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THE
BROMLEY RECORD
AND
MONTHLY ADVERTISER.

No. 474. JANUARY, 1898. 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

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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

BROMLEY.—Capital detached double-fronted Residence, close to Sundridge Park station. Seven bedrooms, dressing and bath rooms, 3 reception rooms. Price £1800 freehold.

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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.

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BEXLEY HEATH.—Detached Family Residence, standing in grounds of about 15 acres. Stabling, cottages, orchard. Rent £175.

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BROMLEY HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS,

ELMFIELD ROAD, BROMLEY, KENT.

Head Mistress: MISS HEPPEL, B.A.

THE SPRING TERM WILL BEGIN ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 18th.

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 receive parents on Wednesday and Thursday, January 12th and 13th, from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.

MAGNIFICENT ASSORTMENT

OF

NEW YEAR PRESENTS.

Ladies' Black Jackets, 8/11 10/11 12/11 13/11 17/11 19/11 22/11 25/11 31/11
,, Fawn Coloured, 8/11 12/11 15/11 19/11 25/11
Ladies' Capes, 8/11 10/11 15/11 19/11 25/11 35/11 45/11 50/-
,, Fur Capes, 35/11 45/11 50/- 60/- 80/- 100/-
Misses' Jackets in Blacks and Colours, from 6/11 to 25/11
Children's Reefers and Long Coats 5/11 to 15/11
Furs 11/1 to 45/- Muffs 6/11 to 35/-

OWEN'S MANTLE WAREHOUSE,

19, WIDMORE ROAD, BROMLEY.

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WHOLESALE & FAMILY WINE MERCHANTS.

FULL DETAILED PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

Champagnes.

	per doz.
Louis Pamphilon ....1889 vintage	60/-
Ditto extra quality 1892 ,,	78/-
Pol Roger... .... 1889 & 1892 ,,	Market Prices.
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	

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/-
Sparkling Hock	54/-
Sparkling Moselle	54/

Half Bottles, 6/- per 24 extra

Single Bottles same rates.

Sherries.

Sherry....12/-	1/-
Sherry (Cooking)....18/-	1/6
Light Sound Wine 24/-	2/-
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/-
Choice old Rare Wines.... 60/- to 100/-	

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 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.

Aerated Waters. per doz.

Schweppe's Soda, Seltzer & Potass	3/-
Schweppe's Lemonade & Ginger Ale	3/6
Soda, Seltzer & Potass	2/6
Lemonade & Ginger Ale	2/6
Syphons — Soda, Potass. Seltzer, Lemonade and Ginger Ale	4/-

Johannis and Appollinaris.
Ginger Beer in Stone Bottles.

Burgundies.

		pr doz.	pr bot.
Macon ....1895 vintage		20/-	1/8
Beaujolais 1893	,,	24/-	2/0
Beaune....1893	,,	30/-	2/6
Pommard 1891	,,	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.

Fruity 18/-	1/6
Burnay, 1891 ....24/-	2 -
Fine old Tawny 36/-	3/-
Ditto well-matured 48/-	4/-
Superior old fine quality 54/-	4/6
Crofts No 1 60,-	5/0
Very choice 72/-	6/-
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 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/-
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		
Pamphilon's Nourishing Stout....2/6		
Light Dinner Stout 3/-		
Bass Pale Ale (¼ 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 .....1895 vintage	18/-		1/6
St. Julien 1893	,,	24/-	2/-
Pauillac 1893	,,	30/-	2/6
Margaux....1893	,,	36/-	3/-
Chateau Margaux 1889	,,	54/-	4/6
Chateau Palmer ...1890	,,	54/-	4/6
Chateau Lafite ...1893	,,	60/-	5/-
Sauternes, Graves ....21/- to 36/-			

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

Marsala. per doz.

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

Madeira.

Various ....30/- to 60/-

Scotch Whiskies.

	pr gal	pr doz	pr bot
Good (33 under proof)			2/-
Old Bonded 15/-		30/-	2/6
Fine old 18/-		36/-	3/-
J. Walker's, J Dewar's, & Cam Var			3/6
Glenlivet Bd. 7 years old...21/-		42/-	3/6
Very fine Highland Malt ...22/-		44/-	3/8
Pamphilon's **VOS.** 24/-		48/-	4/-

Irish Whiskies.

