 25 Plots of Freehold Building Land, each having a frontage to the Wellbrook Road of 20ft. and a depth of 120ft. The land is well-stocked, giving purchasers the advantage of a productive fruit garden. In addition is a valuable Fruit Plantation, containing about 2a. 0r. 39p., having a frontage of 208ft. to London Road, and of 332ft. to Hilda Vale Road, ripe for building purposes.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, the 23rd day of September, 1897, at 7 for 8 o'clock precisely, in lots, the above Valuable Property.

May be viewed, and particulars with conditions of sale, obtained of Percy K. Langdale, Esq., Solicitor, 50, Holborn Viaduct, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Auctioneers and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, BROMLEY.—In the very heart of the Town.—The very valuable Freehold Shop and Premises, being No. 3, Market Square, forming an exceptionally safe and improving Investment.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, the 23rd day of September, 1897, at 7 for 8 o'clock precisely, the above very valuable Freehold Shop Property, having the capital frontage of 17 feet, and at present held on lease of 14 or 21 years from September 29th, 1887, (at option of Lessor or Lessee), by Messrs. H. Podger & Sons, Limited, at the nominal rental of £60 per annum. A very considerable increase of income can with confidence be looked forward to at the expiration of the present term. The accommodation includes four good rooms and conveniences on the upper floors, two staircases to first floor, capital shop, shop parlour, kitchen, &c., good cellarage. Side entrance.

May be viewed by permission of the Tenant, and particulars with conditions of sale, obtained of Messrs. Willett & Latter, Solicitors, Bromley, Kent; at the "Bell" Hotel; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Auctioneers and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

For remainder of Auction Sales see following page.

BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER,

LAND & HOUSE AGENTS,
AUCTIONEERS, SURVEYORS & VALUERS,

UNDERTAKE VALUATIONS of FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD ESTATES, and all kinds of PROPERTY for SALE either by AUCTION or PRIVATE CONTRACT.

A MONTHLY LIST is published of LOCAL RESIDENCES,

also one of Country Houses and Estates to be Let or Sold (Furnished or Unfurnished) in the Home Counties and elsewhere, together with a separate List of Farms, Free on Application.

AUCTION SALES OF LOCAL PROPERTIES

will be held at the "BELL HOTEL," BROMLEY, on

Thursday, September	23rd	Thursday, November	11th
Thursday, October	7th	Thursday, December	2nd

Properties will be offered at a small agreed charge to cover out-of-pocket expenses. The usual commission in cases of sale.

AUCTION SALES will be held at the MART, TOKENHOUSE YARD, E.C., on the following days during the year 1897, also on special days when required:

Wednesday, Sept.	15th	Wednesday, October	6th
Wednesday, Sept.	22nd	Wednesday, November	10th
		Wednesday, December	1st

KENT, BROMLEY.—Excellent Furniture and effects, including bedroom suites in mahogany, birch, and pine; bedsteads and bedding, toilet ware, mahogany and other wardrobes, dressing tables, chests of drawers, washstands, &c., oak dining room suite in leather, drawing room and morning room appointments, book cases, cabinets, tables, cottage pianoforte by Broadwood, Brussels and other carpets, curtains, skins, mats, glass and china, carved ivory figures, curios, clocks and ornaments, old books, oil paintings, water colors, engravings, miniatures, old china, plate, linen, cutlery, kitchen utensils, and a large quantity of miscellaneous and out-door effects.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, on the premises, "Somerton," Ravensbourne Road, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, September 23rd, 1897, at 10 for 11 o'clock precisely, the whole of the well-made Furniture and effects.

May be viewed the day prior to sale, and catalogues obtained of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Auctioneers and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

N.B.—The Freehold Residence will be offered by Auction in the Autumn unless an acceptable offer be previously made.

Re Mrs. Mills, deceased.

KENT, FARNBOROUGH.—Valuable Freehold Property, known as "Aves Cottages," situate in the Main Road, and consisting of a baker's shop and premises, together with bakehouse, stable and coach-house, let on lease to Mr. Sopp, at a rental of £26 per annum; also two cottages adjoining, let at rentals producing together £21 9s. 0d. The Property has the valuable frontage of 95ft. 6in. to the Main Road, and a return frontage of 88ft.—In one lot.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, the 23rd day of September, 1897, at 8 o'clock precisely, the above valuable Freehold Property, forming, for a small capitalist, a safe and well secured Investment.

May be viewed, and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Poole & Robinson, Solicitors, 15, Union Court, Old Broad Street, E.C.; at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Surveyors, Land Agents and Auctioneers, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

For remainder of Auction Sales see preceding pages.

OFFICES:—BROMLEY AND BECKENHAM, KENT,
AND AT
69, KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Agents to the Sun Fire and Life Offices; Burglary Insurance; Railway Passengers' Plate Glass Assurance, &c.

Printed and Published by the Proprietors, E. Strong and Sons, 14, Market Square, Bromley, Kent.

THE

BROMLEY RECORD

AND

MONTHLY ADVERTISER.

No. 471. OCTOBER, 1897. Price One Penny.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER'S
Special
LOCAL REGISTER
(Published on the 1st of each Month)
contains reliable particulars of almost every available property to be Let or Sold situate in the undermentioned favourite districts of

WEST KENT:

Bromley	Cudham	Knockholt
Beckenham	Downe	Orpington
Bickley	Farnborough	St. Mary Cray
Chislehurst	Grove Park	Shortlands and
Chelsfield	Hayes & Keston	West Wickham

Gratis on application. Particulars inserted free.

BROMLEY.—Valuable Building Land in undeniably good positions. Advances to builders. Moderate ground rent.

BROMLEY.—A convenient and well-built Detached Modern Residence in charming grounds, near to station, gravel soil. Price freehold £2,300.

BROMLEY.—Capital detached double-fronted Residence, close to Sundridge Park station. Seven bedrooms, dressing and bath rooms, 3 reception rooms. Price £1800 freehold.

BICKLEY.—Ten minutes' walk of two stations. A beautiful Residential Property, embracing a substantial and well-arranged Residence in grounds of 5¾ acres. Rent £300

BROMLEY COMMON.—Bijou Cottage Residence, 4 bedrooms, dressing and bath rooms, 2 sitting rooms, nice garden. Rent £53.

SHORTLANDS.—Well-built double-fronted Detached Residence. Good garden. Close to Station Rent £80 per annum. Price £1600 Freehold.

DARENTH.—Desirable Family Residence, overlooking Darenth Valley. Stabling. Grounds of 7½ acres. Rent £110.

FARNBOROUGH.—Detached Country Residence on two floors. Stabling, orchard, and grounds of about one acre. Four bedrooms, dressing room, three sitting rooms and offices. Rent £45.

BROMLEY.—Charming Double-fronted Residence, six bedrooms, dressing room and bath room. Rent £75 or would be sold with adjoining House for £2,400 freehold.

BEXLEY HEATH.—Detached Family Residence, standing in grounds of about 15 acres. Stabling, cottages, orchard. Rent £175.

BICKLEY.—Commodious old-fashioned Residence 15 bedrooms, stabling, glasshouses. Six acres. Price only £3,000 Freehold.

BICKLEY.—Charming Freehold Residential Property standing in grounds of about 5 acres, with stabling, farmery, glass houses, &c. Eleven bedrooms, dressing and bath rooms, four reception rooms. Price £7,000.

Further details and fuller particulars, together with orders for viewing the above can be had of Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper,

10, MARKET SQUARE, BROMLEY,

and Beckenham, Kent, & 69 King William Street, E.C.

BROMLEY SCHOOL OF MUSIC, 5, Aberdeen Buildings, High Street, Bromley (branch of the Beckenham School of Music and Art, Established 1883.) President: The Duke of Fife, K.T. Vice-Presidents: Sir Arthur Sullivan, Mus. Doc.; Prof. C. Villiers Stanford, Mus. Doc., D.C.L.; Prof. Joseph Joachim, Mus Doc. Examining Visitors: Miss Fanny Davies, Sir Walter Parratt, Mus. Doc., Walter Macfarren, Esq., Otto Goldschmidt, Esq., Josef Ludwig, Esq. William Shakespeare, Esq. Director of Studies: Arthur O'Leary. Fifty eminent Professors, selected from the Royal Academy of Music, Royal College of Music, Guildhall School of Music, &c. Thirteen Scholarships and Prizes offered annually. Fees from £1 11s. 6d. per term of 12 lessons.

Particulars by letter to the Secretary, or personally on WEDNESDAYS from 2.0 to 4.

BECKENHAM SCHOOL OF ART. 10 and 11, The Parade, Beckenham. Director of Studies and Visiting Examiner: John Brett, Esq., (Associate of the Royal Academy). Art Master: Mr. Oscar Tolhurst. Particulars by letter to the Secretary, or personally at Beckenham, on Wednesdays from 9.30 to 12.30.

"SPENLOVE" SCHOOL OF ART,
"THE YELLOW DOOR" Studios,
(near Ry. Stations). BECKENHAM.
Principal and Director:
Mr. FRANK SPENLOVE-SPENLOVE, R.B.A.,
(by Royal Charter) Royal Academy, Paris, &c.
THIS SCHOOL is one of the most important in England, and is instituted for highest class MODERN training in all branches of Drawing and Painting, Figure (from life), Landscape, &c. Also "BLACK and WHITE" for Illustration. SPECIAL JUNIOR Classes. Prospectus upon application.

DR. A. MADELEY RICHARDSON, M.A., Mus. Doc., Oxon., F.R.C.O., Organist and Director of the Choir of S. Saviour's Collegiate Church, Southwark.—Address: 32, Hammelton Road, Bromley.

MISS OLIVIA B. HARVEY (Advanced Senior Honours, Certificated, London College of Music) gives Lessons in Pianoforte, and Harmony. Engagements accepted for Concerts, At Homes, &c. Highest references from parents of pupils. Address, 42, Freelands Road, Bromley, Kent. rp342

DRAWING AND PAINTING in Oil and Water Colours, and Sketching from Nature. Miss Davis gives Lessons in the above. For particulars, apply at No. 1, Elmfield Park, Bromley.

BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.—Y GARN, Ravensbourne Road, Bromley. Principals: The Misses Hurst, assisted by certificated governesses. Pupils successfully prepared for Exams. Preparatory Class for little Boys.

MR. NORMAN BATH (Pupil of the late H. Wiest Hill, Esq., and B. Hollander, Esq.) Violin and Viola. Has vacancies for pupils. For terms, Address 46, Glebe Road, Bromley, Kent.

OF UNRIVALLED REPUTATION.

4/- PER BOTTLE.

THIS WHISKY IS FROM A VERY OLD ESTABLISHED FIRM IN SCOTLAND, WHICH HAS ENJOYED FOR MANY YEARS A HIGH REPUTATION FOR THIS PARTICULAR BLEND. GUARANTEED PURE HIGHLAND MALT, AND TEN YEARS OLD.

V.O.S

G. PAMPHILON & SON,
WINE MERCHANTS,
BROMLEY, KENT.

Established 1775.

FACSIMILE OF LABEL.

48/- PER DOZEN.

MELLOW, SOFT AND WITH FINE FLAVOR.

G. PAMPHILON & SON,

WHOLESALE & FAMILY WINE MERCHANTS.

ILLUSTRATED REVISED CASH PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

Champagnes.

	per doz
Louis Pamphilon, Epernay 1889 Vintg.	60/-
Ditto ditto extra quality	78/-
Pol Roger ....1889 vintage	
Bollinger....1892 "	
Mumm, G. H. & Co.....	
Louis Roederer.....1892 "	
E. Irroy & Co., Carte D'or 1892 "	
Pommery & Greno .....1892 "	
Heidsiecks Dry Monopole 1889 "	
Perrier Jouet, P D.C.	

Market Prices.

Specialites for Invalids.

Champagne in Quarter Bottles.

Louis Pamphilon, Cuvee Reservée..	18/-
Perrier Jouet	24/-

Other Sparkling Wines

Asti Spumante (Italian)	36/-
Saumur	36/-
Sparkling Burgundy, 1st Quality ...	60/-
Ditto Hock	54/
Ditto Moselle	54/

Half Bottles, 6/- per 24 extra
Single Bottles same rates.

Still Hocks.

	per doz. bot.	per doz. half-bot.
Laubenheimer	18/-	11/-
Nierstein	24/-	14/-
Erbacher.....	30/-	17/-
Hochheim	36/-	20/-
Liebfraumilch	42/-	23/-
Red Hock	36/-	

Australian Wines.

	per doz.	per bot.
Sauvignon	16/-	1/4
Branxton Cabernet	21/-	1/9
Tintara.....	26/-	2/2
Riesling (White).....	24/-	2/-
Highercombe (White)	30/-	2/6

In Quart Flagons.

Red & White Burgundy 30/-	2/6
Tintara and Ophir.....42/-	3/6

6d. each allowed for Flagons when returned.

Italian Wines

	per doz.	per bot.
Vino da Paeto 12/-		1/-
Valtellina 18/-		1/6
Chianti 24/-		2/-
Capri (White) 24/-		2/-
Vino Vermouth 36/-		3/-
Sparkling Asti 36/-		3/-

Chianti.

In Tuscan Flasks.

18/- & 36/- per doz. 1/6 & 3/- each.

California Wines.

Burgundy 18/-	1/6
Hock 30/-	2/6

Aerated Waters. *per doz.*

Schweppe's Soda, Seltzer & Potass	3/-
Ditto Lemonade and Ginger Ale.....	3/6
Soda, Seltzer, & Potass	2/-
Lemonade & Ginger Ale	2/6
Syphons — Soda, Potass, Seltzer, Lemonade	4/-
Johannis's Appollinaris, Ginger Beer in Stone Bottles.	

Burgundies.

		per doz.	per bot.
Macon .....1893 vintage		20/-	1/8
Beaujolais 1892	"	24/-	2/0
Beaune.....1891	"	30/-	2/6
Pommard 1889	"	36/-	3/0
Volnay.....1884	"	42/-	3/6
Pommard, Superior, 1887	"	42/-	3/6
Chambertin.....1881	"	72/	6/-
Chablis		24/- to 36/-	

Half Bottles.

Macon 12/-	1/-
Beaujolais 13/6	1/2
Beaune 16/6	1/5
Pommard 19/6	1/8
Volnay.....23/-	2/-

Ports.

Good Young 24/-	2/-
Fine old Tawny 36/-	3/-
Ditto well-matured 48/-	4/-
Superior old fine quality 54/-	4/6
Ditto Crofts No 1.....60/-	5/0
Ditto, ditto Grand Wine 66/-	5/6
Ditto very choice 72/-	6/-
Ditto rare old wines .....84/- to 150/-	

Tarragona. *pr doz.*

Superior Wines..... 12/- 18/- & 24/-

Liqueurs. *pr bot. pr ½bot.*

Curacoa... .....5/-		2/9
Maraschino 5/-		2/9
Chartreuse yellow..... 8/-		4/6
Ditto Green..... 10/6		5/9
Benedictine 7/-		3/6
Kirsch Wasser		3/6
Kummell Riga		4/-
Noyeau, Pink		2/9
Angostura Bitters		2/9
Heering Copenhagen Cherry Brandy	4/6	2/6

Cordials. *pr bot.*

Pamphilon's Cherry Brandy 3/-	
Orange Bitters..... .....3/-	
Peach Bitters.....3/6	
Ginger Brandy 3/-	3/6
Rum Shrub 2/6	3/-
Peppermint 2/-	2/6
Cloves.....2/-	2/6
Noyeau 3/-	
Milk Punch 3/6	
Lovage 2/6	

Bottled Ales, Stout, Etc.

pr doz. Imp pts.

Pamphilon's Special Dinner Ale.....2/6	
Ditto Nourishing Stout 2/6	
Light Dinner Stout 3/-	
Bass Pale Ale (½ pints 2/6) 4/-	
Bass No. 1 Burton in ½-pints.....3/6	
Pamphilon's Pale Ale 3/-	
Pilsener Lager Beer (½ pints 2/6).....	4/6
Guinness' extra Stout (½ pints 2/6).....	4/-

Clarets. *pr doz. pr bot.*

Claret	12/-	1/-
Vin Ordinaire	15/	1/3
Vin de Medoc .....1893 vintage	18/-	1/6
St. Julien .....1893 "	24/-	2/-
Pauillac .....1891 "	30/-	2/6
Margaux.....1890 "	36/-	3/-
Chateau Margaux 1889 "	54/-	4/6
Chateau Palmer ...1890 "	54/-	4/6
Ch. Lafite .....1893 "	60/-	5/-
Sauternes, Graves	21/- to 36/-	

Stock in Half-Bottles.

Claret.....	9/-	9d.
Medoc	10/6	11d.
St. Julien	13/6	1/2
Pauillac.....	16/6	1/5
Margaux	19/6	1/8

Sherries.

Natural Sherry.....16/-		1/4
Sherry 18/-		1/6
Light Sound Wine 24/-		2/-
Old-fashioned Brown.....30/-		2/6
Pamphilon's Dinner Sherry.....30/-		2/6
Nutty Character 36/-		3/-
Golden, Generous 42/-		3/6
Very Fine Brown 42/-		3/6
Pale old Dry 48/-		4/-
Ditto very Choice.....54/-		4/6
Choice old Rare Wines.....	60/- to 100/-	

Marsala. *per doz.*

Ingham & Woodhouse.....18/- 21/- & 24/-

Madeira.

Various ....36/- to 60/-

Scotch Whiskies.

	pr gal	pr doz	pr bot
Good 15/-		30/-	2/6
Fine old.....18/-		36/-	3/-
Superior 5 years old..... 21/-		42/-	3/6
Glenlivet Bd, 7 years old...22/-		44/-	3/8
Very fine Highland Malt ...22/-		44/-	3/8
Pamphilon's **VOS**, guaranteed 10 years old 24/-		48/-	4/-

Irish Whiskies.

Good 15/-		30/-	2/6
Fine old.....18/-		36/-	3/
Superior old.....21/-		42/-	3/6
Do., J. Jameson's, old Bonded	24/-	48/-	4/-

Rum.

Jamaica.....15/-	30/-	2/6
Old Jamaica.....18/-	36/-	3/-
V. O. Jamaica.....	3/6 and	4/-

Brandies.

Pale.....18/-		36/-	3/-
Fine old Pale ..... *	...24/-	48/-	4/-
Fine old Cognac..... **	...27/-	54/-	4/6
Finest old Cognac ... ***	...30/-	60/-	5/-
Choice old Cognac ... ****	...34/6	69/-	5/9
Curious Old Cognac.....	100/-		8/6

Gins.

Cordial & Unsweetened 12/-		24/-	2/-
Fine old Tom.....15/-		30/-	2/6
Ditto Finest. 16/-		32/-	2/8

Sloe, Orange, and Hop Gin.

CASK ALES.

OUR SPECIALITÉ F.P.A. BREWED FROM PURE MALT & HOPS

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G. LOLY, B.A., Head Master.

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Bromley Musical Society.

Conductor - - - Mr. F. LEWIS THOMAS.

Leader of Orchestra - - - Mr. NORMAN BATH.

THIS Society will commence its Eighteenth Season on MONDAY, OCTOBER 11th, for the CHORUS, and on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12th, for the ORCHESTRA, in the UPPER DRILL HALL, EAST STREET, at 8 p.m.

Four Concerts will be given during the Season as follows:—

Date of Concert.	Works proposed for Performance
20th November, 1897.	Symphony in B Flat, No. 5 ... ... *Schubert.* Overture, "Magic Flute" ... ... *Mozart.* "Saltarello" ... ... *Gounod.* "Sigurd Jorsalfar" ... ... *Grieg.* "Idyll" (Violin and Orchestra) ... *Battison Haynes.* Songs ... ...
21st December, 1897.	Oratorio, "ST. PAUL" ... ... *Mendelssohn.*
5th March, 1898.	Symphony in D, No. 2 ... ... *Beethoven.* Overture, "Richard III." ... ...*German.* Ballet Music, "Faust" ... ... *Gounod.* Water Music ... ...*Handel.* Songs and Instrumental Solos ... ...
26th April, 1898.	Dramatic Cantata, "Melusina" ... ... *Hoffman.* Overture, "Euryanthe" ... ... *Weber.* Introduction to 3rd Act, "Lohengrin" ... *Wagner.* Four Dances ... ... *R. N. Flux.* Songs and Part Songs ... ...

The following artistes will appear during the season:—Madame Clara Samuell; Madame Kate Cove; Miss Amy Sargent; Miss Maude Clough; Mr. Herbert Grover; Mr. Bertram H. Latter; Mr. W. H. Inglis; Mr. Norman Bath; and Mr. B. Parker (Cello). Negotiations are pending with other well-known Artistes.

Ladies and Gentlemen wishing to join the Chorus or Orchestra, must be proposed and seconded by Members of the Chorus or Orchestra, and should send in their names with those of their proposers and seconders without delay to the Hon. Sec., Mr. Edward Latter, Pixfield, Bromley, who will also be glad to send the prospectus to any who wish to subscribe for seats at the series of four Concerts to be given during the season; such Subscribers need *not* be proposed and seconded.

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The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

OCTOBER, 1897.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st.—Monthly meeting of the Plaistow Burial Board at St. Mary's Schools, Plaistow.—Performance of the "French Maid," by Graham Falcon's company, at the Bromley Grand Hall.

2nd.—The "French Maid" at the Bromley Grand Hall.

3rd.—*Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.*

4th.—Monthly meeting of St. Luke's Burial Board at St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common.—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne, & Lepper, of furniture and effects at Cefn Bryn, 49, Widmore-road, Bromley.

5th.—Annual meeting of the Chislehurst Gardeners' Association at St. Mary's Hall, Chislehurst.

7th.—Bromley Bible Flower Mission at the Parish Room, West-street, Bromley.

8th.—Monthly sitting of the Bromley County Court at the Court-house, Bromley.—Meetings of the West Kent Main Sewerage Board and the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board at 96, High-street, Bromley.—Lieutenant Walter Cole, ventriloquist, at the Bromley Grand Hall.

9th.—Lieutenant Walter Cole, ventriloquist, at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

10th.—*Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.*—Anniversary services at the Bromley Wesleyan Church.

11th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Mr. Wallace Erskine's company produce the "Shop Girl" at the Bromley Grand Hall.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board at the Offices, Haxted-road, Bromley.

12th.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council at the Council Offices, East-street, Bromley.—"The Shop Girl" at the Bromley Grand Hall.

13th.—Audit of the Beckenham Urban District Council at the Council Offices, Beckenham, at 10 a.m.—"The Shop Girl," at the Grand Hall, Bromley.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne, & Lepper, of the Bromley Grand Hall, County Club, and swimming baths, at the Mart, City, E.C.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne, & Lepper, of freehold and leasehold shops, business premises, and private residences, at Sydenham, Penge, Anerley, and Wandsworth, at the Mart, City, E.C.

14th.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne, & Lepper, at Keston Tower, Keston, of household furniture and effects.

17th.—*Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.*—Church of England Temperance Festival commences at Bromley. Special sermons at all local churches. Archbishop of Canterbury preaches at Bromley Parish Church in the evening.

18th.—Meeting in connection with Temperance Festival at Bromley Town Hall. Speakers: The Archbishop of Canterbury and others. Great public meeting in Drill Hall in the evening.—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—"Trilby," by M. Collin Bourne's Company, at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

19th.—Children's meeting in connection with Temperance Festival at Drill Hall, Bromley, 6 p.m.—"Trilby" at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

20th.—Sale of work at Bromley in connection with Temperance Festival, to be opened by Mrs. Temple at 3 p.m.—"Trilby" at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

21st.—Bromley Bible Flower Mission at the Parish room, West-street.

23rd.—Mr. Bannister Howard's company at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

24th.—*Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.*

25th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board at the Offices, Haxted-road, Bromley.—Mr. Bannister Howard's company at the Bromley Grand Hall.

26th.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council, Council Offices, East-street, Bromley.

28th.—Audit of Bromley Urban Council's books and accounts at 10 a.m.

31st.—*Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.*

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

Members of this authority re-assembled, for the first time after the long vacation, to transact public business on September 13th, when all but two representatives attended. The agenda was not a heavy one, and the correspondence which had accumulated took up most of the time.

The Threat of Litigation.

The Council had considered in Committee a letter from Mr. Heaysman's solicitors, contending that Mr. Heaysman was entitled to be paid for any damage done in connection with drainage works at his property, and the Council decided to inform them that while prepared to defend the action they would consider any application for compensation. — This recommendation was approved.

An Abnormal Birth-Rate.

The registrar's returns for the weeks from July 24th to September 11th were presented, showing that while the deaths only numbered 28 during that period—the return for the last week being absolutely nil—the births numbered no less than 88.

The Jubilee Gift of Land.

Mr. Coles Child's gift of a portion of the White Hart field for recreative purposes was again brought

forward, the Council being congratulated by the Metropolitan Public Gardens Association upon receiving such a gift; while Mr. W. H. Bosanquet forwarded a resolution passed at a meeting of ratepayers protesting against the acceptance of the offer, owing to the conditions upon which it was made.—The Chairman pointed out that at present the Council did not know what the actual conditions were, except that Mr. Coles Child had expressed a wish which they had agreed to conform with as much as possible. The question would, he said, be carefully considered at the proper time; and a reply in these terms was ordered to be sent to Mr. Bosanquet.

After Much Persuasion.

It appeared that something would at last be done to remedy the condition of the mill-stream footpath, which has been frequently urged, the Beckenham Council having, so the Bromley Council were informed, decided to repair so much of the footpath as is within their parish. The Highways Committee were deputed to consider the matter.

Widening of Beckenham Lane.

Tenders from six contractors for the widening of Beckenham-lane were opened, one price being little more than half that given in the highest; and the Council referred them to the Highways Committee to report upon.

Aggrieved Bricklayers.

The secretary of the local branch of the Co-operative Bricklayers' Society wrote inquiring if the Council knew that they were employing a labourer to do bricklayer's work. They considered it unfair, and urged that public bodies should set an example and have work done in a practical way.—The Council wanted more definite information, and directed the Clerk to ask their correspondent to oblige them with it.

Local Electric Light Company.

The Council were informed by Messrs. Todd. Dennes, & Lamb that they expected to register the Bromley Electric Light and Power Company, Ltd., shortly, with a nominal capital of £20,000 in shares of £5 each. The signatories to the memorandum and articles would include the following names:—Mr. R. Taylor, 115, High-street; Mr. F. Medhurst, High-street; Mr. I. Uridge, Widmore-road; Mr. W. R. Bassett, "District Times;" Mr. G. H. Cakebread, "Naini-Tal," Widmore-road; and Mr. F. E. Gripper, the managing director of the well-known firm of electrical engineers now carrying on business as Edmundson's, Limited; and they further asked the Council to proceed with the advertisements.—The Council considered the question in Committee, and decided, we hear, to proceed in the matter as requested.

The Jubilee Fountain.

Letters were received from Mr. Coles Child and his tenants, Messrs. Knight, to the effect that the erection of the Jubilee drinking fountain opposite Messrs. Knight's yard at Masons-hill would, they expected, prove a great nuisance, and suggesting other sites for it.—The fountain having been already erected, the Chairman remarked that he thought the writers' fears would be dispelled. It was, he added, a very harmless thing.

Cleaning Gratis.

The attention of the Council was directed by the Local Government Board to the provisions of the Cleansing of Persons Act, 1897, under section 1 of which any local authority could provide apparatus for the free use of persons infested with vermin.—The Chairman suggested that the matter should be left for the Guardians to deal with.

Damage to a Wine Cellar.

Compiaint was made by Major H. Tulloch, of The Hollies, Bickley, of the serious flooding of his premises at every rainfall resulting in damage to his wine-cellar, so that he was not able to keep wine there without the corks rotting, and to other parts.—The Surveyor was instructed to submit a report on the question to the Highways Committee.

Public Loans.

The Local Government Board wrote sanctioning the borrowing by the Council of £1,233 for fire brigade purposes and £2,506 for works of sewerage and surface water drainage; and the Finance Committee were requested to arrange for the loan.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

The re-assembling of this Board took place on Monday, August 30th, when several matters of interest were brought forward, and the next meeting, which took place on September 13th, was also a rather lengthy one.

The Opening of Playgrounds.

One of the principal subjects dealt with by the Board was the question of opening the school playgrounds for the use of children during other than school hours. The Board had, upon Mr. Amos's proposition, decided to throw open the playgrounds for a period of three months as an experiment, but at the meeting on August 30th it was reported that damage amounting to over £20 had been done to the school properties during the holidays, and Mr. Judd gave notice of motion in favour of re-considering and rescinding the resolution for the opening of the playgrounds. On September 13th, he brought forward this motion, stating that he did so with regret as he thought the playgrounds were beneficial as open spaces, but the experiment had been very costly for the Board. The conduct of the children—not school children, but lads and lasses from 15 to 18 years of age had been disgraceful, and he thought it very desirable, under the circumstances, that the resolution should be rescinded.—Mr. Loly seconded, observing that the opening of the playgrounds had not been conducive to the morality of the neighbourhood.—Mr. Amos heard the resolution with regret. His intention was, he said, that the playgrounds should be used by school-children only, and he thought it rather premature to rescind the resolution without giving it a fair trial.—The Rev. R. Silvey expressed his regret at having to support Mr. Judd's resolution.—Upon being put to the meeting, Mr. Judd's resolution—closing the playgrounds—was carried, Mr. Amos being the only dissentient.

Amending the Bye-Laws.

Mr. Weeks brought forward, at the meeting on August 30th, the question of revising the bye-laws, which, he said, all would agree was quite necessary. He moved the appointment of a sub-committee to take the matter in hand, and this was adopted, the following members being appointed on the sub-committee:—Messrs. Loly, Gomer, and the Rev. R. Silvey, with the Chairman as an ex-officio member.

Coal Contract.

The Board accepted Mr. D. Grinsted's tender for the supply of coal and coke, his prices, which were the lowest, being as follows:—Coal, 17s. per ton; coke, 9s. per chaldron. Three other tenders were received.

Drainage at Raglan-road School.

Upon the recommendation of the School Management Committee, the Board decided to adopt an amended scheme of drainage for the Raglan-road Schools, whereby the drainage would be carried into Jaffrey-road, at an extra cost of £100, and it was agreed to ask the Education Department to include this sum in the loan.

The New Rate.

On September 13th the Clerk submitted his estimate of expenditure for the half-year ending Lady Day, 1898, from which it appeared that the sum of £2,460 would be required, necessitating a rate of 3½d. in the £. The estimate was adopted.

How to Deal with Absentees.

Some discussion took place respecting the best way of dealing with cases where parents who were summoned for their children's non-attendance at school simply paid the fines and continued to keep the children at home. It was suggested that in such cases the children should be sent away, and eventually the Board decided to apply for orders for the truant school in cases of this kind.

Evening Continuation Schools.

It was agreed, upon Mr. Loly's motion, to make no charge upon students attending the evening continuation schools.

Scholarships Going A-begging.

Mr. Amos brought forward the question of scholarships, stating that he understood that Orpington School Board children had been successful in obtaining scholarships, and he wished to see something done locally.—It was pointed out that Orpington was in a rural district, and its children were eligible for County Council scholarships; but Bromley being an urban district, the county grant went to the Urban Council, who made what use of it they thought best.—Mr. Loly said £20 a year had been offered in scholarships by the local Technical Education Committee, but there was no competition for them. Children were being trained free at the Science and Art School in the hope that others might be induced to come forward.—The Chairman remarked that those facilities ought to be made known to the public; and Mr. Loly promised further information on the matter at a future meeting.

SCIENCE AND ART EXAMINATIONS.

The following is a list of the students in the local Science and Art Classes who have successfully passed the examinations held a few months back:—

Drawing in Light and Shade (Advanced).

First.—Margaret Woolven, Cicely B. Martin, Ada Hight, and Edith A. Leworthy.

Second.—Sarah E. Fawsitt.

Freehand (Advanced).

First.—Ada Hight, Edith A. Leworthy, Eleanor Gask, and Mildred Davis.

Second.—Gertrude A. Burgess, Florence M. Bourne, and Arthur B. Sharp.

Model Drawing (Advanced).

First.—Eleanor Gask, Ada Hight, Cicely B. Martin, Ada Giles, Edith A. Leworthy, Annie B. May, Maud F. Sharp, Margaret Woolven.

Second.—Edith A. C. Read.

Freehand (Elementary).

First.—Maud Payne, Edith M. Giles, Fredk. J. Matthews, Alfred J. Atkings, Sidney W. Paul, Gertrude Stevens, Maud F. Sharp, Thomas Swinford, Florence Bacon, Emily A. M. Lyford, Florence Harris, Herbert C. Grubb, John H. Dunford, Albert E. Ashworth, Annie F. Jewson.

Second.—Agnes S. Robertson, Muriel H. Hammond, B. M. Brearley, Lilian Snelling, Robert L. Granger, Dorothy Brown, Gertrude Watson, Reginald Lane, Alice L. Ashworth, Florence E. Carter, Rosina Stringer, Louis B. Umbers, William Bulton, William A. Riley, and Ellen M. Hammond.

Drawing from the Antique.

First.—Edith Davis, and Agnes A. Wood.

Second.—Bertha Bikker, and Mildred Davis.

Excellent.—Ada Hight.

Perspective.

First.—Alice Lilian Hitchcock.

Second.—Annie Edith Leworthy.

Model (Elementary).

First.—Herbert C. Grubb, Fredk. J. Matthews, Percy M. Stanford, Louis B. Umbers, Thomas Swinford, Aitken B. Sharp, Edith M. Giles, Maud Payne, B. M. Brearley, Edith C. Edgell.

Second.—Sarah E. Fawsitt, William C. Dunford, Garnet W. Harris, Bertram T. Plant, Alfred J. Atkings, Charles W. Burbridge, Florence Bacon, and Florence Shannon.

Light and Shade (Elementary).

First.—May Tweedy, Florence M. Bourne, Eleanor Gask, Beatrice G. Miles, Arthur B. Sharp, Maud F. Sharp.

Second.—Maud Payne, Edith M. Giles, Frederick J. Matthews, Herbert C. Grubb, Bertha Barton, Albert E. Ashworth, W. C. Dunford, Charles W. Burbridge, and Florence Bacon.

Geometry (Practical Plane and Solid).

Pass.—Ada Hight.

Fair.—Edith A. Leworthy, Garnet W. Harris, George E. Britton, and Bertha Bikker.

Mathematics.

Pass.—Sydney I. Brown, Sydney W. Murdoch, Bertram E. Dickins, Frank. J. Brown, William Riley, Garnet W. Harris.

Fair.—Beatrice G. Miles, Norman F. Pite, Geo. E. Britton.

Chemistry (Theoretical, Inorganic).

Second (Advanced).—Gerald. H. Martin, Horace Cavell, Frank Pyman.

Pass (Elementary).—W. E. A. Corp, Louisa Stanford, Bertram E. Dickins, Arthur W. Wardley, Sydney W. Murdoch.

Fair (Elementary).—Elsie C. Dickins, Norman F. Pite, Frank J. Brown.

Building Construction.

Second (Advanced).—T. Butler.

Pass (Elementary).—G. J. Auger.

Practical Inorganic Chemistry (Advanced).

Second.—Horace Cavell, J. Fielding, F. Pyman.

St. Luke's Art Class.

Elementary Freehand.

First.—Ethel Lansbury and Daisy A. Collins.

Second.—T. W. Morley and E. Harding.

Model Drawing.

First.—W. R. Child, Daisy A. Collins.

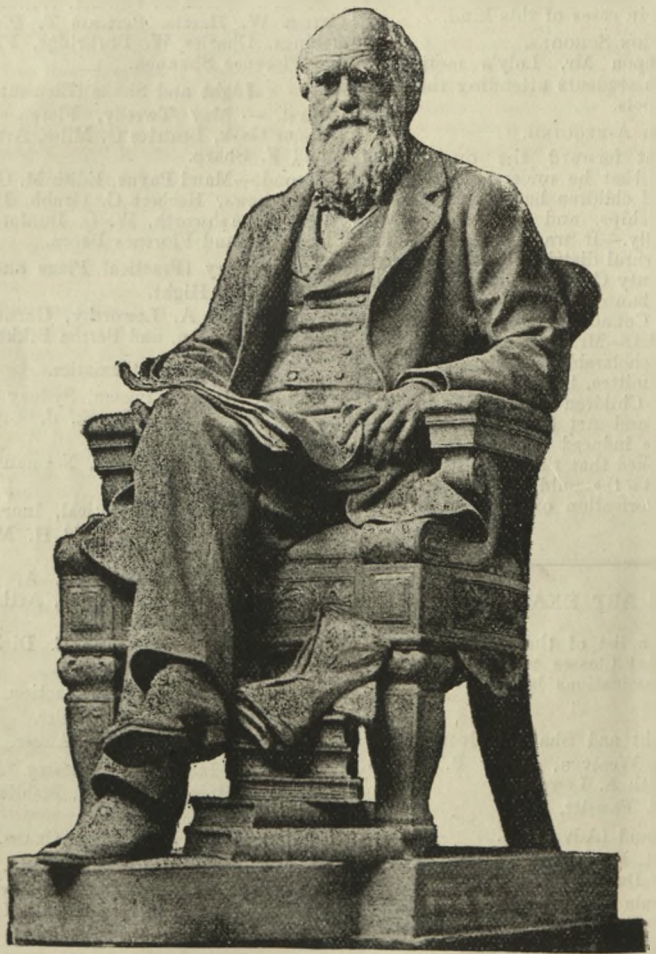
Second.—E. A. Harding, Louisa E. Palmer, Lydia K. Cook, and Ethel Lansbury.

Beckenham School of Music and Art.—At the recent examinations, the following students obtained bronze medals and scholarships:—Bronze medal for harmony, Miss Florence Medwin; bronze medal for pianoforte, Mr. Herbert Gisby; scholarships for harmony, Miss E. H. Joscelyne and Miss J. Edwards; scholarships for pianoforte, Mr. Herbert Gisby, Miss G. Trimmer, and Miss F. Ashton; scholarships for singing, Miss I. Hummel and Miss L. Cazeaux; scholarships for violin, Miss Netta Goldsmith and Miss F. Ashton; scholarships for drawing and painting, Miss Bluett. Examiners: Mrs. O'Leary, Mr. Eaton Faning, Mons. Emile Sauret, the Director of Studies, and Mr. John Brett, A.R.A.

STATUE OF DARWIN AT SHREWSBURY.

Speech by Sir Joseph Hooker.

The Shropshire Horticultural Society has been instrumental in procuring the erection at Shrewsbury of a statue to the late Charles Darwin, who was born near that city in 1809, and was educated at its well-known Grammar School. Although Darwin's memory is associated chiefly with the doctrine of evolution in the animate creation, his contributions to the study of botany are very valuable and sufficient to have earned him a title to scientific fame, even if they were his only claim to that distinction instead of being but one out of many. There is, therefore, no difficulty in apprehending the fitness of this tribute to his services to horticulturists on the part of this Shropshire Society.



STATUE OF DARWIN.

At the luncheon given at Shrewsbury in connection with the unveiling of the statue a very interesting speech was delivered by the distinguished octogenarian scientist, Sir Joseph Hooker, which is peculiarly interesting to inhabitants in this district by reason of its allusions to Darwin's life at Downe. There was a special appropriateness in the presence of Sir Joseph Hooker at the ceremony inasmuch as that it was he more than anyone else who identified himself with Darwin's theory of evolution, and with his teacher bore the first brunt of the attack which followed, as a matter of course, on the enunciation of the new doctrine. Dr. Hooker (as he then was) presided over the meeting of the British Association at Norwich in 1868, and devoted his address mainly to the consideration of the views which had been put forward by Darwin on "Natural Selection," and the "Origin of Species," with which he expressed his entire agreement, and his address gave rise to much controversy. He has, however, lived to see these views adopted even by leaders of religious thought.

In proposing the toast of "The Memory of Charles Darwin"—a name which he said he could not mention without emotion on the present occasion—Sir Joseph Hooker asked them to look back in their imagination to just sixty years ago and let him tell them of the genesis of the affection and reverence which he cherished for the memory of Charles Darwin. It was in 1838 or early in 1839 that he first knew of him through receiving from a friend of his (Sir Joseph's) father the loan of some sheets of the "Records of a Naturalist during the Voyage of the *Beagle*," which work was then passing through the Press. He (Sir Joseph) was at the time hurrying through his studies at the University of Glasgow, in order that he might accompany, as a naturalist, Captain, afterwards Sir James Ross,

in his projected voyage to the Antarctic regions. Being engaged in hospital duties, he had little time to devote to the precious sheets, and so he slept with them under his pillow in order that he might read them in the interval between dawn and dressing. This he did with fascination; but he added with despair of ever following, at however great a distance, in the footsteps of so admirable an observer and reasoner. A copy of the "Records of a Naturalist" was sent to him as a parting gift as he was on the eve of leaving England; but meanwhile he had once met the author, having been casually introduced to him in the streets of London by a shipmate who had sailed with him in the *Beagle*.

Very shortly after his return from the Antarctic voyage in 1843, he received from Darwin a cordial invitation to visit him at his "inaccessible home" as he used to call it, at Downe, adding that he had much to ask him about, in botanical matters especially; and, as he afterwards found, Darwin especially wished that he should publish some of the botanical results of the voyage. This "inaccessible home," destined to become the Mecca of so many a scientific and literary pilgrim in after years, was then 10 miles from a railway station. He (Sir Joseph) should never forget the frank and joyous reception that met him on his first visit to Downe, damped though it was by finding his friend's health so impaired. They had much to talk over, having visited in many cases the same countries during their respective voyages—the Cape of Good Hope, Rio de Janeiro, St. Helena, Tasmania, New South Wales, New Zealand, &c., so that they felt like fellow voyagers, forgetting the eight years that had elapsed between the dates of their respective cruises. It was, however, in the study at Downe, that their intimacy commenced and ripened. On the morning after his arrival on his very first visit, Darwin asked him to accompany him to his sanctum for the purpose of his (Sir Joseph) giving him some botanical information, the great scientist being especially engaged on the geographical distribution of animals and plants. And the following was a sample of how the day was passed on this and many subsequent visits. Mr. Darwin had always a long list of queries to put to him, sometimes collated months beforehand, the answers to which were distributed on slips of paper amongst a marvellous number of pockets, bags, and portfolios, that hung on the wall, or occupied racks by the fireside. This "pumping," as Darwin called it, went on for twenty minutes or half-an-hour, after which he stated that he was incapable of further mental exertion, and that he must rest till the time for his mid-day walk. They might ask him what struck him most forcibly about these exercises of his intellect; and, putting aside the marvellous amount of knowledge which he gained, they were Darwin's indomitable perseverance under bodily suffering, his command of all the available sources of knowledge in any given object of research, his vivid and strong grasp of the most difficult subjects, and his power of turning to account the waste observations, and even the blunders, of his predecessors and contemporaries; which power his (Sir Joseph's) friend, Sir James Paget, once told him was, he thought, one of the most striking of the many evidences of Darwin's genius. It is "dogged that does it," was a favourite expression with him, and so dogged was he that he had cited his very illness as being to his advantage, congratulating himself, for instance, on sleepless nights that allowed him to read off his continuous observations on the movements of his beloved plants. Such was his association with Darwin for forty years, during all which time he was his guide, philosopher, and friend. It only remained for him to join with them in rejoicing over the fact that the admirable likeness of his old friend, which the President had unveiled that day, had been obtained by the efforts of horticulturists; and when he considered how much scientific horticulture owed to Darwin, this was as it should be; moreover, he felt well assured that could Darwin know that that tribute to his memory was, by those special efforts, placed in his birthplace, amongst the loved scenes of his early youth, he would regard it as the most prized of all the honours that had been or could be bestowed upon him.

The statue is in bronze, and is the work of Mr. Mountford, also a native of Shrewsbury. There is a great similarity in the pose of the figure to that of the fine statue in the hall of the Natural History Museum. For our illustration we are indebted to the kindness of the proprietors of *Knowledge*.

WEST WICKHAM.

Railway Fatality at West Wickham.—An inquiry was held at the Coroner's Court, Guy's Hospital, on September 8th, by Mr. Arthur C. Langham, the Deputy Coroner, with reference to the death of Nicholas Yeoman, aged 29 years, a cab proprietor, lately residing at The Green, West Wickham, who was fatally injured when endeavouring to enter a train at West Wickham Station on the previous Wednesday.—Francis James White, a butler at Wickham House, stated that he arrived at West Wickham Station at three minutes past nine on Wednesday night, and as he went to leave the platfom he saw the deceased rush through the gate to catch the train. It was, however, already moving out, and the deceased sprang to get into the guard's brake, the door of which was still open, but he missed his hold and fell between the footboard and the platform, and after being whirled round and round fell behind the brake on to the line. Witness considered the accident was solely due to the deceased's attempt to enter the moving train.—A verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned.

Change of Business.—The business of dispensing and pharmaceutical chemist, for so many years carried on by Mr. Wm. Walmisley Baxter, at 40, High-street, and 3, The Broadway, Bromley, has now been handed over to his only son, who took possession on the 15th ult. This change has been rendered necessary by the failing health of our old townsman, but we are confident that with the extensive experience of his son, who possesses the highest qualifications as a chemist obtainable in this country, this old-established and always reputable house will merit increased support by the inhabitants of the district. Arrangements have been made, we understand, whereby the accounts due to Mr. Wm. W. Baxter will be collected by his son. Wm. Baxter, jun.'s interests are not confined exclusively to his business, for he is a diligent student of natural history, and was one of the founders of the Bromley Naturalists' Society and he is also an enthusiastic amateur gymnast.

Mr. H. H. Pain has presented a bell to the new church of St. Mark, Masons Hill, Bromley, and it has already been hung. It bears the inscription "Anthony Bartlet made me, 1674."

Louis Staunton, the principal defendant in the celebrated Penge murder case has just been liberated after serving twenty years in prison.

Our esteemed correspondent *Fortissimo* has resigned the position of musical critic to the *Record*.

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DIARY.

AUGUST.

30.—Inquest on a Bromley man named Hearsey, employed as a dyer at Messrs. Podger's laundry, who was drowned by the upsetting of a boat at Tonbridge, where a party of the workers had gone for their annual outing. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.

SEPTEMBER.

1st.—Annual shooting competitions for tradesmen's prizes by members of the Bromley Detachment, 2nd Vol. Batt. the "Queen's Own" (Royal West Kent Regiment) at the Milton ranges.

6th.—Inquest at Chislehurst on a young lady named Grace Brooker, daughter of the late Rear-Admiral Brooker, of Blackheath, who poisoned herself on St. Paul's Cray Common.

8th.—Public meeting at the Widmore Wesleyan Chapel to welcome the new pastor, Rev. A. J. Southouse.

10th.—Revising Barrister's court for the revision of voters' lists at Bromley.

14th.—Anniversary meeting at the Bromley Common Iron Room, Sir George Williams presiding.—Marriage of Miss K. E. Biggs, of Orpington, and the Rev. W. Holyoak, pastor of the Bromley Common Baptist Church.

15th.—Funeral at Bromley parish churchyard of Mr. Manning Keer, who for over thirty years carried on a drapery business at 27, High-street, Bromley.—Chislehurst Cycling Club's ten miles championship race at Catford, the winner being Mr. B. C. Whur.—Inquest at Keston on Henry Bellfield, living at Fox Hill-cottages, who died suddenly on Hayes Common.

17th.—Annual cricket match between Bromley police and tradesmen (the latter winning), followed by a dinner at the "Bell" hotel, over which Mr. R. Gordon Mullen presided.

18th.—Annual meeting of the Bromley Hockey Club.—Serious accident to a funeral party at Keston owing to the driver falling off the box and the horse running away.—Quarterly meeting at Hayes of the Bromley and District Teachers' Association, when the question of corporal punishment by assistant teachers was discussed.

19th.—Harvest thanksgiving services at the Bromley Wesleyan Church, and also at the Farwig Wesleyan Mission.

20th.—Performance of "The Geisha" at the Bromley Grand Hall, and on following night, to crowded houses.

22nd.—Annual meeting of the Bromley Conservative [illegible]etic Club.

23rd.—Presentation to the Bromley football team, at a smoking concert held at "The Champion" hotel, Aldersgate-street, London, of trophy and medals, for winning last season's championship of the London League, Second Division.

Approaching Temperance Festival in Bromley.—The Church of England Temperance Society, Canterbury Diocese, will hold its autumn festival in Bromley, commencing Sunday, Oct. 17th, when the Archbishop of Canterbury will preach at the Parish Church and special sermons will be preached at all the churches. A very good selection of preachers and speakers has been secured by the Rev. J. Isabel, the diocesan secretary, C.E.T.S. The list includes the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Dover, Mr. H. W. Maynard, the Rev. C. J. Ridgway, the Rev. J. W. Horsley, the Rev. C. H. Grundy, Mr. Newman, and others.

Bromley School of Music.—At the recent examinations, the following students obtained scholarships and honours:—Bronze medal for harmony, Miss F. Medwin; scholarship for pianoforte, Miss M. H. Heald; scholarships for singing, Miss L. Cazeaux, Miss I. Hummel, Mr. B. Pearce; scholarship for violin, Miss Nettie Goldsmith. Examiners— Mrs. O'Leary, Mr. Eaton Faning, Mons. Emile Sauret, and the Director of Studies.

Bromley Musical Society.—We would draw our readers' attention to the fact that the Bromley Musical Society starts its eighteenth season on Monday, Oct. 11th, for the chorus and on Tuesday, Oct. 12th, for the orchestra. Four concerts will be given during the season on the following dates:—November 20th, December 21st, March 5th, and April 26th, and full particulars as to the programmes to be performed will be found in another column. We have many times in the past laid stress on the good work this Society has done in the cause of music in Bromley and to all appearance the Committee intend this season to excel all previous efforts. We note that for the first time the dates of concerts, the full programme, and engagement of principal soloists are announced at the commencement of the season. This is a manifest improvement, and we are pleased to see such names as Madame Clara Samuell, Madame Kate Cove, and Mr. Herbert Grover in the list. They will assuredly add greatly to the attraction of the concerts. Ladies and gentlemen wishing to join the chorus or orchestra must be proposed and seconded by members of the chorus or orchestra, and should send in their names with those of their proposers and seconders without delay to the hon. secretary, Mr. Edward Latter, Pixfield, Bromley, who will also be glad to send the prospectus to any who wish to subscribe for seats at the series of four concerts. Such subscribers need not be proposed and seconded.

Bromley Police v. Tradesmen.—The annual cricket match between the Bromley Police and a team of tradesmen was played on the Plaistow Cricket Ground on September 17th, when the tradesmen secured a victory, on the first innings, by a majority of 49 runs. In the evening the teams, with a large number of friends, dined together at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, the chair being taken by Mr. R. G. Mullen, and the vice-chair by Detective-inspector Fox. The gathering was one of the most successful held in recent years, and during the evening a capital musical programme was carried out.

Bromley Common Iron Room.—The twenty-fourth anniversary of the opening of the Iron Room at Great Elms-road, Bromley Common, for the conduct of service in which Mission Mr. M. H. Hodder makes himself responsible—was celebrated on September 14th by a public meeting, which was very largely attended, being presided over by Sir George Williams. Addresses were given by the Chairman, the Rev. J. Wilson, of Woolwich Tabernacle, and Mr. Robinson Souttar, M.P., while Mr. Hodder, as treasurer of the Mission, presented the annual report and financial statement, which was of a satisfactory character.

BECKENHAM.

Fashionable Wedding at Beckenham. — Considerable interest was caused in Beckenham on Wednesday, Sept. 15th, by a fashionable wedding at the parish church of St. George's, the contracting parties being Emmie, only child of Dr. and Mrs. Macrae, of The Firs, Blakeney-road, Beckenham, and Edward Kirlew, elder son of the late Mr. Daniel Kirlew and Mrs. Kirlew, of Texpor, Hayne-road, Beckenham. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Henry Arnott (rector of the parish), assisted by the Rev. Charles Green (vicar of St. Paul's, Beckenham). The bride was given away by her father, and was attired in ivory satin duchesse, the bodice of the gown being elaborately trimmed with tucked chiffon and narrow point d'Alencon lace, and sprays of orange blossoms, which fell in showers over the rather full skirt. The court train of brocaded silk fell crosswise from the shoulders, and was trimmed with a large bow of white satin ribbon arranged with myrtle and orange flowers. The bride carried a shower bouquet of exquisite white exotics (the gift of the bridegroom), and was attended by Miss Thompson (her cousin) and Miss Lightfoot, Mr. Thomas C. Kirlew (the bridegroom's brother) performing the duties of best man. The bridesmaids wore charming dresses of white bengaline silk, the bodices and skirts finely tucked and finished at the waist with full sashes of white chiffon. A reception was held at The Firs after the ceremony, and later in the day Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kirlew left for Dover, en route for the Continent, where the honeymoon is being pent.

Changes at Christ Church. — We understand that subject to the consent of the Archbishop of Canterbury being obtained, the Rev. John Harding, M.A., who since 1883 has been vicar of Christ Church, Beckenham, proposes to exchange livings with the Rev. John Rooker, M.A., vicar of Coldharbour Christ Church, Surrey. Both livings are in the hands of trustees, that of Christ Church, Beckenham, being vested in five. The parish was formed in 1878, the estimated population is 1,066, and the value of the living £560. Coldharbour is a smaller parish, numbering 545 residents, and the value of the living is given at £150 per annum. It is in the diocese of Winchester.

The Rev. J. Harding graduated as M.A. at Brasenose College, Oxford, and was ordained deacon in 1866 and priest in 1867. His first curacy was at Hook Norton, Oxfordshire, and after a stay of four years he left in 1870 for St. Michael's, Chester-square, where he held the curacy for two years, subsequently going to St. Matthew's, Brixton. In 1875 he was appointed vicar of Weeley, Essex, and in 1883 to Christ Church, Beckenham.

The Rev. John Rooker, M.A., of Queen's College, Cambridge, was ordained deacon in 1881, priest in 1882, and he has held curacies at St. Mary's, Cheltenham, 1881-3; St. Mary's Kippington (Kent) 1883-4; and St. Michael's, Chester-square, 1886-9. For the past eight years he has been vicar of Coldharbour.

Beckenham Swimming Club Races.—The annual competitions in connection with the Beckenham Swimming Club took place on September 20th, at the South Norwood Baths, the winners of first prizes in the four events being as follows:—Two lengths' handicap, class A, 1st, W. Brown; two lengths' handicap, class B, 1st, J. Killick; three lengths' handicap, 1st G. Brawn; and consolation race, 1st, A. W. Morse. The prizes were afterwards distributed at the Y.M.C.A. Rooms at Beckenham, by Mr. Francis Hooper.

Saddle-Stealing at Beckenham.—Two grooms named Wm. Bonham, aged 21, of Beckenham, and George Bennett, 21, of Shirley, were brought up at Bromley Petty Sessions on September 13th, charged with stealing two saddles, the property of Mr. S. Bullivant and Mr. P. Bucknall, members of the Beckenham Polo Club.—Prisoners, who admitted their guilt, were sent to prison for fourteen days with hard labour in the two cases.

Four Days in a Denehole.—Richard Castleton, an elderly inhabitant of the village of Crockenhill, has been rescued from a denehole, or draw well, after having been incarcerated four days. He had entered the wood in search of nuts on Sunday, September 12th, and his disappearance caused considerable anxiety in the village. On the fourth day it occurred to a man named Chambers that Castleton might have fallen into the denehole. A search party was therefore instituted, a dog accompanying them. At the mouth of the hole the dog became excited and jumped down. Ropes were lowered, and the man was eventually brought to the surface by Mr. Herbert Berens, of Kevington, apparently more dead than alive, having only had a few nuts to eat all the four days of his imprisonment. He states that on being precipitated into the hole, which is from 40 to 50 feet deep, he lay at the bottom for some time in a semi-unconscious state, having sustained slight concussion during the fall. As he lay on a bed of mud, and through the small opening at the top sunlight and darkness succeeded each other without any help coming in response to his calls, he suffered terrible mental anguish. He has now almost recovered from the effects of his adventure. The dog which played such an active part in the finding of Castleton is to have a collar, suitably inscribed, the funds for the purchase of the collar being raised by public subscription in the neighbourhood.

Teachers in Conference.—Members of the Bromley and District Teachers' Association met at Hayes School on September 18th for the quarterly meeting, the chair being occupied by Mr. Stephenson, the President. A discussion took place upon the question of the right of inflicting corporal punishment being vested in all certificated teachers, and eventually a proposition in favour of giving head-masters power to allow to their certificated assistants the right to administer slight corporal punishment was adopted.—Subsequently the meeting was addressed by Mr. Bowden, a member of the Executive and the accredited supervisor of the Kent Association. Tea was afterwards partaken of, and the rest of the evening was devoted to social intercourse, the arrangements being very satisfactorily carried out by Mr. and Mrs. Plant.

Bullocks Killed by Lightning.—A heavy thunderstorm broke over the district of Bromley on August 31, and shortly after one o'clock the lightning struck one of the large old elm trees in the grounds of Oakley, Bromley Common (Mr. Gerard Norman, J.P.). The tree, which was hollow, was set on fire, but the flames were soon extinguished. Two fine bullocks, however, of the Red Devon breed, which had taken shelter under the tree during the storm, were struck dead, and a member of the family who happened to be looking out of the window, saw the unfortunate animals fall as if struck by a pole-axe, the tree being only about one hundred yards distant from the house. None of the branches were broken off the tree, but several ribbons of bark were stripped off the trunk from three parts of the way up to the base.

Owing to the bad harvests in many parts of the world and the consequent dearness of corn, the price of bread has been raised in this district in common with others to between sixpence and sevenpence a quartern loaf.

CHISLEHURST.

Sad Suicide at Chislehurst.—A distressing occurrence formed the subject of a Coroner's inquiry at Chislehurst on September 6th, the body of Miss Grace Brooker, aged 22, youngest daughter of the late Rear-Admiral G. A. C. Brooker, C.B., of Blackheath, being found on St. Paul's Cray Common under such circumstances as left no doubt as to her having taken her own life. From the evidence it appeared that the deceased young lady had not been quite right since suffering from a severe attack of influenza in 1894, and on Friday evening, September 3rd, she was found by a Chislehurst painter named Walter Brougham lying dead on the Common near Pitts Wood. A bottle and a small glass were found by her side, and from the post-mortem examination made by Dr. Hamper, it was ascertained that death was due to poisoning by carbolic acid. She had ridden a bicycle from Blackheath to Mottingham, where she had left it, and had addressed a letter to a friend at Chislehurst saying where her body would be found. A verdict in accordance with the medical evidence was returned by the jury.

Obituary.

Death of Mr. Manning Keer.—During the month death removed one of the oldest tradesmen of Bromley in the person of Mr. Manning Keer, who for over thirty years conducted a drapery business at No. 27, High-street, Bromley. Though he had been out of health for some years, his last illness was of short duration, and he passed away on Friday, September 10th. The deceased was a native of Suffolk. Many relatives and friends were present at the funeral, which took place in the Bromley Parish Churchyard on Wednesday, September 15th, the service being conducted by the vicar of Bromley (the Rev. A. G. Hellicar). The chief mourners were: Mr. F. Manning Keer (son), Messrs. F. E. Webb, H. P. Walkins, James and Heaysman (sons-in-law), Mr. Edwin Keer (brother), and Mr. B. S. Pyrke, Mr. G. Shillcock, Mr. W. Heaysman, Mr. Mayo, and Mr. H. Heaysman. Many beautiful floral tributes were deposited on the coffin, which bore the following inscription:— "Manning Keer. Born 4th May, 1838; died 10th September, 1897."

Death of Mr. A. R. Gowing. — We regret to record this month the death of Mr. Arthur R. Gowing, a journalist on the "Daily News" staff, which occurred after a brief illness early on Sunday morning at his residence, "Linbank," Shortlands. The deceased, who was forty years of age, entered journalism on "The School Board Chronicle," of which publication his father, Mr. Richard Gowing, was editor. In 1880 he first went into the Reporters' Gallery of the House of Commons for a combination of country newspapers. Six years later he joined the corps of "The Daily News," and continued his association with it to the time of his death. His experience was not, however, confined to work at St. Stephen's. As an all-round journalist he was known and highly respected amongst members of the profession he had adopted.

The Rainfall.—The rainfall for August, as measured at Elmfield, Bromley Common, amounted to 3.38 inches. Rain fell on 19 days, the largest amount registered in one day being .76in. on the 31st. For the corresponding month last year the fall was 2.15in., and in 1895 1.68in.

Marriage of Rev. W. Holyoak.—The marriage of Miss Kate Edith Biggs, daughter of Mr. James Biggs, of the Maples, Chelsfield-lane, Orpington, and the Rev. Walter Holyoak, pastor of the Bromley Common Baptist Church, was solemnized at Orpington Baptist Church, on September 14th. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a cream satin dress trimmed with Brussels lace and orange blossoms, and the two bridesmaids were Miss Nellie Jotcham, niece of the bride, and Miss Edith Rowe, cousin of the bridegroom. Their dresses were of fancy nuns' veiling on yellow silk. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. D. Russell, of Edmonton, and at the close a reception was held at the Maples, the newly-married couple leaving later in the day for Scotland, where the honeymoon was spent. The presents numbered over ninety and included some handsome and costly gifts.

The Revision Courts.—The revision of the voters' lists for Bromley, Chislehurst, Chelsfield, Farnborough, Mottingham, and Orpington parishes was carried out by Mr. Michael Maloney, Revising Barrister, at a court held at the Bromley Urban District Council Offices on September 10th. The Conservative party were represented by Mr. F. de L. Solbe, and Mr. C. E. Ince, secretary of the Sevenoaks Division Liberal Council, looked after the Liberal interests. During the sitting the Revising Barrister alluded to the confusion occasioned by the way in which the district had been divided for County Council electoral purposes. The Parliamentary divisions had, he said, been ignored altogether, and in the Bromley district there were two county electoral divisions which included parishes belonging to the Dartford Parliamentary division. He had approached the County authorities on the subject and was told that it could not be altered now.—The attention of Mr. Pollard, assistant overseer for Chislehurst and Mottingham, was drawn by the Revising Barrister to what he termed negligence in putting names in the list of voters who had received parish relief, they being marked through in ink and the initial "R" written in the margin. "R," the assistant overseer said, meant relief, but it was pointed out that it might stand for "removed" or "run away." The names should not, the Revising Barrister said, have been put on the list without the relieving officer's books having been seen. He decided at first to treat the names as non-existent, but eventually decided to leave them on, as they were not erased, and the objection was not written against them. The learned barrister also called attention to the necessity for the full Christian names of voters being given. — Complaint having been made that the agents had not received lists of objections from the assistant overseer (Mr. Pollard), the Revising Barrister intimated that the expenses of assistant overseers would be cut down if he found that they did not assist the party agents.—Mr. Stone, assistant overseer for Bromley, was complimented by the Revising Barrister upon the admirable way in which he had prepared his lists.—The voters' lists for the parishes of Beckenham, Hayes, Keston, and West Wickham were revised by Mr. Michael Maloney on Monday, September 13th, at Beckenham, and in the course of the proceedings two young gentlemen named Cecil Norman and Reginald Leslie Norman claimed votes as lodgers. They were living at home, the value of the house being given at over £300 a year, but the Revising Barrister said that obviously they did not pay rent and in the absence of any evidence that they contributed for lodgings he decided not to allow the claims. A man, he said, was not a lodger unless he had a contract for tenancy which would justify him in suing his landlord if summarily turned out of the house.

"IVA KILDARE,"

By Mrs. L. B. Walford,
Author of "Mr. Smith," "Cousins," "Frederick," "A Mere Child," "The Baby's Grandmother," etc., etc.

CHAPTER IX.

"WHAT DO YOU WISH ME TO DO, IVA?"

"Come in, come in; make haste and get warm!" cried Lady Tilbury, bustling forward through her large saloon, dim and shadowy at that hour, to where a glorious fire shed its blaze on the cheerful tea-table, bespread with good things. "Such a mercy those men have come and gone, and we can begin to be cosy at once!" continued she, throwing off hat and gloves, and kneeling down upon the fender-stool to warm her hands.

Early training was still at times too much for her ladyship, and she could not regard her butlers and footmen quite as the automatons her Tilbury daughters did.

Maud and her younger sisters never gave these a thought; even Iva, accustomed to them from early youth, scarce noticed them more; but Iva's mother would now and again grow restless beneath the solemnity of Tilbury Court ceremonial.

On the whole she liked it; deprived of it, she would have felt its loss; but in certain moods Irish Molly threw off twenty years of her life, and with these all the wealth, grandeur, and comfort which they had brought. Before her first marriage Molly had been very poor indeed. Then had come comparative ease; finally affluence. She could not now have done without the affluence, but poverty had left a faint, almost undistinguishable stamp, which yet could never be wholly obliterated.

Iva, with her mother's gesture, unconsciously caught—a free and graceful gesture it was—now also tossed aside her outdoor equipment, and spread her smaller fingers in the grateful warmth, with so exact a reproduction of Lady Tilbury's air and attitude that the latter gave her a little push. "Ah, get along with you, mother's own child!" cried she, in richest Hibernian accents. "The cow and the calf, isn't it, Reggie? Here, Reggie, come and warm yourself too," making room for him between them.

Iva gave her mother a look; "Formal and serious," it said.

"Oh, bother formality and seriousness!" mentally ejaculated the widow, who had been struggling with those demons the whole afternoon. "Am I never to speak to the poor boy in my own natural voice again? Besides, it's not me, it's Iva, who ought to take care. What can poor me matter?" And she smiled round on the tall figure which slid into the proffered niche, nothing loth, and apparently quite undeterred by any absence of encouragement from the figure on the other side.

Iva rose and walked to the tea-table.

"Iva thinks 'Two's company, three's none,'" quoth Lady Tilbury, laughing. "Move off a little, Reggie; there's plenty of room now. We two can warm ourselves without jostling each other," and she gave his elbow a little friendly push.

A large log, all alight, fell off the fire, and necessitated a sudden dart back of both. "Come, sir, pick that up," said Lady Tilbury authoritatively; but Iva had risen and rung the bell as her mother spoke. "The servants had better put the fire together again properly," said she.

It was the same throughout the meal. Lady Tilbury had been exhilarated by her drive on a pleasant afternoon in pleasant company; she had been well received at various houses, and found abundance of food for chatter on leaving each of them; and though latterly somewhat chilled by the autumnal atmosphere as daylight faded, the chilling had not been mental, and she could not understand Iva's sudden turn. "She was lively enough all the first part of the drive, though she did give me *looks*," reflected she; "what have I done, or what has poor Reggie done, to be frozen now?"

What had Reggie done? Reggie himself knew very well; but it was not his part to enlighten anyone; in consequence, he did not even affect a humble, contrite air which might have aroused suspicion.

On the contrary, he was particularly cheerful and disengaged. Our hostess sipped her tea, munched her toast, and thought with her usual easy indulgence that Iva was a silly girl, but that the present development of silliness might be turned to account, being, perhaps, all things considered, not a bad ending to a somewhat jovial afternoon, throughout which—at least, during the greater part of which—all three had made merry to their hearts' content; while all the time Iva sat raging at the other side of the festal board, every morsel she ate choking in her throat. "She really is too absurd!" concluded Iva's mother, half-amused, half-vexed, as the hour passed.

"Mr. Stokes, my lady, would like to see you, if convenient?" As things stood, my lady considered she might safely leave the room to see Mr. Stokes, or anybody else; wherefore without hesitation, remembering also that she had on her own account something she wished to see Mr. Stokes about, she repaired to the business-room—Sir Thomas's business-room, still used as such—where the steward awaited her.

A bent head was raised and a drooping eyelid lifted as the rustle of her skirts ceased and the great door by which she had departed slid into its socket again.

There was a moment's silence, then: "What do you wish me to do, Iva?" said a voice, the voice Iva was waiting for.

"Do?" She was on her feet as he spoke. "Do?" The light of battle blazed in her eyes. "Do?" she cried for the third time. "You have done enough, I think! Do? There's nothing left to be done, I should say! Do?" Her breath came and went in scornful gasps. "*Do?*"

"I'm awfully sorry, Iva."

"Sorry! You ought to be. I never was so—how *could* you? And you had no right—if my mother only knew!—I can't speak of it——"

"My hands were so beastly cold; and that beastly pocket-book of mine——"

"What have I to do with your pocket-book? What would your cold hands have mattered if—if——?"

"If I had remembered it was in it, I should never——"

"The idea of carrying about my—my——"

"You gave it me yourself."

"Gave it you! Yes—as we all did. For your collection. Everybody gives photographs. You said you collected. I don't suppose you do,—"

"I do—really. I have got several of you in it."

"And you pretended you had not one!"

"Not this time. Not since I came back. The last I had was an old one, taken——"

"Oh, what does it matter? You got this out of me, and—and—I *am* so ashamed! It *is* too bad!" Tears stood in her eyes.

There was a pause.

"If your mother had not asked me to leave my cards upon the Deanery table, it would never have happened," recommenced he at last, as though an extenuating circumstance had occurred to his memory. "I was fumbling with my cards, and the beastly thing——"

"Yes—the beastly thing—my photograph!"

"No, no—the pocket-book. It is such a brute of a pocket-book. If you look here, I'll show you"—feeling in his breast pocket—"I can show you exactly how I did it."

"Do you think I care how you did it? Anybody could see how the thing was done. No one supposes you meant to disgrace me."

"Iva!"

"It did disgrace me. You may say what you will; it *disgraced* me!" Her bosom heaved, and again the moisture suffused her eyes.

He opened his mouth to speak, and shut it again.

"If only no one had seen!" broke forth Iva at last, with a new flash of indignation. "You had no right to have it—no business to have it—in *that* way; but I could have taken it back, and said no more about it, only I should never have given you another, and I never, *never* will now." ("Humph! I'll stick to this, then!" mentally resolved he.) "But that girl who picked it up, she must have seen, and of course by this time she has told all the rest," proceeded Iva bitterly. "It was Esther, and I saw her give it a good look, as she held it in her hand; and she smiled—I am sure she smiled—and glanced at me. Reggie, how could you do it? How *could* you do it?" With the words the speaker's voice broke, and he perceived that the end had come.

CHAPTER X.

THE AWAKENING.

Without a word he rose and went out.

He walked soberly enough along the corridor, through the hall and down the front door steps, and drew a breath of relief as he passed into the silent world beyond. He had not met Lady Tilbury, nor anyone; and the friendly darkness without now swallowed him up. That was something; he could look and feel as he chose.

The puzzle was that he felt so odd.

And he had only had a quarrel with Iva—one of many—and he had never minded a quarrel before. Iva, who knew him well—rather, who read him like a book—had spoken no less than the truth when she told her mother that there was nothing Reggie Goffe liked better than to have someone (presumably of the fair sex) in a huff with him; and the speaker might have added that if that someone were herself it added a special grain of zest to the sport.

She had a suspicion that it was so, and that she and Reggie would go on all their lives keeping up this mimic warfare, if she did not in her own person decline the part allotted to her.

She had declined it; had meant to do so, at least. To her eyes it was undignified, unworthy of her advancing years and maidenhood, to carry on this species of flirtation—for it was nothing else—with her former playmate. It was likely to make people talk; and as there neither was nor ever could be anything to talk about, she had the sense to see that the time had come to make a stand.

In consequence, our young lady's manner had undergone a change, subtle but steadfast; and by dint of continued watching and reminding she had kept her mother tolerably well up to the mark likewise. "Treat him as if he were a silly boy—as if he were privileged to be absurd—and do not be drawn into taking offence at *anything*," would this youthful Solomon exhort; and the recipient of such wisdom, in terror of a frown, had learnt to seek her daughter's eyes ere making a proposition or responding to an overture.

Reggie had tried being aggrieved, but to no purpose. Lady Tilbury had hastened to explain away all that could offend, and efface its recollection with kindest words and smiles. Iva herself, with a frank, innocent countenance that seemed to see nothing amiss, would lay herself out to be pleasant on such occasions. He was gently propelled off the quicksand by two pairs of fair feminine arms.

So that he might have been supposed to lick his lips, vulgarly speaking, over the present breakdown. He had caught his will-o'-the-wisp for once. She had not only suffered herself to be angry, but her resentment had been kept under lock and key until every other presence was withdrawn, and he and she could have it out alone together—a heavenly state of things.

To have brought it about, moreover, through the agency of a genuine piece of carelessness ought to have been the crowning point of his self-gratulation;—and yet what had become of the self-gratulation?

It was quite certain that his bosom contained none.

After a few minutes' hurried walking, during which a ridiculous fear lest his footsteps might be arrested by a call from behind made him cover the ground as rapidly as possible, he slackened his pace, grasped the stick in his hand less tightly, and relaxed the tension of his muscles. He had got breathing space; now he could think.

The first thing to think over was the scene at the Deanery, whence dated all the present convulsion of the elements.

Of course, he had never meant Iva to know that he carried about her photograph in his pocket; he did not himself know why he carried it; he thought it a good likeness, the best Iva had had taken; he thought he would go to the same place himself to be done; he thought vignettes of faces came out better than full-length figures.

One day, after looking at it for a while on the mantel-piece of his little room—where the various members of the Tilbury family were the admiration of the small farm-servant who dusted them—he stuffed it into his pocket-book under a momentary impulse; and it had remained there.

But it was doing no harm; not only did nobody know, but he himself often forgot the circumstance; and as he carried a multifarious collection of articles in the same well-worn receptacle—letters, addresses, and the like—it really seemed a very trifling matter that tumbling about among them all should be the clear-cut profile with the beautiful chin and the soft upturned eye, of Iva Kildare.

To return to the Deanery hall, and the fatal moment.