Good (33 under proof)			2/-
Old Bonded 15/-		30/-	2/6
Fine old....18/-		36/-	3/
Superior old G. ROE.... ....21/-		42/-	3/6
J. Jameson's, old Bonded 21/-		42/-	3/6
Dunville's V R....		42/-	3/6

Rum.

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

Brandies.

Pale....			2/6
Old 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.

Unsweetened 40°0 under proof			1/6
Cordial & Unsweetened 12/-		24/-	2/-
Fine old Tom.... ....15/-		30/-	2/6
Finest Unsweetened 15/-		30/-	2/6

CASK ALES.

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

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

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for Day Boarders, 21st January.

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Large resident Staff of Graduates. Every facility for Sports, under the supervision of Masters. Over 5 acres of cricket and football fields immediately adjoining the School.

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Special classes for very young or backward boys conducted by Ladies, aided by Masters for French and Latin.

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Handkerchiefs in Fancy Boxes.
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A Variety of Fancy Ties in all Colours.

Splendid Assortment of Silk Handkerchiefs.
Ladies' & Gents' Kid and Lined Gloves in all Colours.
Silk Muffiers. All kinds of Hosiery.

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38 & 39, HIGH STREET, BROMLEY (Opposite the "White Hart" Hotel.)

Special Feature:—Best Quality at Lowest Prices.

NEW YEAR CARDS.

The Noted Shop for these

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Special discount.

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GO TO
G. BARRETT,
Game and Poultry Dealer and Fishmonger.
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• • • • •
• All our Turkeys and Geese are direct from the Norfolk and Suffolk Farms. •
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J. HOPTON, MARKET SQUARE & HIGH ST.,
BROMLEY, KENT,
FOR
ENGLISH AND FOREIGN FRUITS.
A Splendid Selection of GRAPES, FIGS, DATES, ORANGES, PEARS, APPLES, Nuts, &c., &c.
Fresh Vegetables. Liptons' Teas.

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BROADWAY, BROMLEY, Pastrycook and Confectioner,
FOR ALL
SEASONABLE SPECIALITIES.
Home-Made Bread. • Hovis Bread. • Cakes, Bon-Bons, Mince Pies, &c., &c.

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. . . Watch and Clock Maker,

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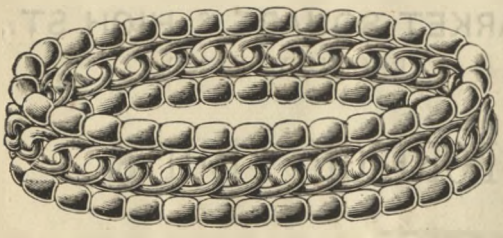

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BATCHELAR & SON

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UPHOLSTERERS,

WIDMORE ROAD, BROMLEY.

ORIENTAL BAZAAR.

BATCHELAR & SON invite an inspection of their NEW SHOW ROOM arranged in the form of an **EASTERN BAZAAR** with a very fine collection of Useful Articles suitable for SEASONABLE GIFTS such as Fancy Chairs and Tables, Lamps, Screens, Bronzes, Pottery, Japanese and Chinese Curios, Lamp Shades, Oriental Embroidery, etc., etc.

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BATCHELAR & SON,

LIMITED,

New Show Room,

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6, WIDMORE ROAD, BROMLEY.

APPOINTED BY SPECIAL ROYAL WARRANT

SOAP MAKERS TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

Begin work early if you want to; but in any case you won't have to work late if you use

Sunlight Soap

because it washes clothes quickly. Use Sunlight Soap next washing day and you will know what easy washing means.

Less Labour.
Greater Comfort.

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The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

JANUARY, 1898.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st—New Year's Day.

2nd—*Second Sunday after Christmas.*

3rd—Bromley Petty Sessions, Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Performance of the pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," at the Bromley Grand Hall.

4th—"Robinson Crusoe" at the Bromley Grand Hall.—Bromley Urban District Council meeting at the Offices, East-street, at 7.30 p.m.

5th—"Robinson Crusoe" at Grand Hall, and for three following nights.

7th—Scientific temperance lecture by Mr. W. N. Edwards, at the Bromley Wesleyan Schoolroom.

9th—*First Sunday after Epiphany.*

10th—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court-house, at 10.30 a.m. — Meeting of the Bromley School Board at the Wharton-road Schools. Performance of "Acis and Galatea" by the Bromley Philharmonic Association at the Bromley Grand Hall.