The party were engaged in leave-taking after a genial and prolonged call—"quite a visitation," according to Lady Tilbury; and the dean's wife—by this time always more than civil beneath the remembrance of the distant un-prodigal son—had followed her visitors to the door, her hand within Lady Tilbury's arm.

The two were talking as though they had left everything to the last moment to say, as is the way of womankind; and Iva also, with the three daughters of the house surging round her, had become entangled in a wild fantasia of arrangements, promises, and "don't forgets"; so that there was a general hubbub, and Reggie himself, quite at ease with the dean, to whom he usually gave a wide berth as a formidable unknown quantity, but who seemed only jolly and chatty when thus hedged in by family influence, was happily unaware of the pitfall yawning in front of him.

Lady Tilbury, having no longer Sir Thomas's cards to lay on the table as she made her way carriage-wards, was suddenly inspired—or so it now seemed in the retrospection—by the demon of maladroitness to admonish her young companion in an audible aside: "Your cards, Reggie," and as he could not well correct her ladyship by pointing out that there was no one on whom cards could be left, seeing that the entire family had been found at home, he did as he was desired without a word.

Had Lady Tilbury not been Lady Tilbury, he would have turned to jest the exhortation. With

her, however, there would have been no jest about it. She would have been put to the blush, covered with confusion—she was always sensitive to slips, consequent on not having been early and properly drilled in such trivialities;—but little did she guess how much the mute obedience of her young friend was to cost him!

Fumbling between his gloves and his pocket-book—he told Iva his hands were cold, but they were not; it was the gentleman's memory which was at fault—still, he had to hold thick dogskin gloves, and a hat, and a stick, and to pick out from the miscellaneous contents of the bulky leather case (it was his only storehouse) the small pieces of pasteboard which seemed to be nowhere directly they were wanted—routing about, as we say, under such conditions nothing was simpler than for some of the other items within the case to fall out.

And of course it was the one thing that really mattered which fell.

It always is. We may have a dozen articles about us, whose exposure would not affect ourselves or anyone else in the slightest degree, but it is the one little trifle we never mention, the one little weakness we are shy about, that is sure to turn traitor at a crucial moment.

Out slithered, slipping this way and that, and finally, as he made an ineffectual dart after it, flying far off along the polished floor, the photograph of Iva, which had reposed dormant within its snug retreat for a space of several weeks.

Iva, with the dean's daughters, chanced, as luck would have it, to be in the very part of the hall to which the fugitive flew. Two of her companions had their heads turned the other way; the hall was dim, and there was a general bustle; it might be taken for granted that they saw nothing. But one, a nimble girl, to whose very feet the photograph came, picked it up ere the owner could do so, and restored it to him, Iva standing by. One look at Iva's face told Reggie what had been done.

To the young man's credit, however, be it recorded that no one—not even Iva herself—could charge him with making bad worse. Beneath the awful moment he bore himself bravely—receiving back his property, thanking for it, continuing to rummage within the pocket-book, and finally discovering that not a single visiting-card did it contain (cruellest cut of all),—through it all, and throughout the homeward drive and the hour which followed, while Lady Tilbury prattled, and the silver tea-table tinkled, no one would ever have dreamt that anything had happened—still less that the unfortunate young man was waiting for an explanation to take place, the bare thought of which made his nerves tingle.

And now the interview was over, and the reality had not exceeded his anticipations; but neither had it fallen short of them. He wondered dully whether he had supposed Iva would be as bad as she had been, as vehement, bitter, and unyielding—or whether he had not hoped by penitence and promises to disarm her?

He thought he had so hoped, but he was not clear. Nothing was clear he was dazed, like a dumb beast beneath a shower of blows.

And he walked from side to side along the road, though there was a young moon, which had now got up with a faint partial ray, by which he could have seen perfectly to hold straight on.

After all, what was there to mind? He kicked a stone from his path sullenly. It was all nonsense; another kick. It was a bore—a confounded bore. What on earth—women were always—there was no peace with them.

He tried to whistle. Dash it! why shouldn't he whistle? He had got away from the house, and not a soul within hearing. What was he walking so fast for? To get home? He didn't want to get home.

On a sudden he came to a dead stop. The park gates were in front of him.

(To be continued.)

KESTON.

Serious Accident to a Funeral Party.—An accident attended by very serious results occurred on Saturday, 18th ult., at Keston, just at the top of Hayes Common to a party of women who were returning from the funeral, at Keston Church, of the man Henry Bellfield, of Keston, on whose body an inquest had been held at the beginning of the week. A Beckenham cabman named Charles Page (in the employ of Mr. W. Lindsay) was driving six female mourners home, four of the women being inside the carriage and two on the box seat. The two outside, being rather stout, caused the coachman to sit on the outside rail, and in turning a corner he was jerked off into the road. The horse then took fright, and bolted at a rapid pace, and the women on the box becoming frightened were unable to do anything to check the pace and jumped off. Three of the four women inside, seeing what had happened, opened the door of the cab and jumped out, the remaining occupant, an elderly lady, retaining her seat, luckily for herself, as when the horse was stopped she was found to have escaped without injury. One of the two women who had occupied the box seat was found to be badly hurt when picked up, and the other sustained a dislocated shoulder, whilst one of the three who jumped out of the cab received concussion of the brain. The driver was lamed and the horse received one or two cuts about the legs. Mrs. Harriet Kimber, of 23, Oakley-road Bromley Common, and Mrs. Webb, of Chancery-lane, Beckenham, were removed to the Bromley Cottage Hospital, the latter being in a critical condition owing to a severely fractured skull. Mrs. Caroline Belsham, of Essex, the other injured woman, was taken to the Beckenham Cottage Hospital, and has made satisfactory progress towards recovery. The other patients are also going on well.

Policeman Maltreated at Keston.—A serious fracas took place between some holiday-makers and the police at Keston Common on Saturday evening, August 21st, in the course of which Police-constable Harrington, of the Bromley police, received very serious injuries. The affair was subsequently investigated at the Bromley police-court, a young man named William James Smith, belonging to Woolwich, being charged with assaulting Police-constable Harrington. From the evidence it appeared that the prisoner struck the officer a violent blow after he had taken another man into custody. The officer then arrested Smith but the crowd interfered, and Smith got away, while the officer was brutally treated, receiving such injuries as necessitated his detention in the Hospital for a fortnight. Several adjournments in the hearing had to be granted ,and eventually on September 6th the prisoner Smith was sentenced by the Bench to six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour.

Sudden Deaths.—An inquest was held at Keston on September 15th, concerning the death of a labourer named Henry Bellfield, of Keston, who died suddenly on the previous Sunday. Deceased, after spending some time in the "Fox" Inn, had fallen asleep by the roadside with a companion, and early next morning he was found to be dying. Medical evidence showed that asphyxia, following syncope, was the cause of death, and a verdict to this effect was returned.—An inquest was held at the same house on 22nd ult. on the body of William Wilson, a man of 56 years of age, who had lived in a stable at Brier Cottage, Keston, for many years and was found dead there. Fatty degeneration of the heart was returned as the cause of death.

Births.

SELBY.—On the 1st September, at St. Helen's, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Harry Turner Selby, of a daughter.

Marriages.

COURTNEY—RANKIN.—On the 4th September, at the Church of St. Augustine, Honour Oak-park, by the Rev. Percy White Collard, M.A., Basil Tosswill Courtney, of Bromley, Kent, to Frances Elizabeth, daughter of Captain Rankin, of Woodlands, Queen's-road, Forest-hill.

DALTON—DUN.—On August 31st, at the Parish Church, Higham Ferrers, by the Rev. James Dun, father of the bride, assisted by the Rev. T. R. Watkins, vicar of Herne Bay, cousin of the bridegroom, James Harmer Dalton, of The Oaks, Chislehurst, only son of the late James Dalton, of The Croft, Farningham, to Louise Sardi, third daughter of the Rev. James Dun, vicar of Higham Ferrers and rural dean.

KIRLEW—MACRAE.—On the 15th September, at St. George's Parish Church, Beckenham, Kent, by the Revd. Henry Arnott, Rector of the parish, assisted by Revd. Charles Green, Vicar of St. Paul's, Beckenham, Edward Oliver, eldest son of the late Daniel Kirlew, of Tezpor, Beckenham, to Emily Lizzie Mary (Emmie), only child of Dr. and Mrs. Macrae, of Beckenham, Kent.

PECKETT—LITTLEWOOD.—On the 25th August, at St. Mary's, Plaistow, by the Rev. F. H. Maltby, Curate of the parish, Thomas, third son of the late Thomas Peckett, of Hyde Lodge, Durdham Down, Bristol, to Edith Beatrice, eldest daughter of John Littlewood, of Montrose, Bromley, Kent.

WHEATLEY—WAY.—At the Congregational Church, Beckenham, on 26th August, by the Rev. T. Eynon Davies, Rupert, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.D.S. fifth son of W. Wheatley, Hull, to Edith Rose, eldest daughter of E. Way, Ravenswood, Beckenham.

Deaths.

ALEXANDER.—On the 2nd September, at Alverstoke, Hants, Mary, widow of the late Major William Alexander, 10th Bengal Cavalry, of Cruisetown, co. Meath, and daughter of the Hon. and Very Rev. Edward Grey, late Bishop of Hereford, aged 82.

GLOVER.—On the 25th August, at The Chestnuts Beckenham, Kent, the wife of Frederick Kendall Glover, aged 77 years.

GOLDSMITH.- On the 3rd September, at Morden Lodge, Shortlands, suddenly, Walter Charles Goldsmith, aged 54.

KEER.—On the 10th September, after a short illness, Manning Keer, of Bromley Kent.

MURTON.—On the 2nd September, at Petleys, Downe, Kent, Katherine Fanny, the wife of George N. Murton, aged 47 years.

FUNERALS.—J. HUMERSTON, Undertaker and Appraiser, 17, East Street, Bromley; Upholsterer and Cabinet Maker. rc132

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(CONTINUED).

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MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER have received instructions to Sell by Auction, upon the premises, "Cefn Bryn," 49, Widmore-road, on Monday, October 4th, 1897, at 11 for 12 o'clock precisely, the whole of the very superior Furniture and effects.

May be viewed the Saturday preceding and morning of sale, and catalogues obtained of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Auctioneers and Surveyors, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, DOWNE.—Capital Live and Dead Farming Stock, including 10 powerful cart horses, 2 useful cobs, 4 milch cows, and 200 head of poultry; also useful implements, consisting of light waggon, van, carts, ploughs, harrows, hoes, drill, ladders, stack cloths, ropes poles and pulleys, harness, dairy utensils, coops, fowl-house, portable dairy, portable stable and coach-house, 3 acres of potatoes and miscellaneous effects.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, upon the premises, Mill Bush Farm, Luxted, Downe, on Thursday, October 7th, 1897, at 12 for 1 o'clock precisely, the capital Live and Dead Farming Stock and sundry effects; also 3 acres of Potatoes.

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To Theatrical Managers, Speculators, and others.

KENT, BROMLEY.—The Valuable Freehold Block of Property, consisting of The Grand Hall, with a fine Stage, and all accessories; the Bromley and County Club; and the splendid Swimming Baths, with a frontage to the High Street. The Hall and Club are let to tenants producing together £390 per ann.; the Baths being at present in hand.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, the 13th day of October, 1897, at 2 o'clock precisely, in one lot, the above valuable properties. The Grand Hall has a dramatic licence and possesses a very fine stage, together with numerous dressing and other rooms and accessories; it is at present let to Mr. W. Morton, at the low annual rental of £250 per annum. The Bromley and County Club has all the necessary accommodation for carrying on a first-class club, together with living and bedrooms, and is let on lease producing an annual rental of £140. The splendid Swimming Bath (78ft. by 33ft.) is at present in hand, together with a series of Slipper Baths. Under good management a very considerable income should be derived therefrom. Valuable machinery erected at great cost heats the Grand Hall and the Baths. Bromley is a large and rising suburb, and the property forms undoubtedly a very fine speculation, it will be offered almost without reserve to close an estate.

May be viewed, and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Torr, Gribble, Oddie & Sinclair, Solicitors, 38, Bedford Row, W.C.; at the Mart, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, KESTON.—Surplus effects, including mahogany and other bedroom furniture, bookcases, secretaire, mahogany sideboard, dining and other tables, bagatelle board, girandoles, Brussels and other carpets, a few pictures, grand pianoforte, chairs, &c., a capital brougham by Windover, barouche, park phæton, a landau, single and double harness, stable utensils, garden appliances, greenhouse and other plants, &c., &c.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER have received instructions to Sell by Auction, upon the premises, "Keston Tower," on Thursday, October 14th, 1897, at 12 for 1 o'clock precisely, the surplus Furniture and effects, carriages, &c.

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For remainder of Auction Sales see following page.

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A MONTHLY LIST is published of **LOCAL RESIDENCES,**

also one of Country Houses and Estates to be Let or Sold (Furnished or Unfurnished) in the Home Counties and elsewhere, together with a separate List of Farms, Free on Application.

AUCTION SALES OF LOCAL PROPERTIES

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MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, October 13th, 1897, at 1 for 2 o'clock precisely, in twenty-three lots, the following properties:—

Lot.	Description.	Ann. Rent
1.	Shop and Premises .....130, Sydenham-road.....	£132 10
2.	Shop and Dwellings.....132, 134, & 136, ditto.....	£68 4
3.	Building Land .....Knighton Park-road	with possession
4.	ditto ditto	with possession
5.	Shop and Premises .....128, Sydenham-road.....	£50 0
6.	Cottage and Garden.....126, ditto.....	£26 0
7.	Villa Residence .....124, ditto.....	£28 12
8.	Two Villa Residences .....120, 122, ditto.....	£54 0
9.	Shop and Premises .....30, ditto.....	£55 0
10.	Family Residence ....."Ellesmere," 28, ditto.....	£120 0
11.	Freehold House and Land..."Clune House," 137, ditto.....	£67 4
12.	Two Cottages .....231 & 233, ditto.....	£50 0
13.	Building Land .....Mayow-road, Sydenham.....	with possession
14.	ditto ..... ditto	ditto
15.	ditto ..... ditto	ditto
16.	Beckenham Lodge.....Kent House-road	ditto
17.	Ashburton House .....50, Beckenham-road, Penge.....	£70 0
18.	The Cottage..... .....52, Beckenham-road Penge.....	£45 0
19.	Plot of Land .....Hardings-lane, Penge.....	with possession
20.	34, Weighton-road, Anerley.....	with possession
21.	29 & 31, St. Johns Hill Grove, Battersea.....	£52 0
22.	41 & 43, St. Johns Hill Grove, Battersea.....	£52 0
23.	45 & 47, St. Johns Hill Grove, Battersea.....	£54 0

May be viewed by permission of the respective tenants, and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of R. Wilson, Esq., Solicitor, 37, Bedford Row, W.C.; at the Mart, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Land Agents and Surveyors, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

For remainder of Auction Sales see preceding page.

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AND

MONTHLY ADVERTISER.

No. 472. NOVEMBER, 1897. Price One Penny.

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Louis Pamphilon, Epernay 1889 Vintg. 60/-
Ditto ditto extra quality 78/-
Pol Roger ..... 1889 vintage
Bollinger..... 1892 ,,
Mumm, G. H. & Co.....
Louis Roederer..... 1892 ,,
E. Irroy & Co., Carte D'or 1892 ,,
Pommery & Greno ..... 1892 ,,
Heidsiecks Dry Monopole 1889 ,,
Perrier Jouet, P D.C. .....

Market Prices.

Specialites for Invalids.

Champagne in Quarter Bottles.

Louis Pamphilon, Cuvee Reservée.. 18/-
Perrier Jouet 24/-

Other Sparkling Wines

Asti Spumante (Italian) 36/-
Saumur 36/-
Sparkling Burgundy, 1st Quality ... 60/-
Ditto Hock 54/
Ditto Moselle 54/

Half Bottles, 6/- per 24 extra
Single Bottles same rates.

Still Hocks.

	per doz. bot.	*per doz. half-bot.*
Laubenheimer	18/-	11/-
Nierstein	24/-	14/-
Erbacher	30/-	17/-
Hochheim	36/-	20/-
Liebfraumilch	42/-	23/-
Red Hock	36/-	

Australian Wines.

	pr doz.	*pr bot*
Sauvignon	16/-	1/4
Branxton Cabernet	21/-	1/9
Tintara	26/-	2/3
Riesling (White)	24/-	2/-
Highercombe (White)	30/-	2/6

In Quart Flagons.

Red & White Burgundy 30/- 2/
Tintara and Ophir..... 42/- 3/
6d. each allowed for Flagons when returned

Italian Wines

	pr doz.	*pr bot.*
Vino da Pasto	12/-	1/-
Valtellina	18/-	1/6
Chianti	24/-	2/-
Capri (White)	24/-	2/-
Vino Vermouth	36/-	3/-
Sparkling Asti	36/-	3/-

Chianti.

In Tuscan Flasks.

18/- & 36/- per doz. 1/6 & 3/- each.

California Wines.

Burgundy 18/- 1/6
Hock 30/- 2/6

Aerated Waters. *per doz*

Schweppe's Soda, Seltzer & Potass 3/
Ditto Lemonade and Ginger Ale..... 3/6
Soda, Seltzer. & Potass 2/-
Lemonade & Ginger Ale 2/6
Syphons — Soda, Potass, Seltzer, Lemonade 4/-
Johannis's Appollinaris, Ginger Beer in Stone Bottles.

Burgundies.

	pr doz.	*pr bot.*
Macon ..... 1893 vintage	20/-	1/8
Beaujolais ..... 1892 ,,	24/-	2/0
Beaune..... 1891 ,,	30/-	2/6
Pommard ..... 1889 ,,	36/-	3/0
Volnay..... 1884 ,,	42/-	3/6
Pommard, Superior, 1887 ,,	42/-	3/6
Chambertin..... 1881 ,,	72/	6/-
Chablis	24/- to 36/-	

Half Bottles.

Macon	12/- 1/-
Beaujolais	13/6 1/2
Beaune	16/6 1/6
Pommard	19/6 1/8
Volnay.....	23/- 2/-

Ports.

Good Young	24/- 2/-
Fine old Tawny	36/- 3/-
Ditto well-matured	48/- 4/-
Superior old fine quality	54/- 4/6
Ditto Crofts No 1.....	60/- 5/0
Ditto, ditto Grand Wine	66/- 5/6
Ditto very choice	72/- 6/-
Ditto rare old wines	84/- to 150/-

Tarragona. *pr doz*

Superior Wines..... 12/- 18/- & 24/-

Liqueurs. *pr bot.* *pr ½ bot.*

Curacoa...	5/-	2/9
Maraschino	5/-	2/9
Chartreuse yellow.....	8/-	4/6
Ditto Green.....	10/6	5/9
Benedictine	7/-	3/6
Kirsch Wasser		3/6
Kummell Riga		4/-
Noyeau, Pink		2/6
Angostura Bitters		2/9
Heering Copenhagen Cherry Brandy	4/6	2/6

Cordials. *pr bot.*

Pamphilon's Cherry Brandy	3/-
Orange Bitters.....	3/-
Peach Bitters.....	3/6
Ginger Brandy	3/- 3/6
Rum Shrub	2/6 3/-
Peppermint	2/- 2/6
Cloves.....	2/- 2/6
Noyeau	3/-
Milk Punch	3/6
Lovage	2/6

Bottled Ales, Stout, Etc.

	pr doz. Imp pts.
Pamphilon's Special Dinner Ale	2/6
Ditto Nourishing Stout	2/6
Light Dinner Stout	3/-
Bass Pale Ale (½ pints 2/6)	4/-
Bass No. 1 Burton in ½-pints.....	3/6
Pamphilon's Pale Ale	3/-
Pilsener Lager Beer (½ pints 2/6).....	4/6
Guinness' extra Stout (½ pints 2/6).....	4/-

Clarets. *pr doz.* *pr bot.*

Claret	12/-	1/-
Vin Ordinaire	15/-	1/3
Vin de Medoc ..... 1893 vintage	18/-	1/6
St. Julien ..... 1893 ,,	24/-	2/-
Pauillac ..... 1891 ,,	30/-	2/6
Margaux..... 1890 ,,	36/-	3/-
Chateau Margaux 1889 ,,	54/-	4/6
Chateau Palmer ... 1890 ,,	54/-	4/6
Ch. Lafite ..... 1893 ,,	60/-	5/-
Sauternes, Graves	21/- to 36/-	

Stock in Half-Bottles.

Claret.....	9/-	9d.
Medoc	10/6	11d.
St. Julien	13/6	1/2
Pauillac.....	16/6	1/5
Margaux	19/6	1/8

Sherries.

Natural Sherry.....	16/-	1/4
Sherry	18/-	1/6
Light Sound Wine	24/-	2/-
Old-fashioned Brown	30/-	2/6
Pamphilon's Dinner Sherry.....	30/-	2/6
Nutty Character	36/-	3/-
Golden, Generous	42/-	3/6
Very Fine Brown	42/-	3/6
Pale old Dry	48/-	4/-
Ditto very Choice.....	54/-	4/6
Choice old Rare Wines.....	60/- to 100/-	

Marsala. *per doz.*

Ingham & Woodhouse.....18/- 21/- & 24/-

Madeira.

Various ..... 36/- to 60/-

Scotch Whiskies.

	pr gal	*pr doz*	*pr bot*
Good	15/-	30/-	2/6
Fine old.....	18/-	36/-	3/-
Superior 5 years old.....	21/-	42/-	3/6
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Very fine Highland Malt ...	22/-	44/-	3/8
Pamphilon's VOS, guaranteed 10 years old		24/- 48/-	4/-

Irish Whiskies.

Good	15/-	30/-	2/6
Fine old.....	18/-	36/-	3/
Superior old.....	21/-	42/-	3/6
Do., J. Jameson's, old Bonded	24/-	48/-	4/-

Rum.

Jamaica.....	15/-	30/-	2/6
Old Jamaica.....	18/-	36/-	3/-
V. O. Jamaica.....		3/6 and	4/-

Brandies.

Pale.....	18/-	36/-	3/-
Fine old Pale ..... *	24/-	48/-	4/-
Fine old Cognac..... **	27/-	54/-	4/6
Finest old Cognac ... ***	30/-	60/-	5/-
Choice old Cognac ... ****	34/6	69/-	5/9
Curious Old Cognac.....		100/-	8/6

Gins.

Cordial & Unsweetened	12/-	24/-	2/-
Fine old Tom.....	18/-	36/-	2/6
Ditto Finest.	16/-	32/-	2/8

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,,	Beckenham, about	25,000
,,	Chislehurst and Mottingham, about	7,000
,,	Surrounding Villages, about ...	4,000

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Column: 1s. 6d. three lines, and 6d. per line after.
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Births, Marriages, and Deaths, 1s. each.

The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

NOVEMBER, 1897.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30.—Mr. Edward Graham Falcon's company, in the musical comedy, "Gentleman Joe," at the Bromley Grand Hall.—Monthly meeting of St. Luke's Burial Board at St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common.—Lecture by the Rev. Ossian Davies at Congregational Lecture Hall, Crescent-road, Beckenham, on "Christmas Evans."

2nd—"Gentleman Joe" at the Bromley Grand Hall.

3rd—Missionary Meeting at Bromley Wesleyan Chapel, when an address will be given by the Rev. Dr. Wenyon on his work in China.—Pierrot Banjo Team at the Bromley Grand Hall.—Meeting at the Public Hall, Beckenham, in connection with the Jubilee of the Band of Hope movement. Speakers: Mr. W. S. Caine, J.P., and Mr. F. F. Belsey, J.P.

4th—Bromley Bible Flower Mission, at Ebberlee House, West-street, Bromley.

5th—Meetings of the West Kent Main Sewerage Board and the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board, at 96, High-street, Bromley.—Monthly sitting of the Bromley County Court, at the Court-house, Bromley.—Course of six lectures by Rev. H. B. Barnes commence at Bromley Parish-room in connection with the Church Reading Society.

6th—Annual general meeting of Women's Franchise League, Bromley Branch, at Bromley High School, 8 p.m.

7th—*Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity.*

8th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board at the Offices, Haxted-road, Bromley.—"The Private Secretary" at Bromley Grand Hall.

9th—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council, at the Council Offices, East-street, Bromley.—"The Private Secretary" at Bromley Grand Hall.

10th—Chrysanthemum Show at the Bromley Grand Hall.—Sale by auction of live and dead farming stock at Cockerhurst Farm, Shoreham, Kent, by Messrs. Baxter, Payne, & Lepper.—Beckenham Annual Town Dinner.

11th—Chrysanthemum Show at the Bromley Grand Hall.

12th—Sale of furniture at Cockerhurst Farm, Shoreham, by Baxter, Payne, & Lepper.

13th—Messrs. Tom J. Morton and Ernest Dod's company perform "The Octoroon" at the Bromley Grand Hall.

14th—*Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity.*

15th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

16th—Public meeting at the Bromley Drill Hall, to celebrate the Jubilee of the Band of Hope movement.

17th—Grand evening concert at the Bromley Grand Hall in aid of the Phillips Memorial Homœopathic Hospital, Bromley.—Chrysanthemum Show at St. Mary's Hall, Chislehurst.

18th—Bromley Bible Flower Mission, at Ebberlee House, West-street, Bromley.—Sale of work in aid of St. Mark's Church Building Fund at Bromley Grand Hall.

19th—Sale of work in aid of St. Mark's Church Building Fund at Bromley Grand Hall.

20th—First concert of the season by the Bromley Musical Society at the Drill Hall, East-street, Bromley.

21st—*Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity.*

22nd—Annual meeting Bromley Missionary Association. Dr. Barnardo will give an account of his work.—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board at the Offices, Haxted-road, Bromley.

23rd—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council, at the Offices, East-street, Bromley.

24th—Cage Bird Show at the Drill Hall, Bromley.—Annual United Sports Ball at Bromley Grand Hall.

25th—Cage Bird Show at the Drill Hall, Bromley.

28th—*First Sunday in Advent.*—Dr. Newman Hall conducts the services at the Bromley Wesleyan Chapel.

29th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley.—"Our Flat" at Grand Hall.

30th—"Our Flat" at Grand Hall.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

Two meetings of this authority have taken place since our last issue, the dates being September 28th and October 12th.

THE GENERAL DISTRICT RATE.

The Finance Committee, in their report presented at the first meeting, stated that the amount required to be raised would be £14,242, which meant a rate of about 1s. 11d. in the £. This prospective increase of twopence in the £ caused surprise, and after some discussion the Council referred the matter back so that the estimates might be re-considered by the various Committees and if possible reduced, several members pointing out that an increase of twopence in the £ would come as a great hardship upon the ratepayers during the winter. The matter was again brought forward on October 12th, when the Finance Committee reported that the Committees had been able to reduce their estimates, so that the net sum to be provided for had been lowered to £13,405, and they recommended the making of a rate of 1s. 10d. in the £. This was considered more satisfactory, and the Council agreed to this increase of one penny in the rate for the ensuing half-year.

The "White Hart" Field.

The acceptance by the Council of Mr. Coles Child's offer of the greater portion of the "White Hart" Field for the purpose of a pleasure ground, was again protested against at the meeting of the Council on September 28th, when a further letter was read from Mr. H. Nye, and also one from Mr. W. H. Bosanquet, the latter suggesting that before the Council came to a final decision they should take steps to ascertain what would be the actual cost of complying with the conditions imposed. Any proposal to lay the ground out as an ornamental garden would, Mr. Bosanquet added, be opposed in every way.—The Council took no action respecting the letters.

The Question of Over-paid Rates.

The question of the Council's liability to re-fund a portion of a rate that had been over-paid was raised at the meeting on September 28th, by an application from Mr. Stannah, of Croydon, who stated that he had been called upon to pay half of the General District rate for Croydon, where he had removed from Bromley, and he had already paid the full rate for Bromley for the same period. Some discussion took place, one or two members urging the fairness and equity of re-paying to a ratepayer a sum which he had paid inadvertently, while Mr. Mallett and others thought the Council should act on a principle. Eventually the question was referred to the Finance Committee to report upon generally, and at the following meeting they reported that the Council had no statutory power to re-fund money, and Mr. Stannah's application was accordingly refused.

The New Fire Engine.

At both meetings the question of horsing the new steam fire engine, lately purchased by the Council, cropped up, Mr. M. Lloyd objecting to accept it as a condition of his contract that he was to horse the new engine with two horses. The engine was, he stated, too heavy for two horses.—The Council replied to Mr. Lloyd's first letter stating that he must adhere to the terms of the contract, but at the last meeting they agreed to a suggestion made by Mr. Lloyd that the new engine should be weighed. Mr. Lloyd said he would horse the engine with two horses if it was found, when fully equipped, to weigh under 2 tons 5 cwt.—Mr. Graty's tender of £855 for the erection of fire brigade station and stables in the Council's yard, West-street, being the lowest, was accepted.

London-lane Improvement.

Mr. W. Prebble wrote informing the Council that his clients would give up a further piece of land for the widening of London-lane, on the payment of £50, instead of the Council providing a new park fence, and subject to the re-fixing of the entrance gate to Plaistow Lodge at the new boundary. The matter was referred to the Highways Committee, and acting on their recommendation, on October 12th, the Council decided to accept the terms.

Roads on the Sundridge Estate.

At the first meeting a letter was received from Mr. Peter Dollar, the newly-appointed surveyor to the Sundridge Park estate, inquiring if there had been any negotiations for the taking over of roads by the Council on the Sundridge estate, some of which, he added, were largely used by the public, and threatening to close them unless they were taken over. The Clerk replied, stating the facts, and Mr. Peter Dollar, in a second communication, wrote asking if the Council were willing to take the roads over. To this the Council agreed to reply to the effect that the roads required to be properly made up before they could be taken over.

Claims Against the Council.

Several communications were received at the meeting on October 12th from owners of houses in Highland-road, Bromley, to the effect that in consequence of the Council having lowered the level of the road certain works were necessary to their properties, for which they held the Council liable. One owner — Mr. G. H. Whitehead, J.P. — also claimed compensation for the depreciation in the value of his property on account of the footway being lowered.—The Council decided to discuss these claims in committee. — A claim for £40 damages for injury to a horse through falling, in consequence, it was alleged, of a man-hole projecting in the roadway at the Bromley Common end of the district, was also received from the solicitors to a Tunbridge Wells gentleman named Mr. J. G. Kirsten. The Surveyor reported that the man-hole complained of was outside their district, and though proceedings were threatened the Council decided to take no steps in the matter.

The "White Hart" Crossing.

At the meeting on October 12th, the Council were informed by letters from Mr. Jacomb Gibbon that his clients had had under consideration the advisability of erecting a fence so as to keep the public off the land outside the "White Hart" Hotel, Bromley, but would consider an offer from the Council for the land at the same rate as had been given for that in front of the "Bell" hotel.—The Chairman mentioned that the Council could not consider such an impracticable suggestion, but might discuss the matter if the parties modified their views to a very large extent.—It was decided to deal with the question in committee.

To Help the Unemployed.

A suggestion was received from the Bromley branch of the Independent Labour Party that the Council should call a conference of friendly societies, trade unions, Guardians, and other bodies to prepare a scheme for providing work for the unemployed in winter. While expressing sympathy with the object, several of the members thought the Council should take no part officially, but mentioned they were willing to take part individually in any such discussion. It was also thought that the Board of Guardians was the more proper authority to convene such a conference.

The Dust Destructor Question.

The Council decided to consider the question of providing a dust destructor for Bromley, a month hence, an amendment—deferring the question for six months—being lost by eight votes to six.

Miscellaneous.

At the former meeting it was agreed that the Chairman should draft a letter to Mr. McKewan, informing him that the Council were unable to continue payment of a salary to him as treasurer; and at the latter meeting a letter was received from that gentleman expressing much regret at the decision.—Mr. H. C. Hedworth, aged 23, second engineer to the Bermondsey Vestry, was selected out of over fifty applicants as second assistant surveyor in the Surveyor's office.—The Clerk reported that he had succeeded in obtaining a loan of £3,939 for thirty years at 2¾ per cent. for drainage and fire brigade purposes.—At the second meeting a plan was passed for the proposed rebuilding of the "Star and Garter," in the High-street, subject to the new building line being adhered to; as was also Mr. J. W. Brown's plan of two new streets in Crown-lane, subject to better communication being made at the end with Chatterton-road.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

The meetings of this Board held since our last summary, took place on September 27th and October 11th.

The Coaching of Pupil Teachers.

Respecting the instruction of pupil teachers, which, from the results of examinations, had not been thought altogether satisfactory, the Board adopted the School Management Committee's recommendation, on September 27th, that a letter should be sent to the head teachers expressing the Board's desire that the instruction should be given in school premises and during properly appointed hours. Regularity of teaching was considered absolutely necessary to do justice to the pupil teachers.

A Hint to Tradesmen.

From the Finance Committee's report, dated September 27th, it appeared that after meeting all expenses a balance remained in hand of £7,186 16s. 2d.—The Chairman pointed out that they ended the financial half-year with only a few small accounts amounting to less than £5 not paid, and this was solely due to tradesmen not rendering their accounts promptly. He considered it a reproach on local tradesmen that they would not send in bills properly, and the supposition was that they were so rich that they did not want the money.

An Interesting Comparison.

At the first meeting an interesting return was presented by the Clerk, showing the average attendances of scholars for one week at both the Board and the Voluntary Schools in Bromley. From the statistics given it appeared that there were 4,818 school places, of which 2,427 belonged to the Board and 2,391 to the Voluntary Schools. The scholars on the registers numbered 4,208, and of these 1,948 were under the Board and 2,260 under the voluntary system. The total attendance was 3,953, made up as follows: Board schools, 1,825; Voluntary schools, 2,128. The average attendance for the Voluntary schools was 87, this being two per cent. better than that of the Board schools, which stood at 85 per cent.—Asked to account for the low percentage, the Clerk said there were several very bad cases which the Attendance Officer had in hand, and possibly the names of a few scholars who had left might be found on the registers.

More Repairs Needed.

Upon the report of a sub-committee, the Board decided to carry out certain necessary works of repair at the Raglan-road Schools, including the re-building of a boundary wall, and accepted Messrs. Arnaud & Son's tender of £130 8s. 6d. for the work.

A Financial Report.

At the meeting on October 11th, the Clerk submitted a financial statement, from which it appeared that the loans outstanding amounted to £44,611 17s. 7d. The total receipts amounted to £15,211 12s. 9d., and the expenditure had been less that sum by £7,514 13s. 4d., that being the amount of the balance in hand.

"Best Paid and Least Worked."

The Clerk requested the Board to refer the question of the caretakers' wages to a committe to consider, as there were grievances respecting extra evening work. The Chairman thought the difficulty could be solved by getting fresh men, as the present caretakers were "the best paid and least worked of any." Those who were discontented should apply through the Board.—Mr. Loly agreed with the Chairman, and a proposition to the effect that any applications must be made to the Board was agreed to.

Heating the New Schools.

Nine tenders were opened for providing and fixing the heating apparatus at the new schools at Raglan-road, the prices being as follows:—Mr. H. Redfern, Bromley, £303 11s. 6d.; Messrs. J. & C. Christy, Aldgate, £340; Mr. J. Morton Crouch, Bromley, £280 12s. 6d.; Messrs. Mallett & Co., Suffolk House, Laurence Pountney Hill, £492 16s. 6d. (with an additional £25 if certain patent pipes, &c., were used); Messrs. Duffield & Co., Slough, £270 (exclusive of the boiler setting); Messrs. Berry & Campbell, Hornsey, £300; Messrs. J. Jones & Son, Farringdon-street, £278; Messrs. Henry F. Joel & Co. and Thomas Potter & Son United, Limited, London, W., £475; and Mr. Bird, Bromley, £415 19s. 2d.—It appeared that there was no mention in the tenders of the boiler being in accordance with the specification, and the question of leaving this matter in the hands of the architect cropped up, the Chairman objecting to it being in any other hands than the Board's, and saying that the size and quality of the boiler ought to have been put in the specification.

RECORD PORTRAITS.

No. XXIII.—BROMLEY'S VOLUNTEER FORCE.

Past and Present Commanding Officers.

We depart for the nonce from our usual practice of confining our Portrait to one individual and give this month a portrait group of five past and present Commanding Officers of the local Volunteer Corps, which will, we are sure, be of interest, not only to all who have at any time served in this most valuable branch of the Auxiliary Forces, but to all residents in the district. Four of the five gentlemen comprised in the portrait are so well-known—and we may add—respected throughout the neighbourhood that but brief sketches of their careers need be given, and these may appropriately be prefaced by a few particulars respecting the genesis and growth of the Volunteer movement in Bromley.