11th.—Entertainment by the "Disguysed" Minstrels, at the Bromley Grand Hall, in aid of the funds of Guy's Hospital.

14th—Last of the series of temperance lectures by Mr. W. N. Edwards at the Bromley Wesleyan Schoolroom.

16th—*Second Sunday after Epiphany.*

17th—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court-house at 10.30 a.m. — Lecture at the Bromley Grand Hall by the famous South African hunter and naturalist, Mr. F. C. Selous, under the auspices of the Bromley Literary Institute, when Sir Samuel E. Scott, Bart., will preside.

18th—Mr. Bannister Howard's company in "The Two Little Vagabonds," at the Bromley Grand Hall, and on two following nights.

23rd—*Third Sunday after Epiphany.*

24th—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court-house at 10.30 a.m.—Bromley School Board meeting at the Wharton-road Schools at 8 p.m.

27th—Police Minstrels' entertainment at the Bromley Drill Hall in aid of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage.

30th—*Fourth Sunday after Epiphany.*

31st—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court-house at 10.30 a.m.

Feb. 3rd—Grand dramatic entertainment at the Bromley Grand Hall, in aid of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

The meetings of this Council, held on December 7th and 21st, were both of comparatively little importance.

WHITE HART FIELD.

The Council, at the meeting on December 7th, affixed the seal to the conveyance of the White Hart Field from Mr. Coles Child to the town. According to the ordnance survey the field contained 3·780 acres, but from this quantity the portion retained by Mr. Coles Child has to be deducted.

TRANSFER OF ELECTRIC LIGHTING POWERS.

The Council were assured by a letter from the local Electric Lighting Company's solicitors that all out-of-pocket expenses would be defrayed by the Company, should the Board of Trade not give their approval to the transfer. At the meeting on December 21st, the Board of Trade wrote returning the draft deed with some important alterations, which were referred to the General Purposes Committee for consideration. They also intimated that before approving the transfer, the Board would require to be furnished with evidence that capital of the transferee company had been subscribed to the extent of at least £5,000.

AN OLD LANDMARK.

The Council were requested by Mr. Robert Dyas, of Blyth Wood, Bromley, to re-erect the old water trough which had been removed during the road-widening operations from the hill in Beckenham-lane. Mr. Dyas mentioned that this landmark had existed for at any rate over a century, reference being made to it in the minutes of the Bromley Vestry in 1796. The Surveyor informed the Council that the water-trough had been carefully preserved for re-erection.

AN APPEAL ABANDONED.

The Council were informed by Mr. L. W. Gregory, solicitor, that Mr. T. W. A. Philpot, builder, had decided to abandon his appeal against a conviction for infringements of building bye-laws.

RAILWAY COMPANIES' BILLS.

The deposit of plans in connection with the proposed Bills of the two local railway companies was reported. The S.E.R. Company's Bill provided for widening the line within the parish of Bromley which would affect the highways at several points, and the Council decided to oppose it in order to get certain clauses inserted. The L.C.D.R. Company's measure included the stopping up of the footpath leading from the foot-bridge at the bottom of Love-lane to Masons-hill, and the Council also determined to oppose this Bill.

HIGHLAND-ROAD CLAIMS.

The Council having considered counsel's opinion on the claims made by various owners of property in Highland-road in respect of damage and inconvenience arising from an alteration in the level of the road, decided to admit their liability to reinstate the approaches to Mr. Whitehead's houses, and to offer Miss Wishart a sum equivalent to the estimated cost of altering the approach to her house, or to do the work themselves.

A NICHOL-LANE PROPOSAL.

A letter was read from Messrs. Willett & Latter inquiring, on behalf of an owner of land in Nichol-lane, Plaistow, if the Council would put in the sewer and widen a length of the road, if sufficient land for the purpose was given up on the other side.—The Chairman said the Council were constantly being asked to do work which would only benefit private property; and Mr. Peill remarked that the widening would be of no public benefit.—It was decided, however, to let the Highways Committee consider the proposal and report.

THE COUNCIL'S BOOK-KEEPING.

The Local Government Board, referring to the Assistant District Auditor's report on his audit of the Bromley Council's accounts, wrote to the effect that while they raised no objection to the transactions of the Burial Board, Public Library, and Science and Art Department being recorded separately in the ledger, they were of opinion that the whole of the Council's transactions should be brought into the general balance-sheet in the ledger.—The Chairman pointed out that this could be done, with the exception of the Burial Board accounts, which referred to an entirely distinct area; and a reply to this effect was ordered.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

Two meetings of this public body were held during the past month, on December 6th and 20th.