Its origin dates back to 1860, when as the outcome of the feeling which became general in the country about this time in favour of the establishment of auxiliary forces of this kind, a public meeting was held at the "White Hart" Hotel, in June, 1859, to discuss the question of forming a local branch of the service. At this meeting the late Mr. G. W. Norman occupied the chair, and all willing to become Volunteers were invited to send their names to Mr. R. B. Latter. A committee was formed, to which the late Mr. Coles Child and Mr. Montague Lubbock acted as honorary secretaries. As a result a Company was raised in Bromley, called the 18th Kent Rifle Volunteers, with a sub-division at Chislehurst and Foots Cray, and another sub-division at St. Mary Cray, but the latter was disbanded two years later and eventually the Chislehurst and Foots Cray sub-division was transferred to Bromley. The consolidation of the Volunteer forces in 1880 brought about a change of title and the "18th Kent Rifle Volunteer Corps" was designated the "'F' Company of the 3rd West Kent Rifle Volunteer Corps," while three years later the Battalion became known as the "2nd Volunteer Battalion of the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment)." The detachment was also increased to two Companies termed the "E" and "F." Many difficulties had, of course, to be encountered and overcome, especially during the early days of the force, but through the public spirit and indomitable energy of the commanding officers—notably of Major C. Satterthwaite, who worked

assiduously on behalf of the movement for some sixteen years—the permanence of the Detachment was eventually fully assured. Progress in numbers and efficiency has been made particularly during the last few years, and the Detachment is now about one hundred and sixty strong, while three sergeants have taken commissions in London Volunteer regiments, including two of our best-known townsmen—Mr. R. V. Harman, who still serves as a captain and honorary major, and Mr. G. H. Payne, who is a retired major. The Bromley Detachment has also supplied a good many men, at different times, to the regular Army.

F. H. Norman (son of Mr. G. W. Norman), whose commissions in the 18th Kent Rifle Volunteers bore the date of February 23rd, 1860. Captain Bowden's connection with the force was, however, very short, as he retired in July of the same year, and Lieutenant Satterthwaite (who is happily still resident among us in the person of Major C. Satterthwaite) was then promoted Captain. He was also promoted as Major in the 1st (A) Battalion Kent Rifle Volunteers in December, 1874, but remained in command of the Bromley Volunteers until 1876, when he resigned the command, remaining Major in the Battalion until 1877 when

CAPT. B. H. LATTER. COL. R. SNEADE BROWN.

COL. E. SATTERTHWAITE.

MAJOR E. LATTER. MAJOR SATTERTHWAITE.

It is worthy of remark that of the five officers here mentioned, four began their service in the ranks, which is a valuable experience for any officer, and the fifth did not do so only because there were no ranks for him to join!

Major Satterthwaite.

Referring back to the beginning, the first officers of the Bromley Volunteer force appear to have been Captain Henry Bowden (late Scots Fusilier Guards), Lieut. Clement Satterthwaite, and Ensign

he retired. Two of his sons have also held commissions in this Battalion, one of whom—Colonel E. Satterthwaite—now commands it. Major Satterthwaite was a very good shot, representing the Battalion at Wimbledon on several occasions, while in the absence of his seniors he on more than one occasion commanded the Battalion on field-days, when only holding the rank of captain. Major Satterthwaite, it may be added, settled in Bromley as far back as 1857, and now resides at "Whitegate," Oaklands-road.

Captain R. Sneade Brown.

Captain Richard Sneade Brown succeeded Major Satterthwaite in the command of the Bromley Volunteers. After serving as a private in the ranks, he received his first commission as ensign in October, 1872, rising to lieutenant in 1873, and to captain on Major Satterthwaite's retirement in December, 1876. Captain Brown retained the command until January, 1880, when to the regret of all under him, he accepted an appointment in Bombay, which necessitated his resignation. Since leaving this town, however, he has kept up his interest in the Bromley Detachment, and being home from India attended this year's inspection, at which all the officers, shown in the accompanying portrait, were present, thus maintaining an unbroken connection between 1860 and the present year. On leaving England, Captain Brown did not discontinue connection with the Volunteers, but joined an Indian force and was appointed to a commission in the Bombay Volunteer Rifle Corps in February, 1880; and since September, 1895, he has commanded this corps, being granted the Volunteer Decoration, and the honorary rank of Colonel in January, 1896.

Colonel E. Satterthwaite.

Colonel Edward Satterthwaite, of "Windermere," Oaklands-road, Bromley, who now commands the 2nd Battalion, the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment), joined the Bromley Detachment, then the 18th Kent Rifle Volunteers, as a private in September, 1873, when his father, Major Clement Satterthwaite, was in command. He represented Rugby School at the Wimbledon Rifle Meeting in July, 1875, and gained his first commission as a sub-lieutenant in May, 1876, and as lieutenant in December, 1877. After serving three years in this capacity he was appointed as captain commanding the Bromley Detachment in February, 1880, the vacancy occurring through the retirement of Captain R. Sneade Brown. He retained this command until promoted to Major in October, 1888; and in October, 1892, he was appointed as aide-de-camp to Brig.-General Sir William Humphery, Bart., K.C.B., then commanding the Portsmouth Volunteer Infantry Brigade. In October, 1894, he served as brigade-major to the same brigade—appointments which only three other Volunteer officers have ever held. In January, 1895, Colonel E. Satterthwaite received the "Volunteer Officers' Decoration," and last year he was granted the honorary rank of colonel. He assumed his present command twelve months ago, on vacating the brigade-majorship. Colonel Satterthwaite's academic career as a Volunteer officer has been eminently successful. He passed in the School of Instruction, Wellington Barracks, as field officer, with special mention, in April, 1889, having previously passed in tactics, with special mention, as a subaltern in April, 1883, and as captain in March, 1884. He was equally distinguished in his studies in military law, topography and field fortification (gaining special distinction in the latter) in May, 1896, thus completing the course laid down for regular officers. For some time Colonel Satterthwaite was assistant secretary to the Home District Military Society, and the organiser of that Society's outdoor tactical exercises; while he was also honorary treasurer, from the start, of the Field Practice Association for Yeomanry and Volunteers, founded by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught four years ago. Colonel Satterthwaite attended this year's Jubilee parade as the representative of the Battalion, and he has been awarded the Jubilee medal.

Major Edward Latter.

Coming down to more recent times, in 1888 we find Major Edward Latter in command of the Bromley Detachment. Major Latter was enrolled in the Battalion in March, 1874, and served in the ranks with the present commanding officer until January, 1877, when he was appointed sub-lieutenant. In January, 1884, he obtained his captain's commission, and took over the command of the Bromley Detachment four years later. He became Honorary Major in 1891, and was promoted to the substantive rank of Major in 1894; and is now senior major in the Battalion. As a subaltern he passed the School of Instruction in drill, and again on his promotion to field officer's rank he obtained "special mention" in that school; and has also passed the prescribed optional examination in tactics. He was awarded the long service medal in March, 1895, and the Volunteer Officers' Decoration in September of the same year. Major Latter, as our readers are no doubt aware, is a partner in the old-established firm of Messrs. Willett & Latter, solicitors, of which his late father, Mr. Robinson Latter, was for many years the head; and he lives at "Pixfield," Beckenham-lane. Volunteering is not the only public service Major Latter renders, for he is equally well known in local musical circles as the industrious hon. secretary of that flourishing institution, the Bromley Musical Society.

Captain B. H. Latter.

Upon Major Latter's retirement from the command of the Bromley Detachment in 1894, his brother, Captain Bertram H. Latter, took over this responsible charge and has since carried out the duties most capably. Being by profession a barrister, Captain Latter began service in the ranks of the Inns of Court R.V.C., better known as "The Devil's Own." After little more than two years he accepted a commission as lieutenant in the Bromley Detachment of 2nd West Kent Regiment in the spring of 1884. He was promoted captain in January, 1890, and took over the command of the Detachment in 1894. He has passed the usual examinations for his rank, and also the tactical examination, and has for many years been actively associated with his present C.O. in the management of the outdoor exercises of the Home District Military Society. Being himself a zealous and hard worker in the cause of Volunteering, he is very anxious to inspire all under his command with the same spirit, and is especially keen upon obtaining about fifty more recruits, provided they be of the proper class, to complete the establishment of the Detachment. Captain Latter is also an accomplished musician and the possessor of a fine baritone voice, and is a great favourite with local concert-goers. He is associated with his brother in the conduct of the affairs of the premier musical society of the town. The Detachment has made considerable progress during his command, and both officers and men, we are confident, hope to retain his valuable and painstaking services for many years to come.

Her Majesty the Queen has been pleased to present a Jubilee Commemoration Medal to Mr. H. C. Fischer, C.M.G., Controller of the Central Telegraph Office, in recognition of the services which he rendered in connection with the transmission on Jubilee Day of Her Majesty's gracious message to her people throughout the world. Mr. Fischer is a resident of Bromley.

Sir John Lubbock has contributed £50 to the Maidstone Fever Fund. Sir John represented the county town in the House of Commons during two Parliaments.

At the Islington Dairy Show, which was held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, last month, Mr. E. A. Hambro, J.P., of Hayes, gained the first prize and the Champion Cup for his charming fawn and white Guernsey cow, "Norman's Lass"— and he also obtained a first prize for a Guernsey bull.

The death is announced at the age of 52, of Mr. T. Ingledew Bath, farmer, who was well known in the neighbourhood of St. Mary Cray and Bromley.

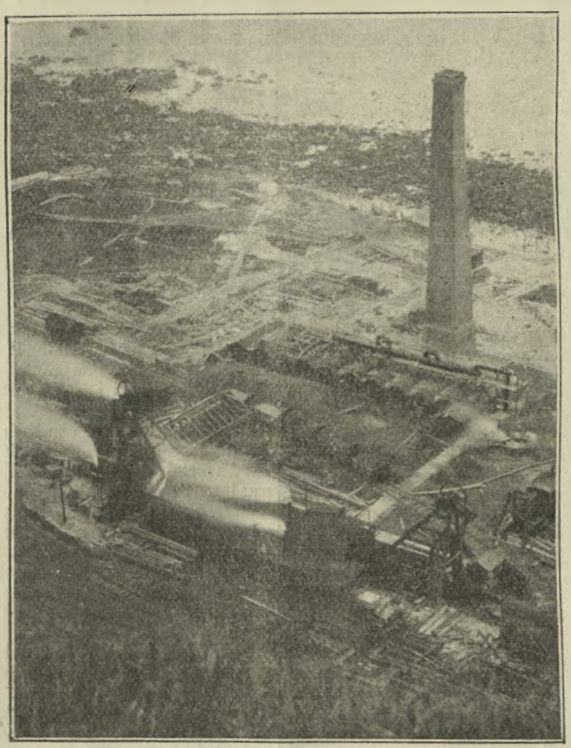
KENTISH COAL.

THE COLLIERY WORKS AT DOVER.

The promoters of the Kent coal industry are displaying great activity. The accompanying illustration, which is from a photograph taken quite recently, gives a good idea of the extent of the works at Dover, the view being taken from the top of the cliffs that tower above the busy scene. The site of the works, it should be mentioned, is on the under cliff between Dover and Folkestone. At the present time two shafts are in progress, and one, the Brady shaft, has been sunk to a depth of 512 feet, 480 feet of which are bricked. The sinking is proceeding at the rate of some four feet a day, but has been slow for the last few weeks, owing to the quantity of water met with—some 20,000 gallons per hour. The bed from which the water comes has, however, been passed, and dry sinking is now expected. The stratum just sunk through is the series of Hastings beds, and the upper oolite is now reached. The water has been met with in the conglomerate. Beds of lignite and little bits of coal have also been discovered. The other pit, known as the Simpson pit, has been sunk to 330 feet, but the sinking is now suspended, and the pit is used as a reservoir for pumping the water from the Brady shaft until a tank can be constructed to collect the whole of the water which percolates from these water-bearing beds. This will be done very shortly, and it is hoped that, before a month is passed, both shafts will be sunk at the same time. The total quantity of water raised from both shafts is 60,000 gallons per hour, by no means an unusual quantity to be met with in colliery sinking. The pumps on the works are capable of lifting over twice as much, and a glance at our illustration shows that with the ten great boilers now in position, there is no reason to regard this as an idle assertion.

Prophecy, especially in regard to pit sinking, is to be avoided, but Mr. Simpson, the Managing Director of the undertaking, expressed the opinion the other day, that unless something unforeseen happens, coal will be reached in May or June next. The Manager of the works at Dover is Mr. Reed, an engineer who has had great experience in the mines of North Wales. The work has been executed by contract by the London and General Colliery Company, Limited. The pits have been sunk at the instance of the Kent Coalfields Syndicate, Limited, but in the last few days the Syndicate has disposed of their property to a new Company, the Kent Collieries Corporation, Limited. This Corporation has a nominal capital of £1,500,000. It will take over the bore-holes at Brabourne and Pluckley, and the pits now being sunk at Dover, without any liabilities, the money for the same having been provided by the Kent Coal Syndicate. In addition to raising the capital for the purchase of the Syndicate's undertaking, sufficient money will also be called up to sink other two shafts between Folkestone and Dover, on what is described as land belonging to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The new capital for this purpose amounts to £225,000, of which 10 per cent. will be called up, and the rest when the sinking is commenced in June next. The old directors, with one exception, will continue in office, among them being Mr. R. Berens, J.P., of Kevington, St. Mary Cray.

From our view it will be seen that the works are situate almost on the sea-shore, and to prevent any damage being suffered from unusually high tides a strong sea wall is to be immediately commenced.



THE WORKS AT DOVER.

A LECTURE ON DENEHOLES.

The subject of deneholes has recently been brought somewhat prominently into public notice. In our last issue we chronicled a serious mishap at Crockenhill, whereby a man was entombed for some days, and closely following upon this accident came a very interesting lecture by Mr. W. T. Vincent, the president of the Woolwich District Antiquarian Society. Mr. Vincent's lecture, which aroused considerable local interest and was attended by an unusually large audience, was given on the 7th ult. at St. John's Lecture Hall, Wellington-street, Woolwich. The lecturer first described the various deneholes which had been discovered in the neighbourhood and in different parts of the country, and then proceeded to discuss the various theories which have been put forward to account for this remarkable class of excavations.

It is to be feared that the subject of deneholes still remains shrouded in mystery, but Mr. Vincent's lecture, while not professing to explain the purpose and origin of the pits, has had the effect of focussing the views of a number of men who from long study have made themselves familiar with the subject. The most important pronouncement is that by Sir John Lubbock, who, in response to an inquiry, stated that in his opinion deneholes were of all ages from pre-historic times downwards, and that they were simply the result of digging in search of chalk and perhaps also of flints.

During the past ten or twelve years considerable attention has been paid to the question of the origin and use of deneholes by the Sidcup Literary and Scientific Society, but these efforts do not seem to have thrown much light upon the subject.

Perhaps some of the readers of the "Bromley Record" may be willing to communicate any particulars of deneholes in our own district, as it is very desirable to get a complete list of all examples, and especially some data as to the relation of the excavation to natural outcrops of chalk.

Obituary.

Death has taken several old and highly respected residents in this district from our midst during the past month.

Mrs. Duncanson, Bickley.

On September 29th, Mrs. Duncanson, wife of Mr. E. F. Duncanson, of Bickley, a lady well-known and greatly respected, whose benevolence was extensive though always quietly exercised, passed away after a short illness, and was buried on Saturday, October 2nd, amid every token of sympathy and regret. The deceased lady was a prominent member of the Bromley Congregational Church, and a short service at that church, conducted by the Rev. T. Nicholson (pastor) and the Rev. R. T. Verrall, preceded the burial, which took place at Bromley Cemetery. The coffin was covered with many beautiful floral tributes sent by relatives and friends. Mr. J. Humerston, of East-street, Bromley, undertook the funeral arrangements.

Mr. J. J. P. Thomson, C.C., Bromley.

On October 15th, Mr. John James Potter Thomson, who for upwards of twenty-five years has resided at Alma Villa, Masons-hill, Bromley, passed away, after a very short illness, at the age of fifty-six years. The deceased gentleman, who was engaged in the wholesale paper trade, was taken ill with influenza some eight days before his death, which actually resulted from syncope. Mr. Thomson was a member of the Common Council of the City of London, having been elected about three years ago. Mr. Thomson was well-known as an enthusiastic angler. The funeral took place on Tuesday, October 19th, at Ilford Cemetery, in the presence of many of the deceased's relatives and friends from Bromley and other parts, including representatives of the firm with which he had been connected. Mr. H. G. Dunn, of Bromley, was entrusted with the burial arrangements, and the coffin, which was of polished oak with massive brass fittings, bore the following inscription:—"John J. P. Thomson, died 15th October, 1897; aged 56 years." The body was conveyed from Bromley in an open car, and met at St. Paul's station by the mourners and friends, who followed in carriages. Many beautiful wreaths and crosses were deposited on the coffin.

Mr. J. Harradine, Bromley.

The death occurred on Sunday, October 17th, of Mr. Joseph Harradine, of Phœnix Lodge, London-road, Bromley, at his residence, to which he returned from Brighton some two months ago upon the advice of his medical attendant. He had been ailing for the past year or two and resided for the greater part of the year at Brighton for the benefit of his health. Mr. Harradine came to Bromley in 1852, becoming landlord of the "Swan and Mitre" in succession to Mrs. Grisby. Here he remained for ten years, and during that period he was one of the four founders of the local Foresters' Court, the other three who predeceased him being Messrs. William Ledger, George Shorter, and Benjamin Hards. For nearly twenty-five years Mr. Harradine was agent for the Phœnix Fire Office, the business being carried on of late in the name of Harradine and Ayling, his son-in-law, Mr. W. T. Ayling, being taken into partnership. In addition, Mr. Harradine was until six years ago Collector of Queen's Taxes, an office he filled for twenty years. The funeral took place at the Bromley Cemetery on Wednesday, October 20th, the Rev. F. Haslam officiating. A number of beautiful wreaths were sent.

Mrs. H. J. Willis, Chislehurst.

Mrs. Willis, the wife of Mr. H. J. Willis, of Chislehurst, one of the Guardians of the parish, passed away on Monday, October 18th, at the advanced age of 79 years. Mrs. Willis had resided in Chislehurst for 52 years, and had only been ill a short time. The funeral took place on the following Wednesday at the Parish Churchyard, where three generations of the family have been laid. The Rev. Canon Murray (rector) and the Rev. H. Lloyd Russell (vicar of the Church of the Annunciation) officiated, and the chief mourners were: Mr. H. J. Willis, Miss Willis, and Miss Fanny Willis (daughters), Mr. Price (nephew), and Mr. Cox. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr. Arthur Otway.

Mr. E. Hedley, Beckenham.

On October 18th the death occurred of Mr. E. Hedley, of "Rainham," The Avenue, Beckenham, at Burnhopeside Hall, Lanchester, Durham. Deceased was a large colliery owner, and had resided in Beckenham for many years. The funeral took place at the Bromley Cemetery on October 22nd, being preceded by a service at the Beckenham Parish Church.

Mr. W. Lovelock, Beckenham.

By the regretted death of Mr. William Lovelock, one of the oldest tradesmen of Beckenham, which took place on October 17th, there has been removed the oldest member of the local governing body. Mr. Lovelock came to Beckenham in 1863 and carried on the business of monumental stone mason in the High-street, adjoining his residence at Bowood House. He had been ill for some years and

more seriously for the past two years, but he was out as usual during the week before his death. The fatal attack came on during the morning previous to his death, and though Dr. Giddings, who was instantly summoned, rendered all possible medical aid, it terminated fatally at a quarter to six the next morning. At Christ Church in the evening the Rev. J. Harding made reference to the sad event, and to the loss the church had sustained. Mr. Lovelock was vicar's warden, and previously held the office of sidesman from the time the church was first erected some twenty years ago, and he supplied the stone work for the edifice. In 1887 he gave the alabaster font as a Jubilee gift. Mr. Lovelock was a native of Calne, in Wiltshire, where he was born 57 years ago. In 1877 he became a member of the old parochial Committee, and with the exception of one session, when Mr. Bealby defeated him in the election of representative for the Eden Park district, he has been a member ever since of the Local Board and the present Urban District Council. He has been overseer of the whole parish for sixteen years and was also a member of the committee of Beckenham Charity Trustees. At the Council meeting references were made by members to the death of their colleague. The funeral took place on Thursday, 21st ult., at the Beckenham Parish Churchyard, the first part of the service being held at Christ Church, the officiating clergy being the Rev. J. Harding (vicar), Rev. Henry Arnott (rector of Beckenham), and the Rev. A. L. Tomkins (curate of Christ Church).

DR. F. W. BARRY, DOWNE.

Dr. F. W. Barry, of Tower House, Downe, Senior Medical Inspector to the Local Government Board, died suddenly on Tuesday, October 12th, whilst staying at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, whither he had gone on his official duties. The deceased gentleman, who was only 46 years of age, was Chairman of the Downe Parish Council and a much respected resident. The funeral took place on Saturday, 16th ult., in the Downe new burial ground amidst signs of the universal sympathy and grief of the late doctor's friends and neighbours. The deceased was borne to his resting-place on the shoulders of six stalwart villagers, and the whole village gave evidence of mourning. The vicars of Downe and Orpington officiated, and the service at the church and the graveside was musically and impressively rendered. There was a large number of private carriages, and upwards of a hundred persons joined the sad cortege to the grave. The wreaths and crosses sent literally embedded the coffin, amongst them being tributes sent by the medical staff of the Local Government Board, the Downe Horticultural Society, and the Parish Council.

MR. C. R. SMITH, HAYES.

The death took place on Sunday, October 10th, at Warren House, Hayes, the residence of his brother, Mr. Martin Smith, of Mr. Charles Ridley Smith, lately Conservative candidate for Battersea, who contested the seat in 1895 against Mr. John Burns. The deceased gentleman was fifty-four years of age.

MR. E. MAYNARD, BROMLEY.

The death is also announced of Mr. Edward Maynard, for many years landlord of the Bricklayers' Arms, Masons-hill, Bromley. The funeral took place at St. Luke's Cemetery on October 25th.

MR. WALTER MILSTEAD, BROMLEY.

We also regret to announce the death of Mr. Walter Milstead, contractor, of Prospect-place, Masons-hill, Bromley, which took place on October 28th. He had carried on business for many years in the town, and was well known throughout the district. His age was 54, and death was due to rapid decline.

UNPUNCTUALITY OF S.E.R. TRAINS.—In the early part of last month a memorial signed by a considerable number of season ticket-holders on the S.E.R. line, was forwarded to the Manager of the Company, drawing his attention to the very unsatisfactory condition of the service owing to habitual unpunctuality. The memorialists expressed themselves willing to make all reasonable allowance for occasional unpunctuality due to fog or other exceptional causes beyond the Company's control; but they complained that it had not been occasional, but of daily occurrence, and had been common to practically all trains throughout the day. They warned the Company that if this state of things continued the lucrative connection of the Bromley branch would be to a large extent diverted into another channel, namely, the L.C. and D. Railway.—In reply to this memorial, Mr. A. Willis, Manager of the Passenger Department, S.E.R. Company, wrote as follows:—"Dear sir,—I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter enclosing memorial in reference to the unpunctuality of the train service between London and Bromley, and in reply beg to inform you that the delays are 'due to an exceptional cause,' that is, the extraordinary increase in the traffic during the past season. The receipts since the 1st July show an increase of £39,000 over those for the same period of 1896, and this too in the face of considerable reduction in the passenger and goods rates. I am presenting to the Directors a scheme which, if they will authorise it, will enable our suburban services to be improved, and particularly furnish a service separate from the main line trains between London and Bromley."—It is to be hoped that Mr. Willis's scheme will succeed in removing this long-standing cause for complaint.

RETIREMENT OF BROMLEY'S POSTMASTER. — On Friday, October 15th, Mr. William Beale, postmaster of Bromley, retired from office on a well-earned pension, after 21½ years' service in Her Majesty's Post Office Department, over seven years of which have been spent in Bromley. On the occasion of his official leave-taking on Wednesday, October 13th, a presentation was made to him by Mr. A. F. Hulbert, chief clerk, on behalf of the sub-postmasters, and the officials and staff of the Post Office. The presentation took the form of a handsome gold watch and chain, with a suitable address, which was signed by the chief members of the staff, and read as follows:—"We, the officers, sub-postmasters, postmen, and telegraph messengers of the Bromley Post Office have much pleasure in asking your acceptance of the accompanying gold watch and chain, on the occasion of your retirement from official life, with our earnest wishes for your welfare, and as a token of our collective and individual esteem."—Mr. Beale returned his sincere thanks for the gifts, and remarked that there had always been good feeling shown towards him both in the office and outside.

SIR S. SCOTT AND SUNDRIDGE.—With reference to the report which has frequently been circulated of late that Sir Samuel Scott has disposed of Sundridge Park, we are informed, on excellent authority, that this is incorrect. It is true that the estate has recently been viewed by a gentleman, with the idea of purchase, but the property so far has not changed hands though there is reason to believe that Sir Samuel Scott would probably consider any good offer. It would cause much regret in the neighbourhood if the connection that has so long existed between the Scott family and Sundridge should be terminated.

There are again alterations in the local train service on both L.C. & D. and S.E. Railways. It will be noticed that the Time Tables presented with the RECORD this month contain the times of starting of a larger number of omnibuses running between Bromley and Keston and Farnborough.

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DIARY OF OCTOBER.

Sept.

27th—Adjourned Licensing Sessions of Bromley Petty Sessional Division, when three fresh applications—two for Beckenham and one for Sidcup—were refused.

30th—Marriage at the Bromley Congregational Church of Mrs. Christie Mackenzie, a prominent local temperance worker, to Mr. E. A. Gibson, of Stoke Newington.

Oct.

1st—Soiree in connection with the Bromley Philharmonic Society, at the Co-operative Hall, Bromley.—Monthly meeting of the Plaistow Burial Board, at which a half-yearly rate of twopence in the £ was made, as compared with threepence for the preceding six months.

2nd—Trial of Bromley's new steam fire engine, on the Queen's Mead, before members of the Urban District Council.

4th—Meeting of St. Luke's Burial Board, when, in consequence of a large balance in hand sufficient to meet requirements, the Board were able to dispense with any rate for the ensuing half-year.

5th—Annual meeting of the Chislehurst Gardeners' Association.—First lecture of the session of the University Extension Society in Bromley by Mr. C. Mallett, subject, "Some English Prose, Literature, and Romance of the 19th Century."

7th—Afternoon series of University Extension lectures on "Shakespeare" commenced at Bromley by Mr. Churton Collins.

8th—Monthly sitting of the Bromley County Court, before His Honour Judge Emden.

10th—The Rev. Dr. Dallinger preached special sermons at the Bromley Wesleyan Church, in celebration of its anniversary.

11th—Annual dinner at the "Bell" Hotel of the Bromley Football Club, followed by presentation of London League trophy and medals, and of a wedding gift to Mr. A. J. Norman, one of the team.

12th—Inquest at St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common, on a man named H. W. Gadsden, who died suddenly from syncope, following ill health and the inhalation of sewer gas, while employed in clearing out cesspools.

13th—The audit of the Beckenham District Council for the year ending March 31st last commenced by Mr. G. L. Gibson, assistant District Auditor.—Opening of new Co-operative Stores at Chislehurst West.—Social evening in connection with the Chislehurst Cycling Club, at the "Tiger's Head."—Opening meeting of the Beckenham Abstainers' Union winter session at the Public Hall.

15th—Interesting lecture on "Our neighbourhood," by Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., at Farnborough Parish-room, on the occasion of the opening of that building.—The parishioners' memorial of the Jubilee of the Rev. Canon Murray as rector of Chislehurst, at the Parish Church, was dedicated by the Bishop of Dover.

17th—The annual festival of the Canterbury Diocesan Branch of the Church of England Temperance Society commenced in Bromley, by special services at all the churches, when sermons were preached by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Dover, and others.

18th—Two great public meetings in connection with the Temperance Festival, the afternoon one being held at the Town Hall, and the evening gathering at the Drill Hall. Both meetings were addressed by the Archbishop and other noted temperance advocates.—Concert at St. Luke's Institute, under the auspices of the Bromley Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and presentation to the local superintendent, Mr. Webster Lucke.

19th—Gathering of Band of Hope children at the Drill Hall, in connection with the Temperance Festival.

20th—Mrs. Temple, wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury, opened a sale of work in aid of the C.E.T.S. Police-Court Mission work, at the Parish-room, West-street, Bromley.—Public meeting at the Bromley Baptist Church, in celebration of the anniversary, when the gratifying statement was made that the old debt of £627 had been reduced to about £150.

21st.—Meeting at Plaistow Institute, in connection with the C.E.T.S. Festival, at which the vicar (Rev. W. Hodgson) presided.

22nd—The Temperance Festival series of meetings closed with a gathering at St. Luke's Institute, at which the Rev. J. W. Horsley, of Walworth, and the Rev. P. R. P. Braithwaite, of Andover, were the principal speakers, the chair being taken by the retiring organising secretary for the diocese (Rev. J. Isabell).

22nd—Appeal by J. Knight, of the "Railway Signal" public-house, Bromley, against a conviction and endorsement of licence for allowing betting on his premises, heard at the West Kent Quarter Sessions, and dismissed.

26th—Public meeting in connection with the anniversary of the Elm-road Baptist Church, Beckenham.

27th—Annual meeting of the Bromley Cricket Club at the Literary Institute.—Public tea and meeting at the Bromley Congregational School-room, in celebration of the Sunday School anniversary.—Annual meeting of the Bickley and Chislehurst Gleaners' Union, at Christ Church Schoolroom, Chislehurst.

28th—Audit of the Bromley Urban Council's accounts commenced at the Offices, East-street. Objections by Messrs. E. S. Harris and Yeates.

31st—The President of the Wesleyan Conference (Rev. W. L. Watkinson) conducted the services at the Bromley Wesleyan Church.—Anniversary services at Bromley Common Baptist Chapel.

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK AT FARNBOROUGH.

INTERESTING ADDRESS ON "OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD.

The Parish Room which has just been erected in Farnborough was formally opened on Friday October 15th, by Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P. Mr. T. H. Fox, J.P., presided over a very large and enthusiastic audience, and at the beginning of the meeting called upon the Rev. F. J. Kelly, who made a lengthy statement as to the purposes of the room and also as to its financial position. It appears that there is still a debt of about £150, this amount being due to Sir John Lubbock and Messrs. T. H. Fox and W. Fox, who guaranteed the money, and have, unfortunately, been called upon to pay. The parish generally, Mr. Kelly remarked, was morally bound to see this debt wiped off. The objects of the room included everything that would in any way promote the well-being of the parish. The trustees in preparing the deeds, had secured that it would be in word and deed a "parish" room. It would be used as a library, reading-room, and recreation club. Technical classes, Friendly Societies, cricket and football clubs, committees of all descriptions, Bands of Hope, and Temperance Societies could all claim a meeting-place within its walls. It would be easier to say what it would not be. It would not be a party or sectarian room. All parties, and all sects would stand on the same basis, and the room would be as open to one side as to the other. It was hoped the parishioners would use the room and derive great benefit from it. The parish owed a great debt of gratitude to Sir John Lubbock, not only for his financial assistance, but for his advice and personal interest in the drawing up of the deeds. The trustees thought that no one was better fitted to open their room and all felt very glad when he consented to do so. (Loud applause.)

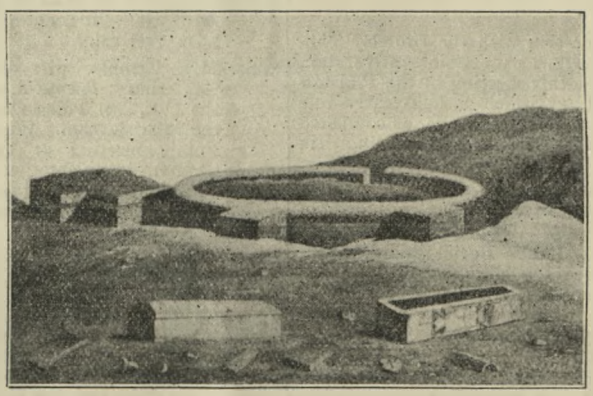
Sir John Lubbock, who was very warmly received on rising, then delivered his address as follows:

Ladies and gentlemen.—As Mr. Kelly has told you, the Trustees who have raised the funds for the erection of this Parish Room have done me the honour of asking me to declare it open this evening, and I accepted their invitation with great pleasure because I hope it will be of much use to our parish. It will be, and I should wish to emphazise what Mr. Kelly has said, it will be a Parish Room; not a room for any section of the parish, but for the parishioners as a whole, and we shall always endeavour to consult our friends and neighbours as to the best mode of making the room generally useful to the parish. Mr. Kelly has given you a clear statement of the circumstances under which the room has been built and I need not therefore enlarge upon that.

In considering how best I could occupy the time at my disposal, I thought I could not do better than take this opportunity of giving you some little account of the district in which we live. I was, however, a little discouraged, when, on looking to Hasted's great History of Kent, I found he said that Farnborough offered nothing of particular interest, while Murray's Guide tells us "that it need not detain the tourist."

NAMES AND PLACES.

Our parish is so called from the quantity of ferns which it used to contain—the Fern-borough. Borough of course being an old word implying human habitation, and it is one of great interest. It is amongst those which show the similarity of language and race between ourselves and the people of Northern India. We get there exactly the same termination of many names of places, just as we have here Edinborough, Marlborough, Farnborough, and many other "boroughs" in England, so in India we have Nagpoor, Jubbulpoor, Bhurtpore, Odepore, and many others ending with the same root.



REMAINS OF THE ROMAN TEMPLE AT WARBANK, KESTON

Bromley was called so from the quantity of broom which grew there. It was the "lea' or meadow of broom. The word lea is unfortunately almost erased from our language, but we have it in the beginning of Gray's beautiful Elegy:

"The curfew tolls the knell of passing day,
The lowing herd winds slowly o'er the lea,
The ploughman homeward plods his weary way,
And leaves the world to darkness and to me."

The names of the surrounding parishes are also not without interest. Chelsfield is the Chisel-field; we have the same word in Chislehurst, Chisel being the old Saxon word "Kiesel" or flint.

Cudham is the "Cold-ham," and well named too.

Down is the village on the hill, Dun being the old Saxon word for hill. The same word occurs in the "Northdowns" and "Southdowns" and in the Irish County "Down."

There is one very interesting case in which the word Dun or Down appears—"Torpendunhill." The ancient inhabitants called it "Tor" or hill; those who came afterwards called it "Torpen," "Pen" being their word for hill, so it was "Torpen' or hill-hill. Then when the Saxons came, they asked the name and were told it was "Torpen," so they called it in their own language "Torpendun." And we now call it "Torpendunhill," which means really hill-hill-hill-hill," in four different languages.

The name of Keston has been supposed by some to be an abbreviation of Chesterton or village of the camp, from the Roman word Castrum, a camp, and from the Roman camp in Holwood. Others again have supposed it to be Cæsar's or Kaiser's town. In Domesday Book it is called Chestan. The real origin of the name is, however, indicated in an old Saxon charter, of Ethelbert, King of Wessex. in 862, where it appears as "Kyst staneng," which literally is the place of stone coffins from "kyst," a chest or coffin, "stane" stone, and "eng" place. Many of you may remember some coffins which were used as drinking troughs in the Keston Farm. The name is also of interest because I think it throws light upon the name of Stonehenge.

"Stonehenge" is generally considered to mean the "hanging stones," but this seems to me to be a very unsatisfactory explanation. The stones do not in any way "hang' upon, but rest upon one another. My own impression is that the name Stonehenge is merely "The place of stones" from "eng," an old word signifying a field or meadow, just as Keston, or "Kist-stone-eng" the meadow or field of stones, or coffins: this is, I think, a much more natural explanation of the name "Stonehenge' than the one which is usually given.

Distinguished Former Residents.

Our parish (Farnborough) is also remarkable as being the burial place of one of the very greatest distinguished Englishmen that ever lived. I mean Thomas Young. He was the first to throw light upon the meaning of Egyptian hieroglyphics, which he explained by means of the Rosetta Stone. which was found in Egypt at the time of the war with Napoleon and which contained an inscription in three languages, one of them being hieroglyphics. In this way he obtained the first clue to the meaning of the Hieroglyphics, which have thrown so much light on the early history of the human race.

He was also the first person to show that we see objects by means of undulations of the ether. Up to that time there were two views prevalent, one being that luminous objects emitted very minute particles which impinged upon the eye, and created the impression of light: the other that on the contrary it was owing to undulations of the ether (the fine imponderable element which pervades space) which impinged upon the eyes and thus gave us the impression of the objects we saw. Up to the time of Young it had not been finally proved which of these two views were correct, but he has great honour in having shown that what is known as the "Undulatory Theory" is really the true explanation. He was the author of many other valuable memoirs, and I believe that any English man of science would tell you, that of the half dozen greatest English men of science who ever lived, certainly Thomas Young was one.

The parish of Down we know is indissolubly associated with the name of another of our greatest English men of science; I mean of course Charles Darwin. It was here he wrote his great work on the "Origin of Species," and other admirable books.

Holwood was the residence of William Pitt, one of our greatest Prime Ministers; he was born at Hayes Place, which belonged to his father, the great Lord Chatham.

"When a boy," said Lord Bathurst to the poet Rogers. "Pitt used to go a birdnesting in the woods of Holwood, and it was always, he told me, his wish to call it his own." The present house dates from only 1823, when that in which Pitt resided, a small brick and plaster building, was pulled down. In Holwood Park, just on the descent into the Vale of Keston, at the root of an old oak tree, Pitt and Wilberforce discussed and settled the Slavery Abolition Bill, 1788, and here Wilberforce resolved to give notice of it in the House of Commons. Lord Stanhope has erected on the spot a stone seat for the benefit of the public, and to commemorate the fact.

I think there are few English country parishes jcining one another which are associated with three such great names in the English roll of worthies as Thomas Young, Charles Darwin, and William Pitt.

I may also mention Lord Derby, whom we have unfortunately lost, and my own father, who contributed much to our knowledge of astronomy and mathematics.

At one time the Manor of Farnborough belonged to Simon de Montfort; that great man to whom we, and one might almost say the world itself, owes the Parliamentary system of representation It is certainly remarkable how very much this is confined to the Anglo-Saxon race and to comparatively modern time.

The greater part of the world—the Babylonians, Egyptians, Assyrians, Greeks, Romans, and even now the Chinese and many other races—seem to have had no idea of representative Government.

Roman Remains.

The old road connecting London with the coast did not pass through Farnborough as it does now, but a little further to the west, by Keston, where we find the old Roman road. The part between Farnborough and Down is known as Farthing-street; the road here as in so many other places bearing the name street from stratum. The Roman roads differing from those of the ancient Britons were formed with a certain amount of road metal, which was strewn on them and from which they took the name "stratum," which has been corrupted in modern English into the form "street" which indicates Roman roads in many parts of England.

Farthing-street leads to the Roman camp in Holwood, through which the road formerly used to run till it was turned by Mr. Pitt. The camp till lately was perfect, and was a very considerable encampment; it contains nearly 100 acres. and must have been intended for a large number of troops. It was square in outline with a sunken way leading down to the source of the Ravensbourne on Keston Common; but unfortunately part of it has since been destroyed—the blame of which must I fear rest with Mr. Pitt. Considerable portions of it however, are still perfect, and show three banks one within the other.

Down in the valley and near the Farm there are the remains of a considerable Roman settlement; and I remember hearing. when I was a boy. a tradition that it was such an important place that there were 46 public-houses there. I do not know whether that tradition still remains, but at any rate it certainly was a place of some importance. It was probably in connection with this camp that the ancient stone coffins were placed there, from which as I already mentioned, the parish of Keston derived its name.

Roman coins have been found from time to time, and Mr. Kemp in 1828 excavated a circular building which he supposes was a round Roman temple. He considered that it was the site of the Roman station called Noviomagus. Further excavations were made by Mr. Corner in 1854, but nothing of very great interest appears to have been discovered.

The curious "drawpits" which occur all over our country have been sometimes supposed to have been dwellings of the ancient Britons; but my own impression is that they are merely pits from which chalk was extracted.

At any rate as far as I am aware nothing has ever been found in them which gives any indication of their having been places of human habitations. At the same time there is ample evidence of the occupation of the district in earlier times, when the inhabitants of England were entirely ignorant of the use of metal and when flint and other stones were used for purposes for which we now employ metal. The inhabitants of this island in fact were

in the same condition as those of the Pacific islands till lately, who had only stone implements, with which however they were able to make elaborate carvings of wood and even contruct themselves large houses and canoes.

The Stone Age.

Stone implements have been found in our neighbourhood at Green-street-Green, firstly by Mr. Herbert Norman and subsequently in considerable numbers by Mr. Allen and his sons who have searched very diligently for them. Mr. Goodchild and Mr. Chickley have been fortunate enough to find some specimens, and even a larger number have been discovered a little way off by Mr. Benjamin Harrison, of Ightham, who has a very fine collection; part of which is now in the Museum at Maidstone.

The Stone Age, or age in which our ancestors used stone implements and were ignorant of metal, falls into two periods—one characterised by the presence of animals still living in Europe, and by many of the implements being ground or polished; the earlier by the presence of animals, now extinct, and by the absence of ground implements.

The greatest part of the country was occupied by forest, and the inhabitants of Britain in the first Stone Age lived very much on the produce of the chase. The animals by which they were surrounded were very different indeed from those which live in our country now. Not only were there the wolf and the deer, which of course came down to comparatively modern times, but there were also the bear, reindeer, the musk ox, the mammoth, and the woolly-haired rhinoceros. Several remains of the mammoth have been found in the gravel at Green-street-Green, including two fine tusks, which, however, unfortunately were in a bad state of preservation. There also have been found a tooth of a rhinoceros and part of the skull of a musk ox. The musk ox or musk sheep is at present confined to the most arctic parts of Greenland and North America; in fact, it is the most northern animal which is known, and it indicates that at that time in this part of England the climate was much more rigorous than it is at present. It is a very wonderful thing to think, and it is indeed difficult to realise, that the very spot where we are now standing was once a forest country inhabited by elephants, rhinoceroses, reindeer and musk oxen, as well as by bears and wolves.

Geological Formation.

However surprising this may be, the proof has been found in the gravel of Green-street-Green. But how did that gravel get there?

It is a coarse clayey gravel containing flints of two sorts, both of which have been washed by the action of water from the chalk in which they were formed. The one sort, however, has after its removal from the chalk, been subject only to wear and tear sufficient to render blunt the sharp edges. The second description of flints has a different history. They have been obtained from the strata called the "Woolwich and Blackheath pebble-beds," to which I shall attend in a moment; and having been subject to great and long-continued action of water, are reduced to the form of round pebbles. It is as you know of considerable thickness and it is evidently gravel which has been deposited by an old river. No river runs there now; the Cray rises somewhat further down the valley, but it is quite evident that it once rose higher up the valley. Many of you, I am sure remember, that it often used to rise as high as the Orpington gravel pits, but it is quite clear that at one time there was a much more considerable river there; and it was this river which deposited the gravel. The valley can be traced up to the chalk escarpment of the Madam's Court Hill, and it is quite clear that at one time the river must have gone much further. On Wellhill as you know, there is also a deposit of gravel, and that gravel cannot have been deposited there when the geography of the country was what it is now, for gravel cannot be deposited on the top of a hill, and there seems no doubt that the chalk at one time extended right over the Weald in a great arch. It was one of the rivers running down from this great arch that deposited the gravel at Green-street-Green, in which the remains of these animals are now found. This shows us what a great amount of denudation there must have been in a comparatively recent period. Of course it is quite clear that the chalk of the Northdown and that of the Southdown were once continuous and in fact the great arch of chalk passed right over the Weald of Kent and joined the South Downs, and the flints contained in this mass of chalk have perhaps helped to form the Woolwich and Reading pebble-beds.

All the flints in these gravels were washed out of the chalk and indicate therefore a great destruction of chalk. They are entirely composed, as you know, of flint, and it is obvious that the Holwood gravel at one time extended much further than it does at present; because although it has been washed away about Green-street-Green it reappears on Wellhill, showing that the gravel beds of Holwood were once continuous with that which is now found again on Wellhill, between the chalk and the upper gravels.

The Green-street-Green gravel, and that on the top of Wellhill is very old, but the London clay is much more ancient. It occurs in the north of our parish. Most of London is built on it. It was deposited in a sea of some depth and not far from the mouth of a great river.

It consists as you know of brown or bluish clay containing nodules of calcareous matter, and a great number of fossils have been found in it, some of them very curious. The fruits of several species of palms seem to have floated down the river and been embedded in the mud at its mouth, just as Sir Joseph Hooker describes himself to have seen similar fruits of the palm at the mouth of the great Ganges. In the sea lived many species of fish—a sword fish eight feet long and a saw fish more than ten feet long, and in the river itself a large species of crocodile, while among land animals there have been found remains of large serpents and of quadrupeds like the present tapir.

Below the London clay comes the bed of gravel which is known as the Woolwich and Reading pebble-bed.

This is the gravel of Farnborough Common and the hill at Holwood. The pebbles are very much rounded and indicate swiftly moving water. But elsewhere the beds of this age are sands or clays. It would appear at that time that this part of England was sometimes a shallow sea, sometimes a brackish marsh, and sometimes fresh water; at times a lake, at others a great river running from W. to E. About Woolwich the bed contains freshwater remains, remains of marine animals and also of marsh animals and plants. In this immediate neighbourhood the gravel contains very few fossils, but in other places animals resembling the tapir and other curious extinct species have been discovered. The well-known deposits of oyster shells near Bromley belong to this period, and in other parts of the world the beds of this age contain a large quantity of flat shells known as nummulites from their resemblance to a piece of money, from nummus, the Latin word for money. It is of a nummulitic rock of this age that the Pyramids were built.

Chalk.

The chalk itself is a very wonderful and interesting formation. It is 1,000 feet thick, and was deposited in a deep sea far away from land. It consists entirely of animal remains; of shells, minute shells, and fragments of larger shells, and must have taken a very long time to deposit.

In the chalk is a certain quantity of flint, either in nodules or as in the chalk about here in sheets or lines of nodules. This arises from a substance

known as silica, which was dissolved in the water of the chalk sea. It was gradually deposited at the bottom and generally collected round some organic matter, such as a shell or a spine of a sea-urchin, or a piece of sponge. This is the reason why so many of the flints contain impressions of animal remains. When washed out of the chalk the flints remained on account of their greater hardiness and the consequence is that much of the chalk has been removed, washed away down the rivers, while the flints remained forming beds of gravel.

I have said that it is 1,000 feet in thickness, and it probably was not deposited at the rate of more than an inch in a century. So that if you multiply this up, you will see how long a time it must have taken to deposit. I have also said that it must have been deposited a long way from shore. The reason for this opinion is that it never contains any pebbles or remains from land. Sea-formations which are deposited near the land contain pebbles and other substances washed down from the shores. But, as most of you know, that is never the case in chalk.

There was, I believe, a piece of granite once found in a chalk-pit near Croydon, which had probably been carried by roots of trees. But that is the only case that I have ever heard of anywhere in this district of anything from the shore being found in the chalk itself.

It has indeed been supposed by some that the chalk here cannot have been far from land because remains have been found of a turtle and of a flying lizard. But we know that turtles sometimes wander very far from land, and the lizard had very large wings, no less than 16 feet from tip to tip, so that it may well have had powers of flight not far short of those of the present albatross, and have ventured very far from land.

The Kentish Coalfields.

Below the chalk comes the greensand, which is also a marine formation, deposited, however, nearer land, and under it again are the strata known as the Wealden beds. These represent a great freshwater deposit of some immense inland lake. The country around therefore must at that time have been dry land. At this period lived many gigantic reptiles, especially the iguanodon, nearly 30ft. long, which was discovered by Dr. Mantell many years ago in pits near Maidstone, and of which the cast of nearly a perfect skeleton has recently been set up in the British Museum. It was a great herbivorous reptile with very powerful hind legs, in form not unlike the kangaroo, and which probably stood up on his hind-legs and fed upon the foliage of the trees.

Thus then we have here complete and conclusive evidence that the country in this neighbourhood was first of all occupied by great rivers, then came sea, then a much deeper sea and much further from land, and then again shallower water, then land with one or more great lakes; and if I were not afraid of occupying your time I could recount many other changes which must have been gone through. There is only one other to which I will allude. Below the chalk as we know lie in parts of the country beds of coal. It has long been suspected by geologists that the intermediate strata between the Wealden and the coal had either never been deposited or had been worn away again in this part of England, and that the coal measures might be found within reasonable distance below the chalk. Underneath London, and probably underneath our feet, the coal beds have also been removed, but borings at Dover as you have seen in the newspapers have found beds of true coal. They are, however, unfortunately very much inclined, so that it is rather doubtful whether they will be able to be worked to any great financial advantage. That, however, remains to be proved.

Books and How to Read Them.

This room has been built especially as a reading-room, but it will be used for many other purposes; for lectures, for entertainments, and for games. I trust that you will enjoy the games very much. For my own part I have all my life been very fond of games and been very much indebted to them, but at the same time I must say, having tried both, I believe that in the long run you will find there is more interest to be obtained by reading than by almost any game.

Of course, however, this will depend very much upon how you read. Everybody nowadays is supposed to know how to read, but I have my doubts as to this. No doubt they can turn over the leaves of a book. But do we all read wisely? A great many people read only in two ways. They do so for business purposes, reading the accounts of markets and price lists and various matters which are no doubt of great importance in their business; and secondly they read amusing stories. Now I am very far from undervaluing stories and novels. They are extremely interesting and indeed useful, but if one wishes to get really the greatest amount of enjoyment and advantage from books one must not confine one's reading to that which is for the moment amusing. The way is to consider what you will be most pleased to-morrow, you have read to-day. In this way in the long run you will obtain the greatest interest from books. In reading as in other matters you must not think so much of the enjoyment of the moment, as on the permanent result that you will obtain and I am sure that I express the opinion of all those that read much when I say that you will find if you read wisely and well that it will add immensely to the happiness of your lives.

In conclusion, Sir John Lubbock said he hoped the room would become a centre of all that was beneficial to the parish and he had the greatest pleasure in declaring the room open. (Loud applause).

The Chairman moved that the thanks of the meeting be accorded to Sir John Lubbock for his address that evening. The parish was greatly indebted to him for his financial support and advice. They hoped to have lectures in the room, and no lecturer would be more warmly welcomed than Sir John. As had been said the room was for all the parish and not a part, and he (the Chairman) as another trustee could assure the meeting that all parties and sects would be treated in the same way, with regard to the use of it.

Mr. J. F. Priter seconded the resolution. Some of them thought they knew all that was worth knowing with regard to Farnborough, but they had been mistaken. They all hoped Sir John would often favour them with an address of this description. He also desired to express his gratification to find the room established on such a free and open basis.

The resolution was carried with loud applause, and Sir John Lubbock briefly responded.

Our Illustration.

The accompanying illustration shows the ruins of the Roman Temple at Warbank, Keston, referred to by Sir John Lubbock, which were uncovered by Mr. Kempe in 1828. The rectangular erection to be seen on the left is supposed to be a tomb, while in front are two stone coffins, one of which in a dilapidated state is still to be seen in the grounds of West Wickham Court. Some of the walls of the ruined temple are still visible and may be easily found by the pedestrian. They are situate near (on the right hand side of) the footpath that leads to Blackness Farm from the well outside Holwood, on the Westerham road, a little way beyond the 14th milestone.

Seizure of Bad Meat.—A quantity of bad meat was seized at the premises of S. Brooker, butcher, 8, Simpson's-road, Bromley, on 20th ult., and destroyed, and on the following Monday the Bromley Bench fined Brooker £4 and costs for exposing the unsound meat for sale.

CHURCH TEMPERANCE FESTIVAL.

Successful Meetings at Bromley.

The yearly festival of the Canterbury Diocesan Branch of the Church of England Temperance Society, which took place at Bromley during the week commencing Sunday, October 17th, was the principal feature in local events during the past month. At both the special church services and the public meetings the attendance of the public was most encouraging, while the response to appeals for financial support was also very gratifying.

The Sermons.

For the Sunday a staff of first-class special preachers had been secured, including the Archbishop of Canterbury, who thus paid his first official visit to the town and was most cordially welcomed, and the Bishop of Dover who made it his last official appearance in the diocese, except at Canterbury, being on the eve of leaving to assume the Bishopric of Wakefield. The other special preachers included the Rev. H. Russell Wakefield, rector of St. Mary's Bryanston-square; Rev. C. G. Acworth, of Westerham; Rev. J. Oakley Coles, vicar of All Saints, Upper Norwood; Rev. A. G. Hellicar, vicar of Bromley; Rev. Prebendary Palmes, vicar of St. Mary's, Dover; Rev. H. H. Pereira, vicar of Croydon; and the Rev. J. Isabell (organising secretary of the Canterbury Diocesan Branch of the C.E.T.S.).

The Archbishop's preaching at the Bromley Parish Church on Sunday evening, attracted an enormous congregation, every available space being filled long before the service commenced, and many being unable even to gain admission. Taking for his text the words, "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others; let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus," the Archbishop remarked that he had come to preach about a great curse which was doing fearful mischief among their fellow-creatures, and to speak about their duty in helping other men to be healthy and sober. They could each help in many ways, by their example, their influence, and by speaking kindly to those who were sinning and on the road to sin, and he besought them to do their part to help those who were caught in that great despair.

Bishop Eden preached at St. George's, Bickley, on Sunday morning, and at St. John's Church, Bromley, in the evening. Speaking at the morning service he said the Church of England Temperance Society's work was, when stripped of all extravagances, one of the most unselfish, most truly patriotic, philanthropic and Christ-like movements of the age, and he pleaded, he said, to them for the last time on behalf of the cause which was so dear to his own heart and to the hearts of hundreds of faithful workers in the diocese.

The offertories, which were devoted to the Society's police-court mission and other rescue work, were very liberal, and the largest in the records of any similar festivals in this diocese. The amounts were as follows:—Bromley Parish Church, £51 19s.; St. Luke's, £7 0s. 9d.; St. Mark's, £6 17s.; St. George's, Bickley, £26 4s. 3d.; St. John's, £17 6s.; St. Mary's, Plaistow, £12 5s. 3d.; Christ Church, £1 10s.; Holy Trinity, £1 16s. 2d. The amount at the last mentioned church was only a moiety, collections on behalf of the Society's work having been taken previously.

Meeting at the Town Hall.

This meeting on Monday afternoon, October 18th, was presided over by the Vicar of Bromley (Rev. A. G. Hellicar), and very largely attended. The Archbishop of Canterbury was present on the platform, with many local clergy and others, including Lieut.-Colonel Colvill, the Revs. C. J. Ridgway (vicar of Christ Church, Lancaster Gate), P. Barker, J. M. Tamplin, J. White, T. George (Bromley); H. F. Maltby (Plaistow); H. Arnott and C. Green (Beckenham); R. Wood, T. T. Norgate, and H. Hamilton Jackson (Bickley); H. F. Wolley (Shortlands), G. Clowes (Hayes), C. H. Wright (Keston), F. W. Haines (Bromley Common), and Mr. W. J. Hicks (Diocesan Treasurer), and others.

Testimony to police-court mission work in Bromley, maintained by the Society, was given in a letter, read by the Chairman, in his opening address, from Mr. Coles Child, J.P., Chairman of the Bromley Bench of Magistrates, who stated that he warmly appreciated the most useful work done by the Society's local missionary (Mr. Marshall). The vicar also warmly welcomed the Primate to Bromley, stating that there was no part of the diocese in which he would receive a more hearty welcome and his efforts find more support than in Bromley.—The Rev. C. Green (of St. Paul's, Beckenham), who spoke at a later stage, also quoted the testimony of Mr. Horace Smith, the magistrate at Clerkenwell, as to the value of the police-court mission work of the Society.

Intemperance a great sin, was the first note struck by the Archbishop in his address. He remarked that 30 or 40 years ago drunkenness was almost encouraged by the light manner in which it was treated, the fact that it was a serious and great sin, being altogether obscured in the minds of many people. This, he said, had caused much mischief, and if the Society could alter that tone of public conversation it would be doing a great service to the country and still more to the Church of Christ. Personally he felt he could do more to promote temperance by total abstinence, but he did not ask everyone to do that; as he believed in liberty of conscience, and left it for each individual to decide. He also pointed out that many social customs had tended in the direction of drunkenness, and urged the importance of combination, by joining the Society, in discountenancing all such customs.

The work in the diocese of Canterbury, during the year, was the principal feature in a stirring address delivered by the Rev. C. J. Ridgway, who reported that during the twelve months the missionaries in this diocese had paid 1,257 visits to police-courts, 932 visits to gaol-gates, relieved 181 urgent cases, taken 424 pledges, found employment for 143 prisoners, got 158 taken back by old employers, sent 20 lads to sea, placed 56 persons in inebriate homes, restored 160 to friends, handed over 226 cases to the care of the clergy, and paid visits to 2,096 persons in their own homes. The collection taken at the close amounted to £13 7s. 10d.

Drill Hall Meeting.

The above meeting on Monday night, October 18th, was the most successful and enthusiastic of the series. A very influential platform was presided over by Mr. T. Davis, J.P., Chairman of the Urban District Council of Bromley, including the Archbishop of Canterbury, Col. Sir J. Farnaby Lennard, Bart. (Chairman of the Kent County Council), the Rev. W. Murdoch Johnston, (vicar of St. Stephen's, Twickenham), the Revs. A. G. Hellicar (vicar of Bromley), P. Barker, H. F. Maltby, J. P. Faunthorpe, T. H. Whitamore, T. Clark-Smith, H. Hamilton Jackson, E. L. Colebrooke, T. George, J. M. Tamplin, and other local clergy; Mr. Coles Child, J.P., Mr. H. W. Maynard (director of the Union Steamship Company), Mr. A. C. Norman, J.P., Mr. T. C. Dewey, Mr. W. J. Hicks, Mr. R. Whyte, J.P., Dr. Ilott, Dr. Beeby, Messrs. W. R. Mallett, D. Payne, A. A. Worley, and other members of the Urban District Council; Messrs. W. Gomer and W. Judd (members of the Bromley School Board), Mr. E. Baly,

and many others. A brief opening speech was delivered by the Chairman, followed by an earnest address by the Archbishop, which at once secured the close attention of the crowded audience. In the course of his remarks he said they had to deal with a great deal of apathy and ignorance, but were confident that if they could succeed in rousing public attention more thoroughly and could make people see that they were not justified in treating the matter with indifference, that little by little they would make way. In fact, the Societies that aimed at the reform of intemperance had made great way within their own knowledge; they had grown from little beginnings and he had lived long enough to see how utterly different the position of the Temperance reformers was now to that which they held fifty years ago. He had seen how the cause, then treated as the mere fancy of a few men who had taken some queer notions into their heads, had grown by slow degrees, but without a single ebb in the flow of the tide, and how that cause had grown until at last everywhere there was a general sense that they were winning the victory if only they would persevere. (Applause.) Great statesmen to his knowledge, who were by no means favourable to what they were doing, but looked upon them as very troublesome people—because to tell the truth all statesmen that had touched that matter had come to grief, they had more or less burnt their fingers over it—had said that it was no use to deny that sooner or later they would have to yield. They had found they could not satisfy them at all, and that they wanted something much more thorough than they were willing to give, but yet statesmen of that school had realised that though they might resist for a time that sooner or later they would, whether they liked it or not, have to deal with it. Continuing, he said the movement had grown by their insisting on putting facts before the public mind, and concluded by urging them to keep up the work with all their power.

Other addresses bearing on different aspects of the temperance question were given by the Rev W. Murdoch Johnson (vicar of St. Stephen's, Twickenham), and Mr. H. W. Maynard, of Wimbledon (a director of the Union Steamship Company), while votes of thanks to the speakers, stewards, and choir, were passed on the proposition of Mr. Coles Child, J.P., seconded by Mr. W. Joynson Hicks, the latter speaker referring with regret to the resignation of the Rev J. Isabell from the post of organising secretary owing to impaired health. He had, he said, worked devotedly in the cause, and they hoped to have his help in the future in some capacity.

The collection at this meeting realised £16 11s. 5d.

MEETING FOR CHILDREN.

A meeting for children belonging to Bands of Hope in the town, took place at the Bromley Drill Hall on Tuesday, and was presided over by Mr. W. J. Hicks, the principal speaker being the Rev. C. H. Grundy (vicar of St. Peter's, Brockley).

SALE OF WORK.

Next day a sale of work on behalf of the police-court mission and other rescue work of the Society was opened at the Bromley Parish-room, West-street, by Mrs. Temple, wife of the Primate, who was introduced to the large gathering of ladies and gentlemen by the Vicar of Bromley. This sale realised the gross sum of £130; and the ladies presiding at the various stalls were as follows:—Bromley—Flower, fruit, and vegetable stall: Mrs. Price, Mrs. Batchelor, Mrs. Potter, Miss Ilott, Miss Freeman, and Nurse Morgan. Plaistow—Fancy stall: Mrs. Joynson Hicks, Mrs. Wills, Mrs. Percy Tatham, Miss Hodgson, Miss Watts, and Miss H. A. Cawston. Bickley—Fancy stall: Misses H. Wood, Munns, Fry, Green, and Howard. St. John's—Fancy stall: Mrs. Barker, Mrs. Barrow, Mrs. Sharp, Miss Dayrell Read, and Miss Davis. Christ Church—Fancy stall: Mrs. George, Mrs. Weston, Miss Kelleway, Mrs. Warren, Mrs. Petrie, Mrs. Kilmington, Mrs. Sherwood, and Mrs. Lewis. St. Luke's—Fancy stall: Mrs. Colebrooke, Mrs. Howard Williams, Mrs. Lucke, Mrs. Carre, Miss Graver, Miss Wilks, and Mrs. Dickenson. The refreshment stall was attended by the following ladies:—Mrs. E. Soames, Miss A. J. Romilly, Miss Newpot, Miss D. Tweedy, Miss Aitken, Miss M. Aitken, Miss Carden, and Miss Ball. The Misses Hellicar superintended a well-stocked pump, and a huge artistic shoe, filled with fancy goods, was taken charge of by Mrs. and Miss Eden. The Misses Davis superintended the parcels department, and Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Davis undertook the arrangements for admission to the sale. The work on sale, other than the flowers, fruit, and vegetables, was provided by the Diocesan Work Society, Mrs. Isabell being the diocesan secretary, and Mrs. Davis of Birkenfeld, Bromley, the local secretary.

The closing meetings of the Festival were held on Thursday, Oct. 21st, at Plaistow Institute, presided over by the Vicar (Rev. W. Hodgson), the Rev. H. H. Pereira and Mr F. Sherlock being the speakers; and on Friday at St. Luke's Institute, Promley Common, when the Rev. J. Isabell presided and addresses were delivered by the Rev. J. W. Horsley (vicar of St. Peter's Walworth), and the Rev. P. R. P. Braithwaite (vicar of Andover).

ST. MICHAEL'S ORPHANAGE.—On Wednesday, September 29th, the forty-second anniversary of the St. Michael's Orphanage, Chislehurst, founded by the Misses Anderdon, was celebrated by a short service conducted in the Orphanage chapel by the Rev. Canon Murray, assisted by the Revs. J. F. Twist and T. S. Goudge, and followed by a sale of work. The distribution of prizes to the children was undertaken by the Rev. Canon Murray, who congratulated all concerned, and especially the staff, upon the admirable way in which the boys had conducted themselves during the past year. Great credit was due to Mr. and Mrs. Rudolf and Miss Hambleton, the matron, and her assistants. He alluded to the fact that Miss Anderdon was able to be present at the gathering.—At the sale of work the stalls were in charge of the following ladies:—The Ladies Pratt, Misses Tiarks, Mrs. Twist, Mrs. G. Buchanan Wollaston, Miss Charrington, Mrs. Travers Hawes and the Misses Hawes, Mrs. Powell, Misses Janson, Miss Beck, Miss Freeman, Miss Hambleton, and Miss Rudolf. As soon as the sale was opened a brisk business began. Amongst the stalls was one on which was an excellent array of dairy produce, completely furnished by Messrs. Hornby & Co., who generously gave the proceeds for the benefit of the Orphanage. Messrs. Wing, Aplin, & Co., also furnished a stall of scent bottles and other toilet accessories, and a number of local tradesmen contributed goods to the sale. One stall was devoted to the work of the boys.

POSTAL ITEM.—Two direct letter mails are now made up daily at the Bromley Post Office for Chislehurst. The Bromley head office letter-box closes for the first mail at 10.45 a.m., and the correspondence will be included in the mid-day delivery at Chislehurst. The second mail will be made up at 4.30 p.m., for delivery in Chislehurst the same evening.

THE RAINFALL.—The rainfall for September, as measured in Widmore-road, Bromley, amounted to 2.77 inches. Rain fell on thirteen days, the largest amount registered in one day being one inch on the 29th. For the corresponding month last year the fall reached the large total of 5 inches, but in 1895 it was only 0.69 in., and in 1894, 1.92 in.

"IVA KILDARE,"

By Mrs. L. B. Walford,

Author of "Mr. Smith," "Cousins," "Frederick," "A Mere Child," "The Baby's Grandmother," etc., etc.

By the roadside was a fallen tree, which had been uprooted during the recent gale, and he found himself sitting upon it presently. Supposing, now, that he were some other fellow, how would that other fellow feel? Supposing that he had someone to talk the whole affair over with, what would the other be saying?

If it were Tommy Cheveley, for instance? Tommy would begin: "I say, old chap, what's up? Blues seem pretty bad, eh?"

He would, of course, reply by denying that anything was "up," that "blues" existed. Tommy would persist. He would still deny, but more feebly.

Then there would be a silence; Tommy smoking, himself knocking his stick about.

Then he would burst out: he would tell the whole story; he would call himself an ass—a bally idiot—all the usual terms of opprobrium; Tommy would roar with laughter, and say—yes, of course Tommy would say—Tommy was such a thundering fool he would be sure to say—men like Tommy would never think of anything else to say than that he was—was——"

Rot! Utter rot! No one but a fool like Cheveley would ever be so—as to think it was *that*. Why, dash it all! he hadn't a sixpence, and no more had she.

Besides, Iva wasn't at all the sort of girl for a poor man. And even if—if he were so besotted as to go and let himself in for anything of *that* kind, it would be no good. She would as soon think of the man in the moon as of him.

What had induced him to lug about that thing in his pocket? If only he had left it with the rest on his mantelpiece, or in a drawer, the whole nuisance would never have occurred.

Nuisance? It was worse than a nuisance—it was checkmate. He had gone and *done* for himself; knocked on the head all the jolly, pleasant old times, all the coming and going, and easy meetings, and adoption into the family circle at Tilbury Court, which had from time immemorial been associated with a stay at Old Cary Farm.

Even when at school, if given his choice as to whether he would join his uncle abroad or betake himself to the farm (the only alternative which presented itself for the homeless boy), he had jumped at the latter proposition, and passed the holidays blithely.

Later on, when other relations had extended the finger of hospitality as the good-looking, presentable youth began to be somewhat of an addition to house parties and festal gatherings, he had not been quite so constant to his first love, but still he had paid occasional visits; and those visits had always been understood to include shooting over Sir Thomas Tilbury's preserves, and frolicking with his daughters.

Sir Thomas, who had felt a sincere pity for the misfortunes of a brother proprietor, was glad to do the civil, as he called it, towards Sir Philip's nephew, a nice lad, whose birth was as good as his own, but who would have to knock about the world for a living all his days, whether he ever came in for the Old Cary estate or not. It would never keep him—or at least he would never be able to live at it—any more than his uncle. The rent-roll was down to nothing; and what Mr. Minching and the rest of the Stock Exchange gentlemen paid for the shootings was just about enough to enable Sir Philip to live. Live decently he could not, according to Sir Thomas's ideas.

The latter was therefore compassionately disposed towards poor Sir Philip's nephew, with the easy compassion of the prosperous. Whenever he heard that Reggie was about, this compassion would take shape in the form he himself would best have appreciated · and it had found a not ungrateful recipient. There had been days of tramping the stubble, followed by cosy rdinners in the lesser dining-room at Tilbury Court, when the slim lad had been all alone and quite at home with the two kindly elders, the stolid, benignant, steady-eating Sir Thomas, and the merry, lively, pretty Lady Tilbury.

He had been proud of his position as guest, enjoying Iva's envy and rueful look on saying "Goodnight" before the other three went in to dinner. He was seven years Iva's senior, and though she tried to be on terms of strict equality at other times—even to look down on him as "only a boy, who thought he was a man because he had a gun"—there was no getting over the distinction drawn at dinner-time.

Lady Tilbury was not going to give in on this point. She had one or two very clear ideas in her head, and she drew the line with a firm hand when she did draw it.

Iva's fine eyes and complexion were not to be ruined by late hours or ever the world had a chance of seeing them. To Iva herself, her mother only seemed to have a tiresome "kink" upon the subject. Without saying why, she was a hard-hearted woman every night when eight o'clock arrived.

All of this, and much more of the same, now floated in confused phantasmagoria before the troubled gaze of a motionless figure seated on a fallen tree in the moonlight.

If—just supposing—if—it were the case—that he had—had any sort of reason for having played the fool with that thing in his pocket-book, what kind of return was this for all those years of kindness and free intimacy.

Was it not because such an outcome of them was wholly and absolutely beyond his reach that it had never been taken into consideration? He had been accredited with good sense and good feeling; and looking back, he now knew that he had once possessed both.

What had become of them?

Once or twice of recent years, especially when the increasing beauty of Iva Kildare had been the theme of the neighbourhood, he had been amused to see the side looks cast at him, and to gather that Iva's mother was held to be an imprudent parent from the matrimonial point of view.

Conscious that his heart was whole, and proud of the trust reposed in him, he had enjoyed the hints of the gossips. They would soon be put a stop to, and that in the most natural and commonplace manner. Iva would make a great marriage, and he would act as verger—the modern rendering for dance a jig at her wedding. Wherever his regiment might be, he would apply for leave to be present on the interesting occasion.

"Then, I suppose, I should have to turn off Maud?" he was wont to cogitate, puffing a cigar at his ease. "Fat Maud won't flit as easily as Iva, but she has a gilt backing; she'll go some time or other. Perhaps I shall have peace by then," he would sigh plaintively to himself. It was a pity he could never vent this burden of his soul, it would have been such a fruitful grievance.

But now—now—now—what about now? Letting one's thoughts drift and range over the past is easy, and in its absence of all effort dulls the poignancy of the present; but dreaming, recalling, cursing one's folly, and lashing the ground with aimless, meaningless strokes lead to nothing—scarcely even to self-revelation.

Reggie took off his cap and wiped his forehead; he was surprised to find it wet beneath his curls. Then he became aware that he was hot all over, and wondered what good *that* did? And what was he

sitting there for? And what the deuce was the meaning of it all?

CHAPTER XI.

A LIGHT IN THE TOWER.

At length the young man rose and straightened himself.

He was stiff and cramped from sitting still so long on a raw autumn night, and this, combined with the ferment in his blood, made him shiver with heat and cold alike. The happy thought occurred to him that perhaps he was going to be ill.

To be ill, and have to lie in bed?

Yes, he would go to bed, sip slops, send for the doctor, and shut the door against everybody else.

The doctor would tell them at Tilbury Court that he had a patient at Old Cary Farm, and Lady Tilbury would be duly impressed and sympathetic—oh, she would be quite in a fuss, and down to inquire before he could look round—while Iva would be silent, with remorse at her heart.

Iva would not confide in her mother; of that he felt certain. She would listen to expressions of anxiety and commiseration with an unmoved countenance, possibly with an incredulous smile. Almost certainly she would not believe in the illness at the first, saying to herself, if not openly, that somebody had cried "Wolf!" too often, and that no more pity was to be wrung out of her.

But she could not hold out long if Thompson, whose dictum was law at Tilbury Court, were on his side.

Oh, if he could only be ill!

And then he could worry out the whole thing comfortably, and see if he were really such a—if he had gone and done such a—if he had not been fool enough to be scared by a—every sentence ran up as it were to a barred gate, and shied, instead of leaping to a conclusion.

Meantime, the young man stumbled along in the moonlight. He was sure he was going to be ill, he walked so queerly; like a ploughman clumping over the cobbles, or a sot lurching away from the public-house. Still more like old Father Stevens, as Iva called him, when hobbling off after a meditation from his hole in the wall.

Ill? He was certainly going to be ill. And why shouldn't he be ill? Why not he, as well as other people? Hang it! he *would* be ill if he chose. He had had a horrid afternoon, and Iva ought to know that when a fellow has had one vile shock to begin with, it is not the time to go on letting out at him—it is enough to turn anyone upside down to be mauled without being able to hit back. He could not defend himself, of course; and now she had made him ill, and how would she like that?

He decided to go to bed at once, and say he wanted no dinner. Luckily, he was not engaged to dine with Lady Tilbury, nor with anybody else; so there would be a nice hot dinner awaiting him in his own quarters at the farm, and he would turn away from it—would say with a shudder, it made him sick to look at it—and get between the sheets as quickly as possible. There, at least, would be peace, as far as the clash of outward elements was concerned.

No going up to Tilbury Court the next day, with his heart in his throat lest he should come across Iva alone, and a spasm at the very sight of the front door. Suppose she were to step out of it just as he stepped up!

Until now, Reggie had never thought himself a coward; but, coward or not, he almost felt as if he would have faced death itself rather than Iva Kildare with no one standing by. The presence of others would be a support, and could he have ensured that, he would have made a shift to comport himself as usual; but there was always the dreadful chance.

Again, would Iva expect him? Would she look upon his present misdemeanour as only one of many, to be pardoned after due expiation, or would she, like himself, feel that the earth had opened beneath her feet? Good God! how he loved her! And not to have known it—not to have suspected it—never once to have had a gleam if it till now!

Loved her? Of course he loved her. And she to taunt him with the miserable blunder he had been betrayed into, while that very blunder had rent open his own heart, and shewn him her image enshrined there—her living, breathing image; not the poor thing that was now to raise the hue and cry, but the Iva in whose smile he had been so securely happy; whose frown was little less sweet than her smile; whose eyes had been his own, whose voice his own, whose simple presence had been all he cared for.

To be with her, just to be near her, filled him with an infinite content. There had been no analysis of emotions, no propounding of enigmas, no tiresome, unnecessary, impertinent questionings. All had been one bright, peaceful dream. Iva unkind to him? He had revelled in the unkindness. Iva cruel? He had petted and pampered the cruelty, coaxing it into every sort of development, wheedling, enticing, basking in it like sunshine.

And he knew not why the rustling woods of Tilbury seemed to exhale sweeter odours than any other leafy glades; why the glinting stream danced along more merrily than other waters, and the wood-pigeons cooed like turtledoves, and the browsing herds grouped themselves more picturesquely than deer. He knew why the very vapours which curled up from its great stacks of chimneys cheered his eye as he neared the mansion, hurrying thither day after day to make the most of every happy hour.

How was it possible that he had been blind so long? Iva—it had always been Iva. Long before he knew, it was the foreshadowing of the Iva that now was which had alike chained and charmed him. Had anyone else interfered with his prerogative, diverted for one brief moment the current of her thoughts, such interposition would have revealed, as by a lightning flash, the perilous path he was treading; but he had never in his maddest moments dreamt of jealousy. No, it had all been smooth—smooth as Niagra before her leap.

Remarks had been made, it is true; brisk, pointed remarks such as Miss Lossett was deft in the use of; but they might have been as blunt as the worn-out spikes on the gates of Old Cary Hall for all the impression they made on Reggie.

"What does the old cat mean?" he would drawl half-aloud, if goaded to it; but he really did not trouble his head to consider what she meant.

He disliked Sophia. There were very few people in the world whom he actively disliked, and there was only one woman—Sophia Lossett.

Moreover, it is but due to him to say that this dislike was founded upon a solid sentiment—upon the profound conviction of her antagonism to his friends. Without going into the matter, or attaching to it the slightest importance, he knew by instinct that the hard-featured spinster had a pair of eyes which were ever on the watch, evilly disposed. When she spoke, her metallic voice grated upon his ear; and when silent, with thin, pursed lips, she was still more offensive.

Unluckily, he had always to pass the General's house in getting to and coming from Tilbury Court, and even when no Miss Sophia was visible, he fancied a stealthy tread behind the holly hedge as he went by—keeping close beneath, so that his grey cap should not overtop it—and was conscious of a significant head nodding after him, counting up the number of times he turned in at the lodge gates.

Iva, who only thought of the Lossetts as a dull couple whom it was a charity to look in upon

sometimes, had once or twice rallied Reggie upon this inveterate repugnance to his neighbours, but he had never replied: "They hate *you*; consequently I hate *them*"—as was the all-sufficient truth.

It may be wondered how it was that Iva and her mother, quick-witted as they were, had not divined this for themselves; but the general and his daughter were careful people, who had no mind to be excluded from the great house of the neighbourhood, whose hospitalities formed almost their sole species of entertainment, and whose doings were endless theme for gossip.

Gossip was the very marrow of old Lossett's bones. He lived to trot from house to house, conveying it and gathering more. Albeit he had met with a rebuff from "the Irishwoman" in her luxurious second widowhood, he comforted himself in that not only was the world in ignorance thereof, but that even his daughter had had the wisdom not to pry.

Lady Tilbury, holding out a friendly hand at the close of the crucial interview, had expressed gratitude for the compliment paid her, and that without any lurking innuendo; more, she had assured him of unchanged good will, and an ardent desire that the present friendly relations between the families should remain unaltered; adding with increased emphasis that she, for her part, would forget as quickly as possible that he had ever desired anything more.

Despite mortification and disappointment, the gallant soldier could not but perceive that the only thing which remained for him to do was to forget it with equal rapidity. He had nothing to gain, and everything to lose, by remembering.

Accordingly, by dint of schooling himself in the part, it soon became easy to meet the Tilbury carriage with hat uplifted and right-hand glove whipped off—General Lossett was a gentleman of the old school, and punctiliously ungloved before offering his hand to ladies; and although some tender qualms may be presumed to have lingered for a time in his manly bosom, and he may have wondered how a woman who had been content with a burly lout like Sir Thomas Tilbury (a mere yokel, without a grain of *aplomb* or *savoir vivre*) should not have thought his smart, soldierly self, V.C. and all, good enough for her—indeed, a great and glorious advance—still he had the wit to know when he was beaten, and to accept all the advantages of a voluntary surrender.

It was only in the most secret depths of a heart which had been honestly caught, not only by the widow's wherewithal, but by her pretty, good-humoured self, that the rejected suitor still nourished a feeble grudge. Sophia might vent her spleen; he never did.

To the Tilburys themselves, however, even Sophia was smooth-faced, as we have said. Nobody was like dear Lady Tilbury for always having the loveliest flowers in her garden, the most exquisite ornaments in her house. No one had such horses, such delightful, comfortable carriages. (Sophy dearly loved a seat in one.) As for Lady Tilbury's dresses, and Iva's too, they were *always* pretty; always so suitable, so becoming. "We look to Tilbury Court for all our ideas of fashion. We expect you and Iva to lead the way," she would cry in her shrill voice, that made Reggie Goffe wince. "Of course, we can't imitate; but we *do* like to see what is being worn; and then you two shew off to such advantage everything you put on, that it would be quite ridiculous if we were to attempt to copy. What guys we should be! Quite grotesque! But when *you* wear a long Newmarket coat, dear Lady Tilbury—it is called a 'Newmarket,' is it not?—thank you, yes. I thought so—I quite *love* to see you in it."

"Oh, come along, come along," Iva would mutter in her mother's ear, and twitch her elbow, when the flattery had poured for so long that it might be presumed to have poured itself out. "Poor Sophia, she does lard it on so!" she would resume, after shaking off the incubus; "if she were not so deplorably humble, and so comprehensively admiring, one could stand it better. But when it extends to everything we do or wear, it is really—however, poor Sophia—I don't mean to be unkind; and, after all, she ought to disarm criticism, she is so very well-meaning, and does think so very, *very* much of us," which was all Miss Iva Kildare knew about it.

Reggie, who could have enlightened her, wisely held his tongue. It was not his business.

But it made him more than ever dislike encountering the thin figure which would insist upon a stoppage, even when, with a hurried greeting, he was endeavouring to hasten past; and would demand the last news of Tilbury Court, even though the interlocutor must needs have been a very witch to know he had been there.

We now know why our young gentleman, in the midst of his distractions, still drew instinctively towards the shelter of the holly hedge as he passed General Lossett's small domain.

It was unlikely—indeed, highly improbable—that anyone would be about at that hour: it was nearly seven o'clock, and seven on a November evening was dinner-time with most people—people of the old-fashioned order, living in a small way. He could picture to himself the Lossett pair seated opposite each other at their little square dining-table. Confound it! She was nothing of the kind! She was here at the gate, calling out directions to the little maidservant in the doorway—something about "service being over"!

Sophia was going to church, then? Of course. It was a Wednesday, and Miss Lossett always attended the Wednesday evening service. That meant she would dart out upon him in another moment, and fasten like an octopus, stinging at every point; he would have to endure the torment for the entire length of the village. With a suppressed ejaculation he was across the road and up the steep bank on the other side, crouching behind a jutting angle of the wall, ere the enemy emerged.

He had "jockeyed" her for once. If she saw him, she could not come after him. Neither could she stand still and shout: "Come down, you up there! Deliver yourself up."

Grim satisfaction for the moment predominated as he beheld the success of his stratagem; watched the unconscious spinster, foiled for once, snap to with a clang her little garden gate; look first one way, then the other; finally pick up her petticoats, and trot up the road.

So far, so good; but "She has eyes in her back," quoth he to himself, terror still upon him; "I don't risk following—not if I know it," and he crept along the wall on the bank. He crept till he came to the broken opening which was Father Stevens's peep-hole and his own; and here Reggie stood still, and then stood upright.

He stood upright in his amazement. Oh, there was no doubt now that he was going to be ill—going crazy, perhaps. What else could it be which made him see what he saw? What he saw was a light in the old tower—a distinct light, from one of the lower windows, the window of the great hall!

Miss Sophia Lossett and all else forgotten, he drew himself up to his full height, and with dilated eyeballs gazed upon the extraordinary sight. A light in Old Cary Hall at this time of night! Lights at any time! The farmer's dame, whose duty it was to have occasional outbreaks of cleaning and sweeping in the empty house, invariably installed herself there, together with her damsels, their pails, and their brushes, during the early hours of the day; and windows were shut and doors fast bolted long ere dewy eve set in, even in summer time. It was

incredible that she should be starting a new hour for her occupation of the place: but if not she, who else?

(To be continued.)

LONDON COLLEGE OF MUSIC.—Miss Olivia B. Harvey has been appointed local representative of the London College of Music. The next local examination in connection with the College will take place in December. Further information can be obtained by applying to Miss Harvey, 42, Freelands-road, Bromley, Kent.

ROYAL SOCIETY
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A
PUBLIC MEETING

For the Purpose of Establishing an Auxiliary of the above Society, in Bromley, will be held

On FRIDAY EVENING, NOV. 19th,

IN THE

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Will preside, and will be supported by the following local gentlemen:

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Rev. P. BARKER, M.A.	EDWD. PACKE, Esq.
Rev. T. GEORGE, B.D.	Dr. ILOTT.
Rev. T. NICHOLSON.	Dr MADDEN.
Rev. T. H. WHITAMORE.	G. P. WITT, Esq.
Rev. R SILVEY.	C. W. GEDNEY, Esq
Rev. WALTER HOLYOAK.	A. BEDDOW, Esq.
MURRAY RICHARDSON, Esq.	ROBERT WHYTE, Esq.

Mr. REEKS,

The County representative of the Parent Society will address the Meeting.

THE CHAIR TO BE TAKEN AT 8 P.M. NO COLLECTION.

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WILL BE GIVEN
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I.—On S. Paul's Epistle to the Philippians, by the Rev. H. B. BARNES, B.A., Rector of Chelsfield, commencing Nov. 5th, at 3.45 p.m.

II.—On the History of the Church in the Eleventh Century, by the Rev. P. BARKER, M.A., Vicar of St. John's, Bromley, commencing Jan. 14th, 1898.

The Lecture on Nov. 5th, when the Rev. A. G. HELLICAR, Vicar of Bromley, will preside, WILL BE FREE.

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THE ANNUAL MEETING

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GRAND HALL,
ON MONDAY EVENING NOV. 22ND.
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WILL
GIVE AN ACCOUNT OF HIS WORK.

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Births.

ATKINS.—On the 22nd October, at Chudleigh, West Chislehurst-park, Eltham, the wife of H. P. Atkins, of a son.

BARTLETT.—On the 23rd of September, the wife of John Bartlett, of Savernake, Sidcup, Kent, and of 26 and 27, Bush-lane, E.C., of a son.

BAKER.—On the 9th Oct., at Sherbrooke, Brackley-road, Beckenham, the wife of James Baker, of a son.

FREER.—On the 20th October, at Portlands, Knockholt, Kent, the wife of the Rev. Nigel Freer, Vicar of Cudham, of a son.

GREEN.—On the 1st Oct., at Windermere, Grove Park, Kent, the wife of Stephen T. Green, of a son.

LAWRENCE.—On the 6th Oct., at Domus, Crescent-road, Beckenham, the wife of Ernest F. Lawrence, of a daughter.

MCANDREW.—On the 8th of Oct., at The Warren, Beckenham, Kent, Mrs. Charles W. McAndrew, of a son.

MAYELL.—On the 10th Oct., at 55, Kingshall-road, Beckenham, Kent, the wife of J. R. P. Mayell, of a son.

RICE.—On the 24th Sept., at Playden, Bloomfield-road, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Thos. S. Rice, of a daughter.

RUCKER.—On the 28th Sept., at Cudham, Kent, the wife of Edward Augustus Rucker, of a daughter.

STEEL.—On the 20th Sept., at Rydal Mount Bromley, Kent, the wife of Frank B. Steel, of a son.

WEBB.—On the 27th Sept., at 14, Kingshall-road, Beckenham, the wife of Samuel L. Webb, of a son

Marriages.

FIELD—NETTLETON.—On the 5th Oct., at the Congregational Church, Anerley-road, Anerley, by the Rev. Hugh Rodger, of the Baptist Church, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Horace Banks Field, of Bromley Common, Kent, to Constance Emily, youngest daughter of the late Thomas I. J. Nettleton, of Bromley Common, Kent.

GIBSON—MACKENZIE.—On the 30th September, at the Congregational Church, Bromley, by the Revd. Thomas Nicholson, assisted by the Revd. Jabez Ingram, Mr. Edward Aisbitt Gibson, of Stoke Newington, and West India House, 96 and 98, Leadenhall-street, E.C., to Mrs. Ellen Elizabeth Mackenzie, widow of James Christie Mackenzie, of Hill-foot, Bromley, and daughter of William Mate, of Bournemouth.

LAYTON—COLLIER.—On October 27th, at St. George's Church, Beckenham, by the Rev. W. Taylor Jones, M.A., assisted by the Rev. A. J. Mc.M. Dutton, M.A., John Edward, elder son of John Layton, of Bickley, Kent, to Ethel Grace, third daughter of Richard Irish Collier, of Beckenham.

MATTHEWS—GOODGER.—On the 22nd September, at Holy Trinity Church, Burton-on-Trent, by the Revd. W. F. Drury, Emily Clara Goodger, daughter of the late William Scott Goodger, to Charles George Matthews, of Beckenham, Kent, and of Bridge-chambers, Burton-on-Trent. No cards.

WOODS—MICHELMORE.—On the 21st October, at St. Leonard's Church, Exeter, by the Rev. H. G. Southcomb, Rector of Roseash, assisted by the Rev. W. Bothamley, Rector of the parish, Arthur Woods, of Clarecroft, Bromley, Kent, to R. Gertrude Michelmore, only daughter of Henry Michelmore, Clerk of the Peace for the County of Devon.

Deaths.

BURNELL.—On the 20th Sept., at Heathbourne, Beckenham, George Burnell, formerly of Rook's Nest, Banstead, aged 90.

BARRY.—On the 12th October, suddenly, at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, aged 46, Frederick William Barry, D.Sc., F.R.S.E. of Downe, Kent, chief medical inspector of Local Government Board, London.

CRUICKSHANK.—On the 23rd Sept., at Highfield House, Southampton, Alexander Douglas Macdonell Cruickshank, aged 20, second son of J. A. Cruickshank, of Kincraig, Chislehurst.

DUNCANSON.—On the 6th Oct., at Nutwood, Bickley Park, Kent, Mary Ann, wife of Edw. Ford Duncanson.

EVANS.—On the 6th Oct., at Oak Lea, Shortlands, Gowen Edward Evans, of Melbourne, Australia, in his 71st year.

FRICKER.—On the 8th October, at Beaufort, Plaistow, Kent, Susannah Alethea, widow of Alfred Fricker, of Tros y-Conol, Bangor, North Wales, and second daughter of the late Rev. W. Frederick Sanders, rector of South Heighton Cum-Tarring, Neville, Sussex, formerly of Watford, Northamptonshire, aged 59.

FULLER.—On the 23rd October, Helen, the beloved wife of Henry W. Fuller, of No. 1, Walbrook, E.C., second daughter of the late Mrs. Kettle, of Hayes Common, aged 49 years.

HARRADINE.—On the 17th October, at Phœnix Lodge, Bromley, Joseph Harradine, in his 81st year.

LLOYD.—On the 2nd Oct., at The Pines, Beckenham, in her 85th year, Mary, widow of James Hogson Lloyd, formerly of Bloomsbury-square.

STEEL.—On the 21st Sept., at Rydal Mount, Bromley Kent, the infant son of Frank B. Steel.

SHAW.—On the 3rd Oct., at Sibertswold, Bromley, Kent, Elizabeth Margaret, widow of the late Samuel William Shaw, Esq., of the Probate Office.

SMITH.—On the 10th Oct., at Warren House, Hayes, Kent, Charles Ridley Smith, aged 54.

TOWN.—On the 5th of October, at Downe, Kent, Naomi, widow of the late Dan Town, of Downe, aged 74 years.

THOMSON.—On the 15th October, at Alma Villa, Masonshill, Bromley, Kent, John James Potter Thomson, C.C. aged 56.

WHITE.—On the 22nd Sept., at Harley, Chislehurst, Jean Eliza, widow of the late William White, aged 78.

FUNERALS.—J. HUMERSTON, Undertaker and Appraiser, 17, East Street, Bromley; Upholsterer and Cabinet Maker. rc132

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MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER have received instructions from Mr. G. Redman (who is leaving) to Sell by Auction upon the premises, Cockerhurst Farm, Shoreham, on Wednesday, November 10th, 1897, at 10 for 11 o'clock precisely, the whole of the valuable Live and Dead Farming Stock, Hay, Straw, &c., together with 15 acres of cauliflower, mangold wurtzel, 40 qrs. of Oats, &c., and miscellaneous effects.

May be viewed the day previous and morning of sale, and catalogues obtained on the premises; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Auctioneers, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT. FARNBOROUGH.—Green-Street-Green. Freehold Business Premises situate facing the Main Road, comprising a large Blacksmith's Forge with spacious yard and suitable outbuildings, together with an Ironmonger's Shop and Convenient Dwelling House, Stable and Garden. Gas and water laid on. The Property has the valuable frontage of about 62ft. with a return frontage of about 52ft. Held on lease by Mr. E. Ellis at a rental of £52 10s. per ann.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, November 25th, 1897, at 7 for 8 o'clock precisely, the above Important Freehold Business Premises forming a Well-secured and Improving Investment.

May be viewed by permission of the tenants, and particulars with plan and conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Poole & Robinson, Solicitors, 15, Union Court, Old Broad Street, E.C.; at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Auctioneers, Surveyors, and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

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AND AT

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BROMLEY RECORD

AND

MONTHLY ADVERTISER.

No. 473. DECEMBER, 1897. Price One Penny.

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contains reliable particulars of almost every available property to be Let or Sold situate in the undermentioned favourite districts of

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Beckenham	Downe	Orpington
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BROMLEY.—A convenient and well-built Detached Modern Residence in charming grounds, near to L.C. & D. Railway station, gravel soil. Rent £120. Freehold for Sale.

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SHORTLANDS.—Well-built double-fronted Detached Residence. Good garden. Close to Station Rent £80 per annum. Price £1600 Freehold.

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BROMLEY.—Charming Double-fronted Residence, six bedrooms, dressing room and bath room. Rent £75 or would be sold with adjoining House for £2,400 freehold.

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Champagnes.

	per doz
Louis Pamphilon ..... 1889 vintage	60/-
Ditto extra quality 1892 ,,	78/-
Pol Roger..... 1889 & 1892 ,,	
Bollinger..... 1892 ,,	
Louis Roederer..... 1892 ,,	
E. Irroy & Co..Carte D'or 1892 ,,	
Pommery & Greno ..... 1892 ,,	
Heidsiecks Dry Monopole 1889 & 1892	
Perrier Jouet, P D.C.	
Mumm. G. H. & Co.....	

Market Prices

Specialites for Invalids.

Champagne in Quarter Bottles.

Louis Pamphilon, Cuvee Reservee..	18/-
Perrier Jouet	24/-

Other Sparkling Wines

Asti Spumante (Italian)	30/-
Saumur	30/-
Sparkling Burgundy. 1st Quality ...	60/-
Ditto Hock	54/-
Ditto Moselle	54/-

Half Bottles, 6/- per 24 extra
Single Bottles same rates.

Still Hocks.

	per doz. bot.	per doz. half-bot.
Laubenheimer	18/-	11/-
Nierstein	24/-	14/-
Erbacher.....	30/-	17/-
Hochheim	36/-	20/-
Liebfraumilch	42/-	23/-
Red Hock	30/-	

Australian Wines.

	pr doz.	pr bot.
Sauvignon	15/-	1/3
Branxton Cabernet	21/-	1/9
Tintara.....	24/-	2/-
Riesling (White).....	24/-	2/-
Highercombe (White)	30/-	2/6

In Quart Flagons.

Red & White Burgundy 30/-	2/6
Tintara and Ophir.....42/-	3/6

6d. each allowed for Flagons when returned.

Italian Wines

	pr doz.	pr bot.
Vino da Pasto	12/-	1/-
Valtellina	18/-	1/6
Chianti	24/-	2/-
Capri (White)	24/-	2/-
Sparkling Asti	36/-	3/-

Chianti.

In Tuscan Flasks.

18/- & 36/- per doz. 1/6 & 3/- each.

California Wines.

Burgundy	18/- 1/6
Hock	30/- 2/6

Aerated Waters. *per doz.*

Schweppe's Soda, Seltzer & Potass	3/-
Ditto Lemonade and Ginger Ale.....	3/6
Soda, Seltzer & Potass	2/6
Lemonade & Ginger Ale	2/6
Syphons — Soda, Potass, Seltzer, Lemonade and Ginger Ale	4/-
Johannis's Appollinaris, Ginger Beer in Stone Bottles	

Burgundies.

		pr doz.	pr bot.
Macon	1893 vintage	20/-	1/8
Beaujolais	1893 ,,	24/-	2/0
Beaune.....	1893 ,,	30/-	2/6
Pommard	1889 ,,	36/-	3/0
Volnay.....	1884 ,,	42/-	3/6
Pommard, Superior, 1887 ,,		42/-	3/6
Chambertin.....	1881 ,,	72/	6/-
Chablis		24/- to 36/-	

Half Bottles.

Macon	12/- 1/-
Beaujolais	13/6 1/2
Beaune	16/6 1/5
Pommard	19/6 1/8
Volnay.....	25/- 2/-

Ports.

Good Young	24/- 2/-
Fine old Tawny	36/- 3/-
Ditto well-matured	48/- 4/-
Superior old fine quality	54/- 4/6
Ditto Crofts No 1.....	60/- 5/0
Ditto, ditto Grand Wine	66/- 5/6
Ditto very choice	72/- 6/-
Ditto rare old wines	84/- to 150/-

Tarragona. *pr doz.*

Superior Wines..... 12/- 18/- & 24/-

Liqueurs. *pr bot. pr ½bot.*

Curacoa...	5/-	2/6
Maraschino	5/-	2/6
Chartreuse yellow.....	8/-	4/6
Ditto Green.....	10/6	5/9
Benedictine DOM	7/-	3/6
Kirsch Wasser		3/6
Kumei Riga		4/-
Noyeau, Pink		2/6
Angostura Bitters		2/9
Heering Copenhagen Cherry Brandy		4/6 2/6

Cordials. *pr bot.*

Pamphilon's Cherry Brandy	3/-
Orange Bitters.....	3/-
Peach Bitters.....	3/6
Ginger Brandy	3/- 3/6
Rum Shrub	2/6 3/-
Peppermint	2/- 2/6
Cloves.....	2/- 2/6
Noyeau	3/-
Milk Punch	3/6
Lovage	2/6

Bottled Ales, Stout, Etc.

pr doz. Imp pts.

Pamphilon's Special Dinner Ale	2/6
Ditto Nourishing Stout	2/6
Light Dinner Stout	3/-
Bass Pale Ale (½ pints 2/6)	4/-
Bass No. 1 Burton (½-pints 3/6)	
Pamphilon's Pale Ale	3/-
Pilsener Lager Beer (½ pints 2/6).....	4/6
Guinness' extra Stout (½ pints 2/6).....	4/-

Clarets.

	pr doz.	pr bot.
Claret	12/-	1/-
Vin Ordinaire	15/-	1/3
Vin de Medoc .....1893 vintage	18/-	1/6
St. Julien .....1893 ,,	24/-	2/-
Pauillac .....1891 ,,	30/-	2/6
Margaux.....1890 ,,	36/-	3/-
Chateau Margaux 1889 ,,	54/-	4/6
Chateau Palmer ...1890 ,,	54/-	4/6
Chateau Lafite ...1893 ,,	60/-	5/-
Sauternes, Graves	21/- to 36/-	

Stock in Half-Bottles.

Claret.....	9/- 9d.
Medoc	10/6 11d.
St. Julien	13/6 1/2
Pauillac.....	16/6 1/5
Margaux	19/6 1/8

Sherries.

Natural Sherry.....	16/- 1/4
Sherry	18/- 1/6
Light Sound Wine	24/- 2/-
Old-fashioned Brown	30/- 2/6
Pamphilon's Dinner Sherry.....	30/- 2/6
Very Dry	36/- 3/-
Golden, Generous	42/- 3/6
Very Fine Brown	42/- 3/6
Pale old Dry	48/- 4/-
Ditto very Choice.....	54/- 4/6
Choice old Rare Wines.....	60/- to 100/-

Marsala. *per doz.*

Ingham & Woodhouse .....18/- 21/- & 24/-

Madeira.

Various .....30/- to 60 -

Scotch Whiskies.

	pr gal	pr doz	pr bot
Good	15/-	30/-	2/6
Fine old	18/-	36/-	3/-
Superior 5 years old.....	21/-	42/-	3/6
Glenlivet Bd. 7 years old...	22/-	44/-	3/8
Very fine Highland Malt ...22/-		44/-	3/8
Pamphilon's VOS. guaranteed 10 years old		24/- 48/-	4/-

Irish Whiskies.

Good	15/-	30/-	2/6
Fine old.....	18/-	36/-	3/
Superior old G. ROE.....	21/-	42/-	3/6
Do. J. Jameson's, old Bonded	24/-	48/-	4/-

Rum.

Jamaica.....	15/- 30/- 2.6
Old Jamaica	18/- 36/- 3/-
V. O. Jamaica.....	3/6 and 4/-

Brandies.

Pale.....	18/-	36/-	3/-
Fine old Pale ..... *	24/-	48/-	4/-
Fine old Cognac .... **	27/-	54/-	4/6
Finest old Cognac ... ***	30/-	60/-	5/-
Choice old Cognac ... ****	34/6	69/-	5/9
Curious Old Cognac.....		160/-	8/6

Gins.

Cordial & Unsweetened ...	12/-	24/-	2 -
Fine old Tom	15/-	30/-	2/6
Ditto Finest.	16/-	32/-	2/8

Sloe. and Ginger Gin.

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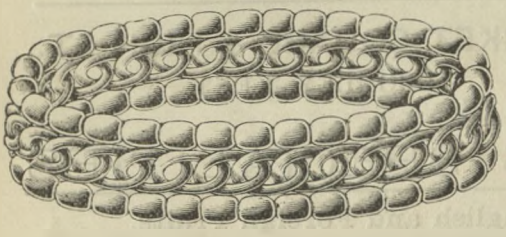

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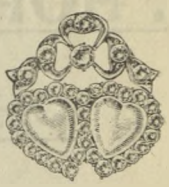

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The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

DECEMBER, 1897.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st—"Our Flat" at the Grand Hall, Bromley, by Mr. Willie Edouin's company.

2nd—Annual sale of work in aid of the Church Missionary Society, at the Parish-room, West-street, Bromley, opened at 11 a.m. —Vestry meeting at St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common, to elect three members of the St. Luke's Burial Board.

3rd—The Church Missionary Society's sale of work at the Parish-room, West-street, Bromley (second day).—Monthly sitting of the Bromley County Court, at the Court-house, Bromley. — Meetings of the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board and the West Kent Main Sewerage Board, at 96, High-street, Bromley.—Scientific lecture on temperance by Mr. Walter N. Edwards, at the Wesleyan Schoolroom, Bromley.

5th—*Second Sunday in Advent.*

6th—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of St. Luke's Burial Board at the Institute, Raglan-road, Bromley Common.—Mr. T. H. Jarvis's pupils' concert at the Co-operative Hall, East-street, Bromley. — Dramatic entertainment at St. Luke's Institute in aid of the church funds, and following evening.

7th—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council at the Offices, East-street, Bromley. —Great Liberal meeting at the Grand Hall, Bromley, speakers: the Earl of Crewe, Mr. Halley Stewart, and others.

8th—Lecture by Mr. Robert Wallace, M.P., at the Grand Hall, Bromley, in aid of the Bromley Literary Institute.

10th—Scientific lecture on temperance by Mr. Walter N. Edwards, at the Wesleyan Schoolroom, Bromley.

12th—*Third Sunday in Advent.*

13th—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Mr. Will Hole's benefit concert at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

14th—Annual dance of the Chislehurst Golf Club.

15th—"The Parvenu" at the Grand Hall, Bromley, by the Bromley Amateur Dramatic Society, in aid of the Bromley Jubilee Celebration Fund.

16th—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne, & Lepper, at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, of 400 £10 shares in the Bromley Gas Consumers' Company.

17th—Scientific lecture on Temperance by Mr. Walter N. Edwards at the Wesleyan Schoolroom, Bromley.

19th—*Fourth Sunday in Advent.*

20th—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30.

21st—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council at the Offices, East-street, Bromley. —Bromley Musical Society's concert at the Drill Hall, Bromley.—Performance of Mendelssohn's "St. Paul." Tickets on sale at "Record" Office, on and after Dec. 7th.

25th—Christmas Day.

26th—*First Sunday after Christmas.* — Musical service at St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common.

27th.—"The Sign of the Cross," by Mr. Ben Greet's Company at Bromley Grand Hall.

28th—Petty Sessions at the Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

Several matters of importance have claimed the attention of the Bromley Urban District Council at their meetings held on October 26th, and November 9th and 23rd.

AN OUTBREAK OF FEVER.

The Medical Officer of Health presented, at the first meeting, a report on an outbreak of scarlet fever in the district, from which it appeared that 43 cases had been reported since October 1st, principally in the New Bromley and Farwig and Plaistow districts. Several schools in the infected areas were closed, but the source of the infection was not definitely traced. Subsequently it was reported that the sanitary steps taken to check the outbreak had had so good an effect that the schools were able to be opened again after three weeks.

ANALYSIS OF THE WATER.

By order of the Council, a sample of water from the Kent Water Company's main was submitted to the Clinical Research Association for a bacteriological analysis to be made, and the report was to the effect that "nothing of an injurious nature" was found in the water.

OVER-PAID RATES.

The Council declined, on October 26th, to alter their decision respecting Mr. J. Stannah's application to have refunded a portion of a rate which had been over-paid by him, the Finance Committee having reported that the Council had no power to do so.—At their next meeting, Mr. D. C. Collins, of "Fairbourne," Holwood-road, Bromley, applied for re-payment of a rate, which he had wrongly paid, and after the Chairman's remark that the two cases were different, inasmuch as Mr. Collins had not come into residence when the rate was claimed, while Mr. Stannah was living in his house when he paid the rate he disputed, the Council decided to refund the money to Mr. Collins.

AN IMPOSITION.

From a letter received from Mr. L. Simons, of Holly Lodge, London-road, Bromley, it appeared that a man had solicited a subscription from his wife on behalf, he alleged, of the Fire Brigade, and when refused had become insolent.—The Chairman remarked that as the Fire Brigade was supported entirely by the rates, it was evident that the person in question was an impostor.—Householders should bear this warning in mind.

A Building Prosecution.

The Council were informed on October 26th that the Bromley Bench had fined Mr. T. W. A. Philpot, a local builder, £10 with costs, for contravening the building bye-laws, respecting the bonding of a wall and chimney at a house erected by him in Glebe-road.—At the next meeting it transpired that Mr. Philpot had given notice of appeal; the Council thereupon decided to instruct counsel to represent them when the appeal is heard at the Quarter Sessions in January.

Ratepayers and the Proposed Dust Destructor.

The Council were chiefly occupied at their meeting on November 9th in considering the question of providing a dust destructor, which has been under discussion for some time. On this occasion a petition against the proposal, signed by some five hundred ratepayers, was presented and read, the petitioners urging that a destructor was unnecessary, would become a nuisance, and also add materially to the rates.—A lengthy discussion followed, the Chairman (Mr. T. Davis) speaking strongly in favour of a destructor from a health point of view, while Mr. McIntyre, Mr. Bond, Mr. G. Payne, and Mr. Lawrence also regarded the provision of a dust destructor as inevitable. On the other hand, Mr. Dickins, Mr. Peill, Mr. Worley, and others considered that the refuse could be more cheaply got rid of otherwise, and Mr. Hutchings remarked that the rates would not stand raising. The reported failure of destructors in other parts was also alluded to, and it was very evident from the discussion that opinion was pretty evenly divided on the subject.—A proposition from Mr. Dickins that the matter be referred back to the Sanitary Committee to try and devise means of dealing more efficiently with the refuse without entailing the heavy cost of a destructor was put to the meeting and lost by one vote. It was then agreed to postpone further consideration of the question for three months, on the understanding that it would then be settled definitely one way or the other.

Report on the Audit.

The Assistant District Auditor (Mr. W. G. Cox) submitted his report on the audit of the Council's accounts for the year ending 31st March, 1897. In it he stated that: "In the balance-sheet of the general ledger the following balances are shown which are practically irrecoverable:—Private works account, £483 11s. 2d.; interest on private street improvements account, £721 4s. 3d. A substantial portion of the balance (£1,685 11s. 1d.) shown as capital outlay payable by frontagers is also irrecoverable. This balance-sheet has the effect of creating a false impression as to the financial position of the Council, as the balances referred to above are presumably assets."—The Council requested the Finance Committee to consider the matter and report what action they recommended respecting these balances.

The White Hart Field.

From a report presented by a Committee of the whole Council it appeared that the draft conveyance from Mr. Coles Child to the Council of part of the White Hart field, with the conditions attached, had been fully considered and approved. The conditions are, in effect, that the land shall be used only and always as a pleasure ground, that it shall be laid out with flower beds, walks, trees, and shrubs, and seats, and be preserved in good order. No erections, other than those required for the convenience of the public, are to be put up, without the previous consent of Mr. Coles Child, and he also gives a perpetual right of public user over an additional three-cornered piece of land, bounded by the two public footpaths, in order to improve the means of access to the field.—The Chairman congratulated the Council on the satisfactory conclusion of the negotiations; and the report was unanimously adopted.

The Water Question.

Considerable discussion took place on a letter read from Messrs. Baker, Lees, & Postlethwaite, stating that the Kent and Surrey County Councils and the County Borough of Croydon had decided, at a conference, to support each other in putting the case of the districts south of the Thames, on the Water question, before the Royal Commission, now sitting. The Kent County Council had decided to take the initiative for Kent, provided the districts interested would bear the expense, and the Bromley Urban Council were asked to join in making representations to the Commission that if the water undertakings are to be taken out of the hands of the Companies, the portion of the Kent Company's undertaking in Kent should be handed over to the Kent authorities. The expense, it was stated, was not likely to exceed £150, and Bromley's share would be £20.—A proposition moved by Mr. A. A. Worley, and seconded by Mr. G. Lawrence, that the Council take action as suggested, was met by an amendment from Mr. Dickins, seconded by Mr. Gilbert, in favour of the Council appearing independently before the Commission.—The Chairman (Mr. T. Davis, J.P.), Mr. McIntyre, Mr. Mallett, and others spoke in favour of the resolution. Mr. Mallett—who represented Bromley on the Joint Water Committee last year—stating that he thought Bromley had lost prestige in standing aloof previously, and allowing the other local authorities to fight their battle. Whatever authority had control of the supply in Kent it would, he believed, be a large authority, and the water concerns would not be split up, and therefore they should work together in the matter.—Eventually the Council decided by a large majority—Messrs. Dickins and Gilbert being the only dissentients—to join with the other authorities in making representations to the Royal Commission.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

The meetings of this Authority which come within our range for the past month were held on October 25th and November 8th and 22nd.

The Additions at Raglan-road.

For heating the new portion of the Raglan-road Schools, the Board, on October 25th, accepted the tender of Mr. H. Redfern (of Bromley), for £267 8s., for the necessary apparatus, subject to the omission of one radiator and a corresponding decrease in price. Six other tenders were received, the figures being as follows:—Messrs. Bennett & Campbell, £249; Messrs. Jones & Son, £283; Mr. J. M. Crouch, £347 10s.; Mr. Christie, £272 15s.; Mr. Mallett, £499 10s. 6d.; and Mr. Duffey, £230 10s. 4d.

For the new junior department to be commenced at the same schools in January next, the Board appointed as head-mistress, Miss E. Pluck, who has been engaged at the Oxford Gardens Board School, Notting Hill.

Orange Peel on Paths.

A proposition made by Mr. H. W. Ahlos that copies of the police caution against persons throwing orange peel on pavements should be posted up in the school lobbies and the children's attention drawn to the danger of the practice was agreed to by the members.

Scripture Teaching.

At the meeting held on November 22nd, the Diocesan Inspector's reports on the examinations in religious instruction conducted by him in the various Board Schools were read. The results were considered to be very satisfactory.

A SUGGESTED SCHOLARSHIP.

Mr. H. W. Amos suggested, by letter that a fund should be raised to provide a scholarship for girls, of twelve guineas per annum, tenable for three years, at the Bromley High School for Girls. He offered £2 2s. as a donation, and promised to supplement it by £1 1s. per annum for three years.—The proposition was favourably received, and a suggestion was made that the Urban Council of Bromley should be asked to contribute towards the fund.

A FAMOUS OLD-TIME CHARACTER.

MARGARET FINCH: QUEEN OF THE GIPSIES.

Two centuries ago Norwood was celebrated as the haunt of many of the gipsy tribe, who in the summer used to pitch their blanket tents beneath its shady trees. Pepys, in his Diary, under the date of August 11th, 1688, thus records a visit to the locality: "This afternoon my wife and Mercer and Deb. went with Pelling to the gipsies at Lambeth and had their fortunes told, but what they did I did not inquire." Norwood, as is well known, is in the southern part of Lambeth parish, and it may have been the place indicated by the diarist.

MARGARET FINCH.

From their reputed knowledge of futurity the Norwood gipsies were often consulted by the young and credulous, and indeed such superstitious practices are even known to exist in our own day, though discouraged by the law of the land. This was particularly the case, we are told in "English Eccentrics and Eccentricities," some eighty or ninety years ago, when it was the custom among the working-classes and servants of London to walk to Norwood on Sunday afternoon to have their fortunes told, and also to take refreshments at the Gipsy House, which is said to have been first licensed in the reign of James I. The house long bore on its sign-board a painting of the deformed figure of Margaret Finch, the Queen of the Gipsies. Our readers, we are sure, will be interested to see a portrait of this remarkable old character, which recently came into our possession.

The old lady, it will be noticed, is depicted sitting at the mouth of her tent in her favourite attitude, with her chin resting on her knees, her pipe in her mouth, and her usual companion, a dog, jumping up to kiss her face.

Margaret Finch was born at Sutton in Kent in 1631, and lived to the phenomenal age of 109 years. After a lengthy course—nearly 100 years—of travelling the kingdom as Queen of the Gipsy tribe, she settled down at Norwood, some 11 years before her death. By her constant habit of sitting on the ground with her chin resting on her knees, as above drawn, her sinews became so contracted that she could not extend herself or change her position, so that when she died her corpse had to be enclosed in a deep box of a square shape. She died in October, 1740, at the great age, as before remarked, of 109 years, and was buried at Beckenham Parish Church, the parish register recording the burial under the date of October 24th, 1740. The funeral is thus curiously described by an old chronicler who tells us her remains were "conveyed in a hearse accompanied by two coaches to Beckenham, in Kent, where she was decently interred, with a funeral sermon preached on the occasion in the year 1740, the expense of which was defrayed by the neighbouring publicans. The oddness of her figure and the fame of her fortune-telling drew a vast concourse of spectators from the highest rank of quality even to that of the lower class of life. These" (it is added) "with many other circumstances (too numerous to mention) render her an object of admiration to this and all future ages."

In the summer of 1815 the gipsies of Norwood were apprehended as vagrants and conveyed in three coaches to prison; and this magisterial interference, and the increase of houses and population, have long since driven them from their old haunts, but their connection with the place is still preserved by the name Gipsy Hill.

The old Gipsy House is within the memory of many of the older inhabitants and travellers who used that road, but has long since, like the old "Crooked Billet" at Penge, fallen before modern improvements.

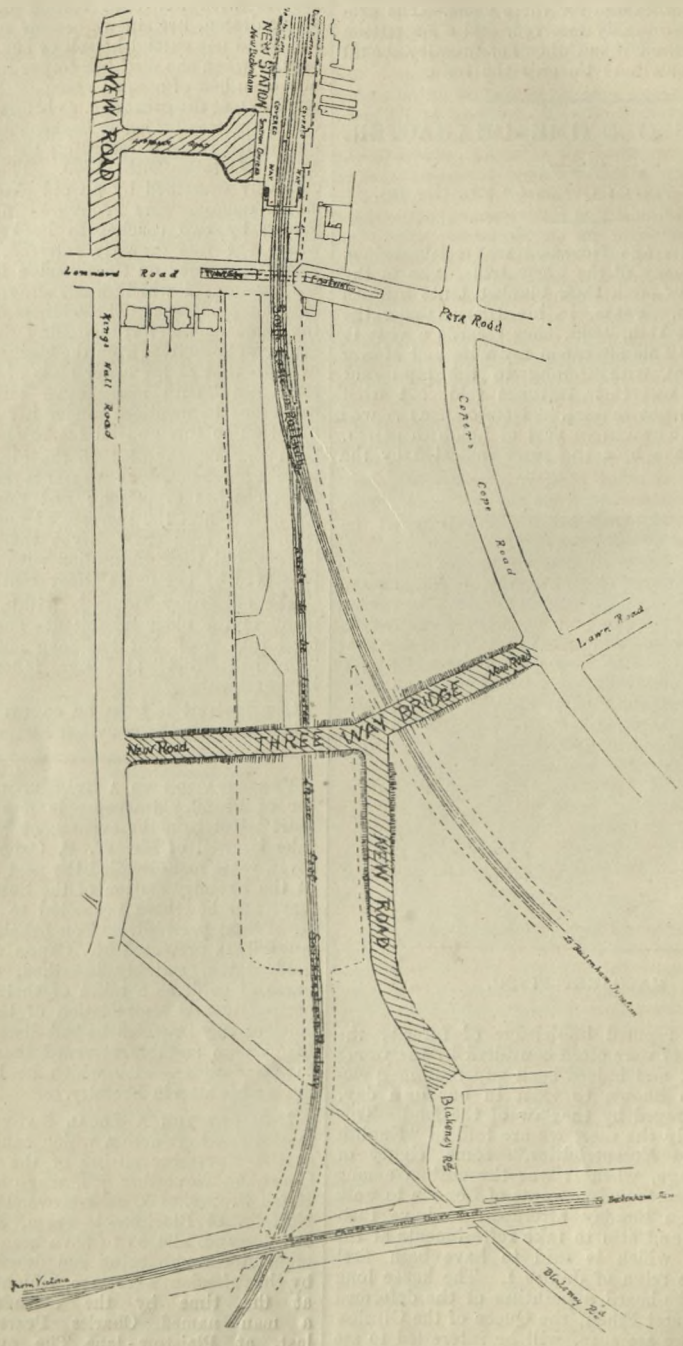
Our portrait is from an engraving of a picture taken from life the year that Margaret Finch died.

PRESENTATION TO A STATION-MASTER.—A number of Bromley townspeople met at the "White Hart" Hotel on the evening of November 3rd, to take farewell of Mr. W. P. Capon, who for over seven years had occupied the post of station-master at the Bromley station of the South-Eastern Railway, and had been promoted to Woolwich. Mr. A. Wright presided, and on behalf of about ninety subscribers presented Mr. Capon with a handsome gold watch, suitably inscribed, together with a purse of gold, as a token of their respect for him personally and appreciation of the courteous and efficient way in which he had discharged his duties. Mr. Capon suitably returned thanks, and alluded to the kindness with which he had been treated during his stay in Bromley.

DAMAGES FOR A LOCAL LADY CYCLIST.—The most important action which came on for hearing at the November sitting of the Bromley County Court, on November 5th, was one in which Miss Helen Draper, of 3, Park-grove, Bromley, sued Mr. Norfolk, of Blackbrook Farm, Bickley, for £44 5s., damages alleged to have been sustained by the plaintiff through being run down, whilst cycling, by the defendant's carriage, which was being driven at the time by the defendant's coachman, a man named Charles Pearson, in August last, at Plaistow-lane. The evidence went to show that the coachman was driving on the wrong side of the road at the time, and Judge Emden, in awarding the plaintiff £22 damages and costs,, observed that there were now so many cycles on the road that it was very important that the rules of the road should be strictly observed by both drivers and cyclists.

IMPROVEMENTS AT NEW BECKENHAM.

By the aid of the accompanying sketch map our readers will be enabled to understand the nature of some very important improvements which are to be carried out at New Beckenham, the completion of the agreement for which was announced at a recent meeting of the Urban Council. It was found necessary to embody the agreement in an Act of Parliament, which received the Royal assent on August 6th last. The main advantages attained by the execution of this agreement are the closing of three level crossings—that for vehicular traffic in Park-road, as well as the two for pedestrians leading from the Blakeney-avenue to the Kingshall-road and at Clock House respectively. In place of these there will be, some 200 yards to the south of Park-road, a fine new bridge



SKETCH MAP OF IMPROVEMENTS.

over the two lines of rails (Beckenham Junction and Addiscombe branches) with three approaches out of Copers Cope, Blakeney, and Kingshall-roads respectively. To carry out this it will of course be necessary to construct three new pieces of roadway, the land for which will be given by Mr. Cator. One of the advantages of this new bridge—besides the removal of a great source of danger and delay—will be the bringing of the neighbourhoods of Rectory-road and New Beckenham much closer to each other as there will be direct communication instead of the circuitous route by way of Beckenham Railway Bridge. There will also be a subway at Park-road where there is the present level-crossing. There is to be a new passenger station at New Beckenham, and Lower Sydenham station is to be re-built mostly within Beckenham parish. The New Beckenham station is to be rebuilt on the site of the present platforms and three sets of metals laid down, so that when the S.E.R. Company carry out the contemplated widening of the line from New Cross to London Bridge, for which they are seeking to obtain powers, a much better train service will result with separate trains to Beckenham Junction and Addiscombe-road, thus obviating the delay now caused at New Beckenham by dividing the trains into two portions for those termini. The station will be similar to the one at Kent House on the L.C. & D.R., with a footway connecting the platforms, and will be approached by a new road from Lennard-road. This new road will be continued at the expense of the Cator estate, who will also eventually carry a continuation of Copers Cope-road up to Sydenham and throw a bridge over the line to connect the two new roads.

By a further important clause the power to restrict the number of Sunday trains is transferred from the Cator estate to the Beckenham Council, who will not exercise it.

From the foregoing particulars it will be seen that not only New Beckenham, but the whole of the parish, will benefit by the scheme of improvement. As to the time within which the work is to be carried out, 2½ years from May last are allowed for the works at New Beckenham, and 5 years for the new Lower Sydenham station.

The cost to Beckenham will only be £1.400, the re-payment of which will be spread out over fifty years.

The District Council are to be heartily congratulated on the successful issue of their negotiations, and a special tribute of praise is due to Mr. F. Stevens, their able Clerk, without whose tact, persistence, and clear-headedness it is difficult to foresee when the matter would have been brought to a satisfactory termination. As it is, the scheme has been before the notice of the public for some ten or twelve years.

Obituary.

Mr. C. T. Marzetti, Bromley.

Mr. Charles Thomas Marzetti, who had resided at Widmore Cottage, 60, Widmore-road, for some years, passed away on Saturday, November 6th, aged seventy-four years. The funeral took place at East Finchley on November 10th, the arrangements being carried out by Mr. Dunn, of Bromley. Mr. Marzetti was a well-known City man. He established, in 1867, the business of a bonded warehouse-keeper at John-street, Crutched Friars, E.C., and erected the existing extensive premises of the Metropolitan Warehouses and Vaults. The business was converted for family reasons into a private limited company in 1891. He was mainly instrumental in founding the Tea Clearing House, which has been of such great benefit to his fellow bonded warehousemen, and the tea trade generally. He was also a trustee for the living of St. Olave's, Hart-street, and trustee of St. Botolph Schools, Aldgate.

Mr. Hurst, Bromley Common.

The Bromley Common district lost another of its old residents on November 18th, in the person of Mr. Hugh Hurst, of 62, Pope-road, who had lived in Bromley for nearly thirty years. Mr. Hurst had been confined to his house for six weeks, by internal hæmorrhage brought on by straining himself whilst at work in his garden, but a fatal result was not expected. Mr. Hurst had been a member of the St. Luke's Burial Board from its formation, taking a leading part in its work, and on one occasion he endeavoured to gain a seat on the Bromley Urban Council, but was unsuccessful. Mr. Hurst was sixty-six years of age. The funeral took place at St. Luke's Cemetery, the Rev E. L. Colebrooke officiating. Mr. R. Peill and Mr. J. W. Brown attended as representatives of the Burial Board, with the Clerk (Mr. J. Adderley), and the mourners included Mr. Henry Hurst (brother), Mr. Hugh Hurst (nephew), Mr. Orger, Mr. and Mrs. Mead (brother-in-law and sister), Mrs. Wormell (sister), Miss Wormell, Mr. Wyatt (brother-in-law), and Mr. William Wyatt.

Mrs. J. A. Smith, Beckenham.

An old and highly respected resident of Beckenham, Mrs. Smith, wife of Mr. J. A. Smith, of the London County Bank, living at "Eastwell," Westgate-road, Beckenham, died, after a long illness, on Tuesday, November 16th. The deceased lady was a member of the Congregational Church, Beckenham, of which her husband has been the secretary and also deacon. Owing to delicate health Mrs. Smith had been unable to take any prominent part in church work, but had shared with her husband the esteem and respect of a large circle of friends during their twenty years' residence in Beckenham. The interment took place at Norwood cemetery on November 19th, being preceded by a memorial service at the Crescent-road Church, Beckenham, conducted by the Rev. T. Eynon Davies (pastor).

Mr. J. M. Thomson, late of Beckenham.

On November 3rd, the funeral took place at Finchley Cemetery of the late Mr. John Mason Thomson, of West Dulwich, and the firm of Messrs. Thomson & Sons, Chancery-lane. Mr. Thomson for some years resided with his family at Chilchester Lodge, Beckenham, where he was well known and much respected. During his residence there, he was a deacon of the Congregational Church. Before the interment a short service was conducted by the Rev. — Armstrong, Presbyterian minister of Tulse Hill, and the Rev. J. E. Page, of Ripley, Hants. Many beautiful wreaths were sent by members of the family and friends, among them being one from the Law Writers' Institution, accompanied by a letter expressive of the great regard which the members of the Institute had always felt for the deceased gentleman, and tendering their sincere sympathy for Mrs. Thomson and family under their severe loss. Mr. Thomson was married in 1845 by the Rev. Marshall Hall Vine at the Parish Church, Bromley, to Miss White, daughter of the late Mrs. White (subsequently Mrs. Joyce) of the High-street; and two years ago they celebrated their golden wedding. The following were present at the funeral at Finchley:—Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Thomson, Miss Clara Thomson, Mr. F. Cook, Mr. O. Leo Thomson, Mr. E. Thomson, Mr. Cecil Thomson, Mr. H. Thomson, Mr. B. Thomson, Mr. P. Thomson, Mr. C. F. Maltby, Mr. C. D. Maltby, and Rev. G. E. Page.

Mr. W. Perry, Chislehurst.

The death occurred on November 25th, of Mr. William Perry, of "Broad Oak," Chislehurst Com-

mon. The deceased gentleman was 76 years of age, and the funeral took place on November 29th at Chislehurst.

RECORD PORTRAITS.

No. XXIV.—Mr. M. H. HODDER.

The biographical sketch of Mr. Matthew Henry Hodder, which we have the pleasure of presenting this month, needs no preface, for in all local affairs, especially religious and philanthropic movements, Mr. Hodder has long been a familiar figure in Bromley, while as a veteran London publisher and the honoured head of the firm of Hodder & Stoughton, he is well known in spheres of literary activity throughout the world.

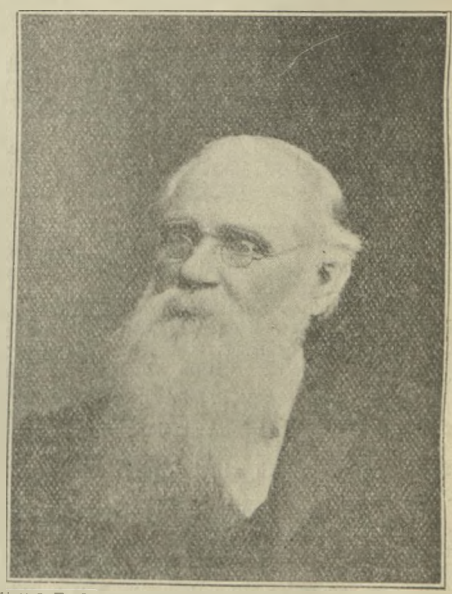
Mr. Hodder took up his residence in Bromley as long ago as the autumn of 1865, and has ever since lived in the Bromley Common district, first residing in Homesdale-road, then for many years at Gothic Lodge, while to-day finds him in occupation of "Carisbrooke," which he purchased when Mr. Wheeler Bennett recently removed to Keston.

Bromley was in its infancy as a place of suburban residence when Mr. Hodder took up his abode here, and he has, naturally, been the witness of much growth in its prosperity and importance. In spite of an exacting business life, he has always managed to take an active interest in all operations making for the general progress and well-being of the town, and particularly, as we have remarked, with regard to the religious life of the place. At first he co-operated with the late Mr. Leatherdale in mission work then carried on at the Cagefield Iron Room—which still exists in West-street, though used for other purposes. Subsequently Mr. Hodder erected an Iron Room on his own account, first at the corner of Homesdale-road, and at a later date a larger one in Great Elms-road, where he has now conducted services for nearly a quarter of a century, the twenty-fourth anniversary of the inauguration of that mission having been celebrated last September. His labours here have met with some very encouraging results, and his earnestness, combined with a genial and kindly nature, have won for him the love and respect of all classes. Between twenty-five and thirty years ago Mr. Hodder started the Bromley Juvenile Missionary Society, the management of which was afterwards taken over by a few ladies, and which some sixteen years back became known as the Bromley Missionary Association.

Among other local movements enjoying his sympathy and personal service is the Bromley Charitable Society, of which Mr. Hodder is the honorary treasurer. The temperance cause, too, has a staunch supporter in the subject of this sketch, Mr. Hodder having been a total abstainer for nearly thirty years, and his name figures among the list of vice-presidents of the Bromley Temperance Society. Mr. Hodder has also closely identified himself with the Young Men's Christian Association from its earliest years, and has taken a prominent part in the routine work of this institution, having been a member of the National Executive and of the Committees at Exeter Hall and Aldersgate-street, besides filling the important office of Chairman of the Devotional Sub-Committee. Frequent business trips across the Atlantic have enabled him to become acquainted with the Association work in the United States and Canada, and he has attended several International Conferences there. In a somewhat different connection as Vice-Chairman of the St. Luke's Burial Board, he has also taken an active part in administering the affairs of that well-managed body.

Such are a few particulars of the services quietly but cheerfully rendered by Mr. Hodder in promoting the social and spiritual welfare of the locality in which he resides, and we trust the town of Bromley and its various institutions will for many years continue to enjoy the benefits of his ripe experience and helpful counsel.

Turning to Mr. Hodder's commercial career, there is much in it to be related that may interest both those who enjoy his personal acquaintance and the general reader. The famous publishing house of to-day, of which he is the chief, originally started as the firm of Jackson & Walford, who published religious and other works in the "fifties. To this firm Mr. Hodder became in due course an apprentice, and his start in life can best be described in his own narrative, given three years ago, when he was presented with a beautiful marble clock by his staff, in celebration of his business Jubilee. "It was on the 5th of August, 1844, that I travelled from Windsor to London on



Elliott & Fry] [*55 & 56, Baker Street.*

MR. M. H. HODDER

the top of a coach to begin my business life. I have often told my grandchildren how nervous I felt as I walked along Fleet-street and up Ludgate-hill to the premises of Messrs. Jackson & Walford, my future employers, whose business was carried on at 18, St. Paul's Churchyard. The firm was regarded as occupying a very sterling position, although its business was quietly conducted. It was at that time strictly a denominational firm, and did the publishing work of the Congregational Union. There was only one other assistant in the house besides myself. During my apprentice days I wore a blue coat with brass buttons, and used to sit on a stool waiting for customers, often finding the hours pass very slowly."

After some time Mr. Hodder entered into partnership, and the firm afterwards took over the business of Thomas Ward & Co., who then occupied premises at Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton's present address, No. 27, Paternoster-row. By-and-bye Messrs. Jackson & Walford retired, and in 1868 Mr. Hodder was joined by his present partner, Mr.

T. W. Stoughton, and to these two gentlemen is mainly due the building up of the present prosperous business; while it may be be mentioned that two other well-known publishers—Mr. T. Fisher Unwin and Mr. Hutchinson—started in Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton's house.

For many years the largest proportion of the firm's business consisted of religious books, chiefly of a Nonconformist character, though not exclusively so, for one of their great successes was the late Dean Alford's "State of the Blessed Dead," which for nearly thirty years has enjoyed a constant popularity. The "Expositor's Bible," consisting of about fifty volumes, has been one of their largest undertakings, and occupied some ten years in publishing. Another notable success in a different line of literature was Thayer's work, "From Log Cabin to White House," the story of President Garfield's life—which being published shortly before the President's assassination had a tremendous sale. Books for boys and girls have always constituted a prominent feature in the publications of the firm, and a magazine for the young called "Merry and Wise" was started many years ago by Mr. Hodder. Among the periodicals founded by Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton, the oldest and best known is the "British Weekly," which was commenced in 1886, by Dr. W. Robertson Nicoll, who succeeded the Rev. Dr. Samuel Cox in the editorship of the "Expositor" in 1885, and is the firm's literary adviser, and also editor of "The Bookman," another of Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton's journals.

It is within the last dozen years that the progress of the firm has been most marked, and a glimpse at some of the works they have issued shows that this advance has been in several different branches of literature, pure fiction in addition to biblical and religious books counting among many of the firm's successful ventures.

Of the eminent writers whose works have reached the public through Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton's hands, the late Professor Drummond must be mentioned. His best known work—and the most criticised—"Natural Law in the Spiritual World," was really written at the suggestion of Mr. Hodder, and has always been in great demand, while two other of the late author's books, "The Greatest Thing in the World" and "The Ascent of Man," have also had very large sales. The ethnological works of Sir J. William Dawson, F.R.S.; the Irish studies and stories of Jane Barlow, and the works of Sarah Doudney, all published by Mr. Hodder's firm, are a few others which enjoy great popularity, and the works of Dr. Stoughton—Mr. T. W. Stoughton's father—the records of the life of Sir Arthur Stevenson Blackwood, Dr. Parker's "Ecce Deus," which made his fame as an author, and the Countess Schimmelmann's autobiography may be mentioned among the later works, issued from this house.

Coming to what may be termed the "popular" authors of the present day, it is interesting to note that three of the best known writers—J. M. Barrie, "Ian Maclaren," and Annie S. Swan—were all "unearthed" through the genius of Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton's literary adviser (Dr. Robertson Nicoll), and their books have been published by this firm. One of Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton's latest magazines, Annie S. Swan's "Woman at Home, is a great favourite with women.

The Scotch stories of Mr. J. M. Barrie and Ian Maclaren (the Rev. Dr. John Watson) have sold by thousands and passed through many editions. Barrie's first tale—"When a Man's Single"—appeared in the "British Weekly" under the nom de plume of "Gavin Ogilvie"; and this, with "Auld Licht Idylls," "A Window in Thrums," "My Lady Nicotine," and "Margaret Ogilvy," are very popular.

Ian Maclaren's works have all been published by Mr. Hodder's firm, and moreover arrangements have been made with the author for the firm to continue to issue his books up to the end of the present century. Hundreds of thousands of "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," and "Days of Auld Lang Syne," have been sold in this country and America alone, the demand having been greatly stimulated by Ian Maclaren's visit to America.

Much more might be written of the interesting works that have passed and are passing through this firm's hands, but sufficient has been told to indicate the gratifying standard of success attained by this famous publishing house, under the guidance of its esteemed principal, who is now in his sixty-seventh year.

Dinner to Mr. F. F. Belsey, J.P.—On Monday, November 8th, Mr. F. F. Belsey, J.P., a well-known Kentish Liberal worker, who has recently taken up his residence at Masons-hill, Bromley, was, together with Mr. Herbert Samuel (honorary secretary to the Home Counties' Liberal Federation), entertained to a complimentary dinner by the Federation at the National Liberal Club, the proceedings being presided over by Earl Carrington, among the company being Sir Patteson Nickalls, of Chislehurst. In proposing the toast of "Our Guests," Earl Carrington remarked that Mr. Belsey had for twenty-five years been one of the most prominent men on their side of politics in the county of Kent.

Stonemason Killed at Bromley.—A shocking fatality occurred at the beginning of last month—on November 2nd—at Mr. W. H. Darby's stone-yard, South-Eastern Railway Station, Bromley, the victim being a young married stonemason named William Kirby, aged 31, living at No. 7, Park-end, Bromley. The unfortunate man was engaged with two others in unloading several huge slabs of York stone from a truck when by some means two of the slabs, which had been put in position, were moved and with a third slab fell over on to Kirby, the total weight being about 33 cwt. He was terribly crushed and died at the Bromley Cottage Hospital the same evening. The inquest was held at St. Mark's Men's Club, Masons-hill, on Friday, November 5th, when the jury, after some deliberation, returned a verdict to the effect that Kirby died from shock following injuries sustained by the three large stone slabs accidentally falling upon him, adding the rider that they considered the work had been carried out in too cramped a space.

Benefit Concert at Bromley Common.—The St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common, was crowded on the evening of Monday, November 15th, when a miscellaneous concert took place on behalf of the widow and family of one of Mr. Podger's employees, named E. Hersey, who was accidentally drowned at Tonbridge last summer. A number of local vocalists took part, and nearly £20 was realised.

The Rev. John Rooker, the new vicar of Christ Church, Beckenham, commenced his duties in the parish the last Sunday in October. He has been the recipient of handsome presents from his late parishioners at Coldharbour, Surrey.

At the quarterly meeting of the Kent County Council, held at Maidstone last month, March 8th was fixed as the date for the triennial election of Councillers.

The local branch of Martin's Bank, Limited, is to be removed from Widmore-road to new premises adjoining the "Bell" Hotel, High-street, Bromley.

BAND OF HOPE JUBILEE GATHERINGS.—During the past month the Jubilee of the Band of Hope movement has been celebrated by public demonstrations arranged under the auspices of the Kent Band of Hope at Beckenham, Chislehurst, and Bromley. —The Beckenham meeting was held at the Public Hall on Wednesday, November 3rd, at which Mr. George N. Hooper (President of the Beckenham Abstainers' Union) presided, and addresses were delivered by Mr. W. S. Caine, J.P., ex-M.P., Mr. F. F. Belsey, J.P., and the Chairman.—At Chislehurst, the Jubilee demonstration at the Christ Church Lecture Hall on Tuesday, November 2nd, was presided over by the Rev. W. Fleming, LL.B. (incumbent of Christ Church), when addresses on juvenile temperance work were given by the Rev. T. George, Mr. W. F. Dimbleby, J.P., of Richmond, and the Rev. W. Fleming.—The Bands of Hope in Bromley assembled for their demonstration at the Drill Hall on Tuesday evening, November 16th, when Mr. W. Joynson Hicks occupied the chair. There was a large attendance, and the addresses delivered by the Chairman, Rev. Canon Barker, of London; Rev. W. H. Legg, of Maidstone; and Mr. Murray Hyslop (Chairman of the Kent Band of Hope Union) were listened to with rapt attention. A choir of Band of Hope children rendered several selections during the evening.

PHILLIPS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL CONCERT.—The annual evening concert in aid of the Phillips Memorial Hospital, Bromley, took place at the Grand Hall on Wednesday, November 17th, and again proved a decided success, the talent engaged being of a high-class, while the patronage of the public was as great as ever, the building being crowded. A very enjoyable programme had been arranged and was admirably carried out, the artistes all being recalled and frequently encored. They were:—Mrs. Helen Trust, soprano; Miss Tresilian Davy, soprano; Madame Alice Gomez, contralto; the Meister Glee Singers, comprising Messrs. W. Sexton, Gregory Hast, W. Forington, and Webster Norcross; Mons. Johannes Wolff, solo violin; Miss Mabel Chaplin, solo violoncello; and Miss Alice Borton, solo pianoforte; while Miss Nellie Chaplin, Mr. E. A. Sewell, and Mr. F. Lewis Thomas acted as accompanists.

SAD TRAGEDY AT WICKHAM. — The Deputy-Coroner (Mr. E. N. Wood) and a jury had a painful case of suicide to investigate at the "New Inn," Hayes, on November 3rd, the deceased being a young man named Robert Wood, aged 22, of Coney Hall Cottages, West Wickham, who had been employed by Mr. J. W. Stokes, dairyman, of Coney Hall farm. From the evidence it appeared that on the night of Friday, October 29th, the deceased appeared very despondent and was, in consequence, accompanied to West Wickham from Bromley by the girl to whom he was engaged to be married, a cook named Annie Massingham. He declined to go home and walked about all night, and while the girl went to call his parents early in the morning the young fellow committed suicide by drinking a quantity of carbolic acid. It appeared from the evidence of his master that deceased had recently got into financial trouble, but had been treated with every kindness and forgiven, his employer promising to give him a chance to start afresh. Deceased became very depressed, however, and the jury had no hesitation in returning a verdict to the effect that he committed suicide whilst temporarily insane.

THE RAINFALL. — The rainfall for October, as measured in Widmore-road, Bromley, was very light, amounting to only 0.55 in. Rain fell on ten days, the largest amount registered in one day being .15 on the 25th. For the corresponding month last year the rainfall reached the total of 3.37 inches; in 1895, 2.63 in.; and in 1894, 4.54 in.

MARRIAGE OF MISS LOVELL.—On November 18th the marriage of Miss Elizabeth Mary, only daughter of the late Rev. Robert H. Lovell, formerly pastor of the Bromley Congregational Church, to Mr. John William Pickering, D.Sc., son of Mr. John Foster Pickering, of Camden Ridge, Chislehurst, was solemnised at St. Nicholas' Church, Chislehurst, the Rev. Canon Murray, M.A. (rector), officiating. The ceremony was of a quiet character. The bride, who was married in her travelling dress, was given away by her brother, Mr. Howard Lovell, and later in the day the newly-wedded pair left to spend the honeymoon on the Continent.

RAILWAY BILLS IN PARLIAMENT. — Both the Chatham & Dover and the South-Eastern Railway Companies have given notice of their intention to bring Bills before Parliament during the approaching Session, and both Bills affect this district in some way. The South-Eastern Company seeks power to take land for widening the line in the parishes of Deptford, Lewisham, Lee, Bromley, Chislehurst, and Orpington. The Chatham & Dover Company ask for compulsory powers to extend the private road at Masons-hill known as Exmouth-road, and to carry it to their goods yard at the Bromley station and to obtain a right-of-way over that road to their station yard. They at the same time want to stop up and discontinue the footpath leading from the foot-bridge over the railway, across Mr. Coles Child's field to Masons-hill.

"AT HOME" AT HIGH ELMS, FARNBOROUGH.—On Friday, 19th November, some 200 of the inhabitants of Farnborough and district accepted Sir John and Lady Lubbock's invitation to an "at home" at High Elms. The guests were hospitably received by the host and hostess, who soon made everyone feel at home. The principal object exhibited for the interest and amusement of the party was an excellent phonograph, through which were delivered Sir John's words of welcome to his guests, and then to the astonishment of the company were also reproduced the baronet's remarks made on the same occasion last year. Songs and items from the "Mikado" were also excellently rendered by the instrument. Elsewhere Miss Lubbock, with the aid of a powerful microscope, revealed some of nature's secrets, which greatly delighted a large section of the party. Among the other objects of interest were some flint implements collected in the district by Mr. G. W. Smith, and Mr. John Goodchild, jun., both of whom, it must have been gratifying to Sir John to know, were first led to become collectors through listening to one of his lectures some years ago. Mr. Smith's implements were found chiefly in Hayes, Bromley, Keston, and Wickham; while Mr. Goodchild's came from Farnborough and the other side of the district. The latter gentleman also produced a "token" halfpenny issued by William Best, of the "George and Dragon" Inn, Farnborough, in 1530. Light refreshments were served during the evening, and the party eventually broke up after spending a most enjoyable time with their kind host and hostess.

The financial result of the Temperance Festival held in Bromley in October was a profit balance of £259 6s. 5d. The gross receipts were £293 10s. 2d., and the expenditure only £34 3s. 9d. The balance will be devoted to the Police-court and other work of the Church of England Temperance Society.

The Rev. H. Hamilton Jackson has left Bickley, of which parish he has been curate for some little time past, in order to take up his duties as the rector of Milton in Berkshire, to which living he has been presented by the Dean of Christ Church, Oxford.

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DIARY OF NOVEMBER.

2nd—A public meeting in celebration of the anniversary was held at the Bromley Common Baptist Church, Mr. C. H. Shawyer (of Westerham) presiding.

3rd—Public meeting at Beckenham Public Hall in commemoration of the Jubilee of the Band of Hope movement, Mr. G. N. Hooper in the chair; speakers, Messrs. W. S. Caine, J.P., and F. F. Belsey, J.P.—Paper read by Mr. Rudolf Beer, F.L.S., before the Bromley Naturalists' Society on "The Natural History of the Bud."—Entertainment by the Pierrot banjo team at the Bromley Grand Hall.—Missionary meeting at the Wesleyan Chapel, Bromley, addressed by the Rev. Dr. Wenyon, from China.—Presentation at the "White Hart" Hotel, Bromley, of gold watch and purse of money to Mr. W. P. Capon, for seven years station-master at the S.E.R. station, Bromley.—Dinner to Messrs. Howard's employees at the Assembly Rooms, Beckenham. — Organ and vocal recital at Bromley Parish Church.

4th—The Star of Keston Oddfellows celebrated their 28th anniversary by a tea and entertainment at the Bromley Common Village Hall.

5th—Inquest at St. Mark's Men's Club, Bromley, on the body of W. Kirby, a stonemason, in the employ of Mr. W. H. Darby, who, according to the jury's verdict, was accidentally killed by slabs of stone falling upon him, a rider being added to the effect that the work of unloading the material was carried out in too cramped a space.—Course of lectures in connection with the Diocesan Church Reading Society commenced at the Bromley Parish-room by the Rev. H. B. Barnes, rector of Chelsfield.

6th—Annual general meeting at the Bromley High School, of the local branch of the Women's Franchise League.

9th—Annual meeting of the Bromley Temperance Society, when a wedding gift was presented to Mr. W. Amos, one of the honorary secretaries.

10th—Annual Town Dinner at Beckenham under the presidency of Mr. W. H. Lendon, J.P.—The Bromley and District Chrysanthemum Society held its sixteenth exhibition at the Bromley Grand Hall, and on the following day, when the exhibits both in quality and number excelled those at previous shows.

11th—Annual service in connection with the Bromley Sunday School Teachers' Association, at the Parish Church, Bromley, the sermon being preached by the Rev. Canon Pennefather, vicar of Kensington.

12th—Annual meeting of the Bromley Charitable Society at the School of Science and Art, Tweedy-road, when the treasurer's report for the year showed the receipts to be £450 5s. 4d., and the expenditure £342 2s. 11d. The Rev. A. G. Hellicar presided. Mr. F. Dawe was elected hon. secretary in the place of Mr. Blatherwick, resigned.

13th—Entertainments at Quernmore School, Plaistow Lodge, in aid of the Library fund.—Retirement, after 26 years' service, of Police-constable R. Leeves, who had been attached to the Bromley Sub-Division for many years and had acted in the capacity of assistant gaoler.

14th—Police-inspector Baker, of St. Mary Cray, retired upon a pension, after 25 years' service in the Metropolitan Police Force.—Volunteer and Yeomanry church parade at Beckenham Parish Church.

16th—Public demonstration at the Bromley Drill Hall in celebration of the Jubilee of the Band of Hope movement, in which the various local Bands of Hope participated, and stirring temperance addresses were given by Mr. W. Joynson Hicks (Chairman), Rev. Canon Barker, M.A., of London; Rev. W. H. Legg, of Maidstone; and Mr. Murray Hyslop (Chairman of the Kent Band of Hope Union).

17th—Very successful high-class concert given at the Grand Hall, Bromley, in aid of the Phillips Memorial Homœopathic Hospital.—Chrysanthemum show at St. Mary Hall, Chislehurst, under the auspices of the Chislehurst Gardeners' Association.

18th—Two days' sale of work organised by Miss Fertel and the pupils of Holmcroft School in aid of St. Mark's, Bromley, building fund, opened at Bromley Grand Hall. The nett proceeds were about £100.—Conference of the Croydon, Bromley, and Beckenham branches of the Girls' Friendly Society at the Church-house, Beckenham, Rev. H. Arnott in the chair; speakers, the Hon. Mrs. Campion, Lady Vincent, and Miss Blackburne.

19th—Public meeting at the Bromley School of Science and Art (presided over by Mr. T. Davis, J.P.), when it was decided to form a local auxiliary of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.—First of a series of scientific temperance lectures given, at the Bromley Wesleyan School, by Mr. Edwards, under the auspices of the Bromley and Shortlands branch of the W.T.A.U.

20th—Opening concert for the season of the Bromley Musical Society at the Drill Hall.—Annual meeting of the Young Women's Christian Association, Bromley and Bickley branch; address by the Rev. A. E. Barnes-Lawrence, vicar of St. Michael's, Blackheath.

21st—Ten days' Parochial Mission commenced at St. Luke's Church, Bromley, by the Rev. Canon F. C. Carter and the Rev. Hugh Benson.

22nd—Bromley Missionary Association's annual meeting at the Grand Hall, presided over by Mr. M. H. Hodder. An address was given by Dr. Barnardo.

23rd—Annual concert arranged by Mr. Frank Davey, organist of the Church of the Annunciation, Chislehurst, given at St. Mary Hall.

24th—West Kent Ornithological Society's sixth annual bird show at the Bromley Drill Hall.—United Sports ball at the Grand Hall, Bromley. — Public meeting at the Beckenham Public Hall, under the auspices of the local Free Church Council, the Rev. R. S. Fleming presiding.

25th—Concert in aid of St. Joseph's (R.C.) Church fund, at the Bromley Co-operative Hall, arranged by Mr. J. G. Doyle.

28th—Rev. Dr. Newman Hall preached at the Wesleyan Church, Bromley.

30th—Annual concert of the Bromley Swifts' Football Club at the Co-operative Hall.

KENTISH CASTLES.

TUNBRIDGE.

Tunbridge Castle resembles several other Kentish fortresses in the fact that the existing walls of mediæval date have been erected on or close by the site of a much earlier fortification. It is probable that in more cases than is generally suspected we should find similar remains of early, sometimes even pre-historic work, if we could strip off the walls of mediæval date and the other accretions of time from the sites of our ancient castles. This is, indeed, less remarkable than it at first sight appears, for it is evident that a situation naturally suitable for a castle in mediæval times must have been equally desirable for the same purpose in pre-historic times. The introduction of gunpowder into warlike operations, of course, altered all this. Sites previously impregnable to assault were no longer proof against projectiles hurled by this destructive and bewildering agent.

T. A. Flemons] TUNBRIDGE CASTLE—THE GATE-HOUSE AND MODERN HOUSE. *[Photo.*

In the case of Tunbridge Castle, the keep—the point of chief strength—occupied the summit of a mound which is unquestionably of pre-Roman date. This mound is 267 yards in circumference at the base, and 83 yards at the top, which is about 65 feet above the level of the adjacent stream of the Medway. Of course, the mound is entirely artificial. It contains about 35,000 cubic yards of earth, and it has been computed that the removal of such a mass of earth and the construction of such a mound would cost upwards of £1,700 at the present day. What amount of labour and time must have been expended upon the work in prehistoric times with the imperfect means then in use must be a matter for speculation rather than actual demonstration.

In Norman times, i.e., soon after the Norman Conquest, Tunbridge Castle consisted of a substantial stone building of one storey only perched upon the top of the mound. The walls were strengthened at regular intervals by buttresses, and crowned by an embattled stone parapet. The buildings within the keep were covered by a vaulted stone roof, and light and air were admitted by a small circular opening in the centre, as in the case of Sandown, Windsor, and other castles of the circular Norman plan. Admission to the keep from the outside was gained by a low semi-circular doorway ornamented by shafts, caps, and bases of the regular Norman character. A flight of steps led up to the door, and the moat which surrounded the keep-mound was spanned by a wooden bridge supported upon stone piers. On the outside of the moat a space of about two acres was enclosed with a stockade, foss, and rampart. It will be seen, therefore, that although the castle at this early date was of an extremely simple plan, there were indications of a more extended and complicated plan of defence.

In the earlier half of the thirteenth century—probably between the years 1220 and 1240—the enlargements so much needed for the adequate defence of Tunbridge Castle against a powerful and long sustained attack were carried out, and the ruins of the castle as we now see them are the work of that period. The circular castle or keep was retained and made a part of the more extensive defences. A strong port, or gate-tower, with semi-circular flanking towers, formed the entrance to the castle, and still remains the most prominent feature of the ruins. A curtain wall, with covered way leading to the keep, was built to enclose the outer ballium. The moat encircling the keep-mound, or donjon, was retained, and could at need be utilised for the defence of the keep. Water from the river could be introduced through an arched opening below the water level.

Many of the architectural features of the gate-house are remarkably perfect, and as they afford valuable evidence as to the methods of mediæval castellated architecture and also as to the mode of warfare in the early part of the thirteenth century, a few details of the building may conveniently be given.

Upon approaching the weather-beaten tower, the stranger is impressed with the appearance of strength which the building before him presents; for although the castle has neither roof nor timber floors left it is wonderful how bravely the gate-

house walls have withstood the combined assaults of enemies and the destructive influences of the weather. This may probably arise, in part, from the fact that its foundations are firmly grounded upon a sandstone rock. The lower portion of the interior of the structure is filled in with stones and earth. Below the ground level, however, there is a low arched apartment which probably served for a prison or possibly for stores. The moat in front of the gateway, which was formerly spanned by a drawbridge, is now filled up with earth so that the visitor can walk into the gate upon level ground. The portcullis which once helped to guard the gate has disappeared, but the grooves in which it was raised and depressed still remain. In the central passage-way are two arched openings, also protected by stout door and portcullis, leading into the guard-room, from which winding stone stairs led in the rear to the several floors.

The special design of the architect who planned this work was to provide against attack by means of arrows and cross-bow-bolts. Accordingly we find that the windows in the ground-floor apartments are mere slits about three inches wide externally, but very widely splayed internally so as to diffuse the light and command the greatest possible field of vision for those within the walls.

The first floor contained three apartments. The middle room over the arched passage leading from the entrance gate, was devoted to the machinery for the working of the portcullis; it contained stores to be used in the event of siege; and it also served as a passage of communication between the adjoining apartments which occupied the entire extent of the flanking towers. The right hand room opens on to a passage leading to the stairs, and by a side door to the covered way and ascending steps leading to the keep.

The state apartment or hall was situated on the third or upper storey. It was a noble room 52 feet long, 28 feet wide and 15 feet high. Four narrow openings in the wall command views of the surrounding country, whilst on the inside, overlooking the ballium, are two handsome windows with mullions and tracery, and provided with stone seats in the opening of the bay which is formed out of the thickness of the bay. The position of these windows, in the only place where such openings could be safely allowed, speaks eloquently of the turbulent times in which they were built. Even from this the chief room of the castle provision was made for escape if necessary, for opening out of a narrow passage, a door led directly on to the covered way in an opposite direction to that leading to the keep from the floor below.

Our second illustration shows a view of what remains of this noble apartment, and although the building has suffered considerably from neglect and decay, it will be seen that many of the details of masonry are in a good state of preservation.

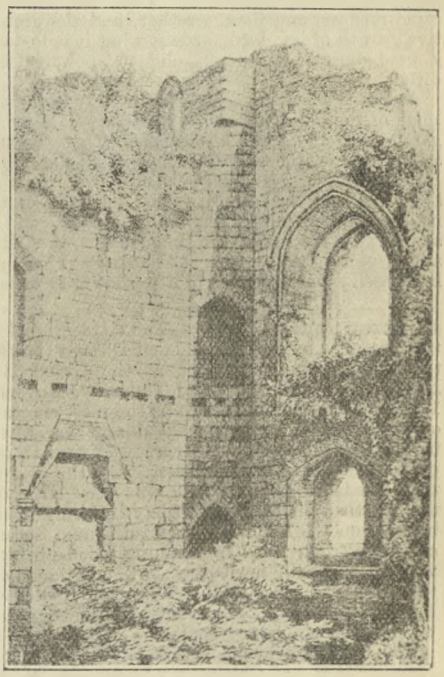
The gate-tower was covered by a timber roof slightly trussed, and protected from the weather by sheets of lead. This formed a terrace and was protected by a crenelated parapet. The circular stairs which occupied each tower were probably not carried higher than the roof, but were in all probability capped by two conical extinguisher-like roofs

There are further points of interest in the architecture of the building as revealed by the remains which are worthy the careful attention of the student, but we must now consider briefly the part Tunbridge Castle has played in English history, in the fortunes of the district which it dominates, and how it has sheltered or in other ways become associated with important characters.

One of the first associations of this kind to be recorded refers to Richard Fitz Gilbert, one of the nobles who accompanied William the Conqueror on his famous expedition and assisted him in the acquisition of the English throne. To reward him for his brave services William bestowed upon him the manor of Benfield, in Northamptonshire. From the account in the Domesday Book (A.D. 1086) it appears that Richard was then lord of Tunbridge, he having exchanged one of the royal castles of Normandy (Brionne) for it. It is interesting to note that the same document records that Richard was possessed, among other properties in Kent, of Beckenham, Eynesford, Farningham, Meopham, and Lullingstone.

In the year 1088, Tunbridge Castle was besieged and captured by William Rufus. This arose from the fact that Fitz-Gilbert espoused the cause of Robert in the dispute which arose over the succession to the crown. For two days Tunbridge Castle withstood the besiegers, but it then fell. The lord of the castle surrendered, and the fortress was put in charge of a guard.

Rufus next turned his attention to Rochester, and finding that Odo had fled to Pevensey, prepared to follow him thither. Upon this Fitz-Gilbert



STATE APARTMENT, TUNBRIDGE CASTLE.

fled to Normandy. Richard Fitz-Gilbert and Baldwin his brother were afterwards taken prisoners at Cource, where Richard died in captivity about the year 1091. Gilbert, his son, obtained the chief portion of his father's property in England, and is said to have resided frequently at Tunbridge.

Tunbridge Castle was subsequently possessed by Richard de Clare, brother of Gilbert the "Strongbow." This lord of Tunbridge founded and endowed the Augustinian Priory of Tunbridge.

Archbishop Becket is also connected with this place. He demanded and obtained homage for the castle as an ancient right due to the see. King John seized the castle, and retained it until his death, when it was restored to Earl Gilbert, its lawful owner.

In the year 1200, Hugh de Peckam was constable of the castle, and of him one Eustace Fitz-William complained to King John that he had been taken and imprisoned by force five days in this fortress, and despoiled of his goods and chattels to the value of seven marks.

Earl Gilbert having died in France, his son Richard was placed under the guardianship of Hubert de Burgh, and it is probably to this powerful noble or to Richard on his coming of age that the existing walls owe their origin.

Edward I. was sumptuously entertained at Tunbridge Castle on his return from the Holy Land, and subsequently the Prince of Wales (afterwards Edward ...) resided here for some time.

The castle afterwards became one of the possessions of the renowned families of the Despencers, Cobhams, Pakenhams, &c., in fact, its history is very closely associated with some of the most powerful personages who figure in the history of England from the twelfth to the sixteenth centuries.

In the time of the Commonwealth, Tunbridge Castle was leased to Thomas Weller, a supporter of the Parliamentary party. Weller subsequently purchased the timber, platforms, planks, &c., of the fortress for £140, on the condition that he "do presently take them down, thereby to slight and dismantle the fortifications." Thus the castle became roofless, and time, weather, and the destructive growth of ivy, have made it what it is to-day—a mere ghost of its former solid and powerful condition.

A subsequent possessor has constructed, with some of the old materials, a residence close by the gate-house, and thus this interesting site became, and for a long time remained, closed to the public. It is, however, gratifying to learn that steps are being taken by the authorities of Tunbridge towards making this a public recreation ground, and so securing to the public the opportunity of visiting and inspecting the remains of what in its prime must have been a fine specimen of a mediæval fortress.

CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOWS.—The sixteenth exhibition arranged by the Bromley and District Chrysanthemum Society took place at the Grand Hall, Bromley, on Wednesday and Thursday, November 10th and 11th, and proved to be the most successful of recent years. Some magnificent varieties of blooms were staged, and there was capital competition in many of the classes. On the first day the attendance of the public was very large, and the fact that the Bromley Society had only the day before won the National Chrysanthemum Society's challenge trophy, and the winning blooms being on view in the hall, made the show additionally interesting. During both days the Anglo-Swiss Ladies' Orchestra gave pleasing instrumental selections. The ten-guinea challenge cup for the best group of forty-eight blooms was won by Mr. R. B. Martin, M.P., of Chislehurst (gardener, W. Harvey); while Mr. H. F. Tiarks, of Chislehurst, won the silver cup for twenty-four blooms (gardener, J. Lyne). The Society's silver cup for the best bouquet of chrysanthemum blooms was awarded to Mr. E. J. Preston (gardener, Mark Webster). Messrs. C. Gibson (of Mitcham), Mr. J. Laing, sen. (Forest Hill), and Mr. W. Mease (Leatherhead), officiated as judges, excepting in the competitions for decorations, these latter being judged by Mrs. A. C. Norman, Mrs. Gerard Norman, and Mrs. Torrens. Messrs. W. Weeks and H. Edger, assisted by Mr. Marks, again undertook and satisfactorily discharged the secretarial duties.—At the annual dinner of the National Chrysanthemum Society, held at Anderton's Hotel, London, on the 24th ult., the National Challenge Trophy was handed over to the Bromley Society, and was received by Mr. John Scott, jun. (a vice-president of the Society). The other representatives present from Bromley were: Mr. P. C. Parr, the treasurer; Mr. W. Weeks, secretary; and Messrs. J. Blackburn, W. Harvey, J. Lyne, R. Leadbetter, and F. Tapper.—For the first time in its history the Chislehurst Gardeners' Association organised an exhibition of chrysanthemum blooms, which was held at St. Mary Hall, West Chislehurst, on Wednesday, November 17th. A very satisfactory show resulted.

BROMLEY MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The first concert of the eighteenth season of the Bromley Musical Society was given most successfully at the Bromley Drill Hall on November 20th. The audience was an appreciative one, and the orchestra, under the able guidance of Mr. F. Lewis Thomas, acquitted themselves in such a manner as to leave little room for criticism. The concert opened with a masterly rendering of the overture to "Il Flauto Magico" (Mozart), followed by a song, "Il Segreto" (Donizetti), by Madame Sandon, who possesses a rich contralto voice. She also sang, later in the evening, Mr. Lewis Thomas's new song, "The Message of Peace," for which she was recalled, both singer and composer receiving an ovation. The "Idyll for Violin and Orchestra," by Battison Haynes, in which the solo was taken by Mr. Norman Bath, was a triumph for both soloist and orchestra; and Miss Kate Cove received an encore for her beautiful singing of "Angels ever bright and fair," to which she responded with "I will gang with Ronald." Schubert's "Symphony No. 5 in B flat," comprising four movements—(a) allegro, (b) andante con moto, (c) menuetto, allegro molto and trio, and (d) allegro vivace—was beautifully rendered and received with much applause. Part 2 opened with Gounod's "Salterello," which was enthusiastically re-demanded of the orchestra. Mr. Norman Bath then gave a splendid rendering of "Rhapsodie Hongroise. Madame Kate Cove beautifully sang "When this old world was young" (Edith Cooke); and a suite, "Sigurd Jorsalfur," by E. Grieg, given with telling effect by the orchestra, brought a brilliant concert to a close.

R.S.P.C.A. AUXILIARY FOR BROMLEY.—Mr. T. Davis, J.P. (Chairman of the Bromley Urban District Council), presided over a public meeting held at the Bromley School of Science and Art on Friday, November 19th, at which it was decided to form an auxiliary for the Bromley district of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Mr. Reeks (deputation), the Revs. P. Barker, T. H. Whitamore, and J. White, Dr. H. J. Ilott, Mr. R. M. Marples, with the Chairman, supported the proposal, and a local committee was formed, consisting of the following, with power to add to their number:—Revs. W. Hodgson, P. Barker, T. Nicholson, and T. H. Whitamore, Dr. Lister, Mr. E. Packe, Mr. G. P. Witt, Lady Bruce, Mrs. Coles Child, Mrs. Barker, Miss Hardy, Mrs. Whitamore, and the Misses Witt, with Miss Lees (Merton Villa, London-road) and Miss Mackie (Homesdale-road) as honorary secretaries.

LOCAL FREE CHURCH COUNCIL.—A well-attended public meeting, at which many local Nonconformist ministers and prominent workers were present, was held at the Beckenham Public Hall, under the auspices of the Bromley, Beckenham, and District Free Church Council, on Wednesday, November 24th, the Rev. R. S. Fleming, M.A. (of Beckenham Baptist Church), presiding. Speeches were delivered by the Chairman, and the Revs. T. Eynon Davies, J. Matthews, W. Cuff, and others. Mr. R. W. Perks, M.P., who had been announced to address the gathering, was prevented by illness from attending.

"IVA KILDARE,"

By Mrs. L. B. Walford,

Author of "Mr. Smith," "Cousins," "Frederick," "A Mere Child," "The Baby's Grandmother," etc., etc.

The mystery, however, was of short duration. At her own door stood worthy Mrs. Hodge, her ample form filling the doorway; but ere his lips could part to put a question it was forestalled. "O Mr. Reggie," cried the good soul, eager to be first with the news, "Mr. Reggie, my dear, who do you think is here? Who but your uncle himself? Sir Phillip is here! He came two hours ago, and waited and waited for you; and now he's away down at the house."

"It was he, then? I saw lights——"

"Aye, it's he; he's there. We gave him the lamp from the parlour; for, said he: 'I have work to do, and not too much time to do it in.' But he waited for you a long while first."

"I'll go to him."

"The dinner will be ready when you come back, Mr. Reggie. He told me to put it off a bit—till eight o'clock, he said. You won't mind, will you? I have sent out for some extras, and a good full dinner you shall have, though it will just be my own cooking, and you know what that is. Very plain, I'm afraid; and not what your uncle is used to——"

"I'll go to him, Mrs. Hodge."

"Aye, do, sir. He told me to send you. For, said I: 'He won't be long, Sir Philip. If he's coming, he comes. That's to say, unless he stays at Tilbury Court——' (There, now, he's off, and I can get to my dinner), *sotto voce*, as no hearer was left; and away bustled the good woman, on hospitable thoughts intent.

Meantime, the very Reggie who had been about to spurn the homely meal of which a fragrant whiff had assailed his nostrils in the doorway felt now—such is man—a little aggrieved that the new arrival had taken it upon himself to postpone its appearance. He did not know whether he were pleased or vexed by Sir Philip's unexpected arrival, but he knew that his dinner had been put off till eight, and he usually dined at a little after seven.

Also, he entirely forgot that he was going to be ill.

CHAPTER XII.

"BURY THE PAST AND BE HANGED TO IT!"

"That's about it, Reggie. I was regularly cornered, and there was nothing else to be done."

Uncle and nephew were seated in the old ancestral hall, dismal in the partial flare of a vulgar modern lamp, and Sir Philip had been smoking. He was trying to smoke now, but the cigar kept going out. Sir Philip's thin hands shook a good deal, and a variety of nervous movements testified that in spite of an assumed carelessness of demeanour he was in reality ill at ease.

"You see, my dear boy, there was literally nothing else for it!" repeated he, having waited in vain for the former remark to elicit a response.

Still the dear boy, even when thus apostrophised, remained dumb. What he would have liked to say, and could not say, was that if Sir Philip had kept away from Monte Carlo matters would have been different. For several years he had known nothing whatever of his uncle's mode of life, but took for granted that the man who had vowed to him when a lad, with oaths the strongest and broadest, that no power in this world or any other should make him part with stick or stone of his inheritance would be true to his vow.

On the rare occasions when the two met, there had been no talk on the subject, but it had remained, or so the younger thought, an indissoluble bond of union between them. "Rather than let the old place go, we would make a bonfire of it, Reggie my boy," Sir Philip had once said in his impetuous, hot-headed way; and Reggie, then a credulous schoolboy and ardent partisan, had absorbed the idea. He could not in the space of one half-hour alter the feeling of a lifetime.

"'Pon my soul, I don't see that you have much to complain of,' proceeded Sir Philip querulously. "I should have done it before now, but for you. It has been suggested to me scores of times; by sensible men, too—men of the world, who knew what they were talking about. Seeing what a poor hard-up wretch I am, people are always coming up to me and saying: "Bless my soul, Goffe, why don't you sell? It must be a d—d nuisance to you having a place you can never live at. Get rid of it, and have some money in your purse. Well, I thought of you, Reggie." The speaker paused, not without an eye to effect. And the pause and the softer accent did at length make some impression, though perhaps not all that had been calculated upon.

"Oh, it's all right, I suppose," said Reggie gloomily. "I thought——" Then he too broke off in the middle of a sentence, and looked up and down the dark hall and into the arched roof overhead. "I would have hung on to it," he burst forth passionately, "if I had had to starve."

"No, you wouldn't." Sir Philip, relieved at last to be put on his defence, nodded and laid a hand on the other's knee. "You wouldn't, Reggie, my boy, if you knew what starving was. I don't say I have quite come to that, either. But I have had to pinch and pinch, shirk this thing and that, keep away from old comrades, never shew my face in London—lead the life of a dog, in short—and all for what? To bequeath to you the same sort of shambling, shuffling existence! You don't see it in that light? Neither did I at your age. I trusted to luck, and luck never came. We needn't go over it all; but you may take my word for it—I don't suppose you will; it's a fact, however, that I gripped these old stones with might and main long after I felt them slipping from my hold. The place brings in nothing now—literally nothing. The rents barely cover the outlay. All I have had to live upon, and pay your allowance upon, has come from the shooting tenants, if we except a small legacy my mother left me, a matter of eighty pounds a year or so—not always that." He drew a breath, and puffed alight the cigar between his lips, which had again almost expired in ashes.

"I know you have been awfully good to me, sir," said the young man, reluctantly. It was true that Sir Philip had been "good" to him; he could not but confess it.

"When I made up my mind that the thing had got to be done, and no bones about it," proceeded Sir Philip, gaining confidence, "I took your future into consideration from the outset. I said to my old friend De Bathe, 'It is for my nephew's sake, De Bathe, that I mean to sell,' and he saw it at once, and agreed with me *con amore*. We went into the matter thoroughly: and now you will exchange into a crack cavalry regiment—the way all cleared for you—the very man arranged with—and you will go at once to India, where your two hundred a year in addition to your double pay will keep you in luxury. All that I have by the sale of the old place shall be settled upon you, after—ahem! my few debts of honour are satisfied; and in the meantime your allowance will be regularly paid. Of course, you will have to stick to foreign service; but that will be nothing to you, who have no particular tie in England, and no relations but myself. I'll come out and see you, by Jove!" his tones rising almost to to the pitch of cheerfulness. "I'll look you up one of these days. Travel will be a new experience to me; and with a little brass in my

pocket I shall enjoy it of all things. Cheer up, nephew! the world hasn't come to an end because one has had the courage to have an old tooth out. See, I have been rummaging among the chests and cupboards for an hour or so, and I find if we look round we shall be able to make a tidy sum out of—oh, no, we shan't put them up to auction—Good Lord, no!" catching sight of a horrified face, which warned him to beware; "but—but—the fact is," continued the speaker nervously, "'twould be no use hampering ourselves with a lot of lumber, and I thought: 'In for a penny, in for a pound'; so—so the long and the short of it is, he takes the whole thing, inside and out, off my hands—the furniture and—and rubbish—the china—and curiosities—useless encumbrances, all of them—at a valuation—after I have selected, and you have selected, anything in particular we wish to retain. Make your choice, my dear fellow; take what you will. There are some trifles over yonder that belonged to your father; they have always been yours, although I dare say you have forgotten all about them. And there is your grandmother's cabinet, with some knick-knacks scarcely worth bothering about—still, if you fancy keeping them? And a whole box full of her clothes—queer old things. I had them all out on the floor just now; and there was some brocade dressing-gowns—most gorgeous affairs; I don't suppose the purchaser—no, no; we'll cart *them* off; and I don't see why we should not divide them between us, and put them on our own shoulders, eh? For my part," proceeded Sir Philip, who in his youth had been something of a dandy, "for my part"—with a shrug caught from foreign associates—"I shall certainly take one of these *gorgeosities* into wear. I have not had a decent dressing-gown for years—just got along with an old coat—I shall hardly know myself in a fine flowered brocade!"

It seemed to Reggie that he and his uncle had changed characters. When last the two met, it was Sir Philip who was peevish, morose, and disposed to be affronted by any interrogation into his doings and movements. It was Sir Philip who was given to silent intervals, and quick, suspicious rejoinders, when what seemed to be only innocent prattle touched some sore spot of whose existence the boy was unaware.

Now, in his great bereavement, Sir Philip was almost gay. It only needed a little responsiveness, a modicum of interest and acquiescence on the part of his young relation, to make this dismal scene take a new aspect, and introduce to it life, animation, buoyancy. Reggie could not understand it.

But beneath it all he recognised a mysterious agency, working both for and against himself.

An hour before he had come to a deadlock in his own affairs. The old easy, happy life was forever gone; and how to fill its place he knew not. Now it appeared as though Fate, or Providence—something or someone—had already taken his future out of his hands, and he had no choice but to go blindly forward in the way prepared.

"I don't wonder that you feel it, Reggie." Puffing slowly and luxuriously at a choice Havana, Reggie's companion presently looked mildly round. "I felt it myself—felt it deucedly at the first. I have got over it now. It doesn't do to be sensitive in these days, take my word for it, nephew. The world as it now stands is not made for sensitive people. We—you and I—are out of place here with our out-of-date prejudices. Take my advice and get rid of them. If I had got rid of them long ago it would have been the better for both of us; we should not have come to this pass. But while I was young"—Sir Philip sighed, swore, and drew a few long breaths from the now glowing cigar—"while I was young," he murmured regretfully, "all kinds of possibilities seemed open. Reggie, I don't mind telling you that I tried here and there, this way and that way—even matrimony, curse it!" Reggie started; the change of tone was so quick. "Matrimony," snarled his uncle, knitting together a pair of over-grown eyebrows—"matrimony is the very devil! You did not know I had ever married, did you?" He glanced askance.

"You—married?"

"Married a French girl, who was to have put me on my feet. It was all a do. She had it in *francs!* How was I to understand *francs?* I didn't then, at any rate. And she died in time for me not to divorce her," nodding grimly. "Just in time, my boy! And the francs melted; and no one ever knew there had been a Lady Goffe. It was before your day, Reggie—before you can remember, anyhow—and there was no need for you to know that your uncle had been a fool. Since then I have sometimes thought—there are three Tilbury girls, are there not? Any of them grown up?" with a new transition to abrupt practical accents.

"No, sir.

"Humph! I thought they could hardly be. It seems only the other day—though I suppose it is a dozen years or so—that Tilbury married the Irish widow. It must have been a sell for him, having only daughters; but still they can inherit, I suppose?"

"I suppose so."

"What age is the eldest?"

"Fifteen."

"Fifteen. No go. You couldn't have waited for her, anyway. And ten to one—a hundred to one—it would never have come off if you had. How do they inherit?"

"What do you mean, sir?" coldly.

"Mean? I mean what I say. How are the estates left? Who comes first? Or are the girls joint heiresses? And how many are there of them?"

"There are three of them. But upon my word, I have no idea how Sir Thomas left it in his will. Lady Tilbury knows; but no one else does, I fancy—not even Iva."

"Iva? Who's Iva?"

"Iva Kildare," said Reggie reluctantly. "Lady Tilbury's own daughter. She——"

"Lady Tilbury's own daughter? You don't mean to say that the Tilbury girls—that Sir Thomas——?"

"No, sir, it was a slip." In spite of his dislike of the subject, the young man could scare forbear a smile. "The Miss Tilburys are of course Sir Thomas and Lady Tilbury's children—their only children; but Iva was—was——"

"Aye, to be sure. The widow had a child. I remember hearing so. And she brought it with her, did she? Kildare? I once knew a Kildare in the Blues."

"Iva's father was not in the Blues."

"Iva's a queer name. She's older than the others, this Iva, then? Of course," catching a second smile. "Don't laugh at me, you young dog!" jocosely. "Family matters are not in my line; and I never gave the Tilburys a thought except as they might affect you. Of course, if it had been on the cards that you and one of Tilbury's girls ——?"

It would never have been. You may set your mind at rest about that."

"Very well; very good; it does set my mind at rest, though you scoff at the idea. *If*—mind, I say *if*—there had been any chance of such a thing coming about, it would have made me feel very much worse about all this than I do now. It would have raised a confoundedly difficult question. As there is nothing, and no likelihood of it—you are being straight with me, Reggie? You are keeping nothing back? Mind, I am giving you my confidence; give me yours, if we are to work together. You are quite clear, then, you have never had any intention of——"

"Of building up my fortunes by means of Maud, Mabel, or Marianne Tilbury?" said Reggie, deliberately pronouncing each name. "I am absolutely sure I have never had, nor would have. That kind of thing——"

"Jars upon your taste, eh?" Sir Philip's thin lips twitched with a faint, unsuccessful attempt at irony. "So be it. It did once upon mine; a pity it did not go on doing so. Well, well, we are as we were, then—just you and I—no one but ourselves to consider. So"—with a long pause at the word—"the thing is done. Done, done, done—and can't be undone! The old piece is gone; the tooth is out; and all we have now to do is to bury the past, and be hanged to it!" He sprang to his feet, lightly for a man of his years, and, as anxious to close the discussion, began hurriedly collecting his appurtenances preparatory to departure.

"Are we here for the last time, sir?" Reggie, who had risen also, looked into his uncle's face as he put the question.

"For the last time? No, no—hang it all, no! That's to say, we can come in the morning—plenty of time in the morning, and better light too. You can look about you, and see what you want. We do not leave till the afternoon. Come again and look round, by all means. You won't have much time; you must get your kit together, and I suppose you will wish to say a few 'Good-byes' to your friends? The Tilburys, for instance? I'll go with you there."

"You will? I'm glad of that." For the first time throughout the entire interview the young man spoke frankly and heartily. Sir Philip, alive to the altered note in an instant, met it with the same.

"To be sure I'll go. Very glad to do the civil to anyone who has been civil to you. They always made you at home at Tilbury, didn't they?"

"Always."

"Ah, you don't like the parting?" Sir Philip, again observant, took a second look. "Very natural, I'm sure. It's almost a pity you couldn't—however, 'tis all right. Oh, I'll go there, and anywhere else; though, of course, my time is limited."

"I shan't trouble you to go anywhere else."

"We'll do no more to-night, then. Carry the lamp, will you? The good soul at the farm brought it here—but, bless my life! it only lights up enough of these huge places to make 'darkness visible' except for a yard or two round. Go first, Reggie, I'll lock up as I follow. Mind you don't trip—the steps are shallow and slippery. Are you all right? Go on ahead, then; I'm behind you." But he was not close behind.

He had got outside, and he never meant to go again within.

Never more would he cross that threshold. The great key turned in the rusty lock for the last time so far as he was concerned. He drew it out, never again to fit it in its place.

But had the younger man, who with grief at his heart tramped before, crunched the gravel beneath his heavy feet—had he turned round, he would not, perhaps have judged the elder as he did.

Sir Philip stood still in the darkness, for the moon had disappeared, and slowly lifted his cap, his eyes fixed upon the lonely pile.

It was his birthplace—the home of his childhood—the legacy of many generations. On the morrow it would be his no longer.

Bareheaded he stood before it now.

What pang of bitterness untold passed through that once gay, proud heart as he stood and gazed was for himself alone—never to be revealed, never to be reverted to; but 'twas said afterwards that he babbled about it on his death-bed.

CHAPTER XIII.

SIR PHILIP TAKES HEART O' GRACE.

The following morning dawned clear and bright, and the old grey house, which in the struggling moonbeams of the night before had seemed so weird and mournful, took a new aspect.

It looked sturdy, stout, and strong, as though endowed with fortitude to endure through many a year to come, whatever of good or ill fortune there might yet be for it in store. The very moss upon the garden walls shone a bright vivid green in the sunshine; the old weathercock on the stable tower glinted as it gently revolved in the fresh, frosty air; and every turret and jutting angle of the massive walls stood out boldly and cheerily against the blue sky overhead.

And if the ancient mansion had regained its hardihood with the dawn of day, so also had Sir Philip, though no longer its owner.

He had dreaded—as who would not have dreaded?—the scene recorded in the last chapter; had winced before it almost to the point of making all arrangements by letter, and blotting out from his memory thenceforth the fact that he had ever possessed either an inheritance or a nephew.

But the tie of blood in both cases was too strong.

No, he would not shirk; hang it all!—he would not have it said that he had shirked, infernally disagreeable as the whole thing was.

Reggie, poor boy, should not have that to think of his uncle, whatever else he had. Reggie and he had always been good friends, and "I believe he's the only living soul who cares two straws whether I live or die!" muttered Sir Philip, gnawing his grey beard (for he had grown a beard, as General Lossett wished to have done, to avoid the horrors of shaving with blunt razors, tepid water, and small ill-hung looking-glasses).

(To be continued.)

Births.

COWARD.—On the 1st November, at 17, Manor-road, Beckenham, the wife of F. Coward, of a son.

CORBIN.—On the 2nd October, at Moore House, Beckenham, Kent (the residence of her mother, Mrs. Peel,) the wife of E. R. St. Clair Corbin, M.B., Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng., Merivale, Beckenham, of a daughter. West Indian papers, please copy.

KENDERDINE.—On the 28th October, at Scadbury Park, Chislehurst, the wife of Chares H. Kenderdine, of a son.

Marriages.

ANDERSON—HAMPTON.—On the 30th October, at St. Mary's Church, New Charlton, Kent, Henry Anderson of Dundlane, Scotland, to Adelaide Hampton, (Nurse Hampton,) late of Beckenham, Kent.

BURGON—SIMON.—On the 17th Nov., at St. Cuthbert's, Philbeach-gardens, by the Rev. G. M. Custance, Rector of Colwall, Malvern, assisted by the Rev. H. Westall, Charles Edward, fourth son of the late Joseph Burgon, M.B., M.R.C.S.E., of Sydney, New South Wales, to Marianne, younger daughter of the late George Simon, of Widmore, Bickley, Kent.

DUNELL—ALLEN.—On November 4th, at the Parish Church, Chislehurst, by the Rev. Canon Murray, assisted by the Rev. J. F. Twist, Cyril Dunell, of Whitecross, Wallingford, second son of the late H. J. Dunell, to Margaret Agneta Satow, eldest daughter of Arthur J. Allen, of Salcombe, Chislehurst, Kent.

JONES—COLLARD.—On the 19th November, at Christ Church, Herne Bay, by the Revd. T. B. Watkins, M.A., Arthur Lancefield Jones, Solicitor, second son of the late John Henry Jones, Solicitor, of Hart-street, Bloomsbury, to Nellie, daughter of the late David Collard, of Hodmarsh, Canterbury, and Mrs. Collard, of Bromley, Kent.

PICKERING—LOVELL.—On the 18th November, at St. Nicholas's, Chislehurst, by the Rev. Canon Murray, M.A., John William Pickering, D.Sc., son of John Foster Pickering, of Camden Ridge, Chislehurst, to Elizabeth Mary, only daughter of the late Rev. Robert H. Lovell, of Bromley, Kent.

STONE—ROGERS.—On the 11th Nov., at the parish church of St. Nicholas, by the Revd. Canon Murray, Rector of Chislehurst, and the Revd. W. Fleming, LL.B, the Revd. Arthur E. Stone, Senior Chaplain Bengal Ecclesiastical Department, son of the late Revd. Nesbitt Meade Stone, H.E.I.C.S., to Elinor Mabel, elder daughter of J. Innes Rogers, Ragglestwood, Chislehurst.

Deaths.

ELSDEN.—On the 11th Nov., at his residence Alfriston, Beckenham, Charles William Elsden, only son of John Elsden, of Rutlands, Beckenham, aged 41 years. Friends will kindly accept this the only intimation.

KIDD.—On the 6th Nov., at Mount Vernon, Albemarle-road, Beckenham, Blanche Emily, the beloved wife of Francis J. Kidd, aged 28 years.

MARZETTI.—On the 6th November, at Widmore Cottage, Bromley, Kent, Charles Thomas Marzetti, in his 75th year.

MORRIS.—On the 20th Nov., at 43, Freelands-road, Bromley, Kent, Anne, eldest daughter of the late Wm. Morris, Esq., of Bridge House, Prittlewell, Essex.

SMITH.—On November 16th, at Eastwell, Beckenham, after years of suffering, Mary Ann Smith, more than 42 years the beloved wife of Joseph Alfred Smith.

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AUCTION SALES will be held at the MART, TOKENHOUSE YARD, E.C., on the following days during the year 1898. Sales will also be held on special days when required:

Wednesday, January	12th.	Wednesday, July	6th.
Wednesday, February	2nd.	Wednesday, July	27th.
Wednesday, February	23rd.	Wednesday, August	10th.
Wednesday, March	9th.	Wednesday, August	31st.
Wednesday, April	20th.	Wednesday, September	14th.
Wednesday, May	4th.	Wednesday, September	28th.
Wednesday, May	18th.	Wednesday, October	5th.
Wednesday, June	8th.	Wednesday, November	9th.
Wednesday, June	29th.	Wednesday, December	7th.

Sales of LOCAL PROPERTIES take place at frequent intervals at the "BELL" HOTEL, BROMLEY.

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Particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained of the Secretary of the Company; Messrs. Willett and Latter, Solicitors, Bromley, Kent; and of the Auctioneers, Market Square, Bromley, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

By order,

HENRY WILLIAM AMOS,
Secretary.

Bromley, Kent,
November 11th, 1897.

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