HIGHER ELEMENTARY EDUCATION.

At the meeting on December 6th, a good deal of time was taken up in discussing a proposal brought forward by the Rev. Robert Silvey, in favour of the establishment of a higher grade school in Bromley. In submitting his proposition, he pointed out the need of something further being done to advance elementary education, as their schools at present left children at such a stage that it was not possible for them, without outside aid, to reach anything higher. Persons who paid the School Board rate but did not send their children to the schools and so got no direct return from them would also, by the establishment of a higher grade school, be able to take advantage of the better educational facilities afforded; and it would also enable the Board to better distribute their teaching force.—Mr. Amos seconded, and remarked that the lack of interest in technical education was one result of their present system of teaching, which was not carried far enough.—Mr. Loly did not oppose the proposal but thought it required very careful and deliberate consideration. The conditions of the great centres to which Mr. Amos had referred, where higher grade schools were doing good work, did not, he thought, apply to Bromley.—Miss Heppel thought a small class only would benefit by such a school.—Mr. Weeks was in favour of education being carried as far as possible, and he had regarded the idea with much hope, but some statistics (which he quoted) referring to the Sheffield higher grade school were not very encouraging. It had also occurred to him whether Bromley was quite ripe for such a scheme, and he suggested whether a few scholarships would not meet the case for the time being.—Mr. Gomer moved as an addition to the resolution that the matter be referred to Committee for consideration and report.—This addendum was accepted.—The Chairman (Mr. C. W. Gedney) commented upon the lack of higher elementary education for middle classes in Bromley; and eventually the resolution declaring the establishment of a higher grade school to be most desirable was passed, and the matter referred to the School Management Committee.

CARETAKER'S HOUSE.

The Board decided to proceed with the erection of a caretaker's house at the Wharton-road Schools, and to apply for sanction to a loan for the purpose.

H.M. INSPECTOR'S REPORTS.

The Inspector's annual reports on the Board Schools were received and proved to be of a generally satisfactory character. It appeared that the following total grants had been earned:—Aylesbury-road School, £181 18s.; Valley Schools, £530 3s.; Raglan-road Schools, £820 11s. 6d.

MORE SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION.

It was stated at the meeting on December 20th that part of the new school premises at Raglan-road would be ready for use on January 17th, and that the infants' school—at present overcrowded—would then be greatly relieved, as over 250 children would be accommodated in the new school, which would be used as an intermediary school between the infants' and the elder scholars' departments.

MUSICAL JOTTINGS.

The monthly Sunday afternoon musical services at St. Luke's maintain their popularity, and on the 26th ult., a special selection of Christmas music from the "Messiah," with orchestral accompaniment, attracted a crowded congregation.

At several other churches and chapels special music, appropriate to the season was rendered on Christmas Day and the following Sunday, and was much appreciated.

Bromley appears to be more than holding its own in respect of musical culture. At the R.A.M. in November the Sir Michael Costa scholarship for composition was taken by Mr. R. N. Flux, and in December the Hine prize for the best setting of a ballad was won by Mr. A. E. Newstead, both residents of the town, and much of whose musical education has been received from local professors.

The appointment of organist at Canterbury Cathedral became vacant in December by the resignation of Dr. Longhurst, who, joining the choir as a boy, has been connected with the Cathedral for the unprecedented term of 70 years. He is succeeded by Mr. H. C. Perrin, Mus. Bac., F.R.C.O., who was appointed without competition.

The Incorporated Society of Musicians appears to be still extending its influence, judging from the fact that for the conference to be held during the first week in the New Year members from all parts of the United Kingdom are flocking to London (between 200 and 300 rooms have been taken for their accommodation at the Hotel Cecil alone), and a series of extremely interesting meetings has been arranged.

BROMLEY'S PERMANENT JUBILEE MEMORIAL.—An important meeting of subscribers to the Queen's Reign Local Commemoration Fund was held at the Bromley School of Science and Art on November 30th, to further consider the sub-committee's report. Mr. Coles Child, J.P., presided over a fairly large attendance. It was reported that the appeal for £5,000 to endow six beds in convalescent homes had only produced £1,850, and under these circumstances several subscribers suggested that the scheme should be abandoned. After considerable discussion it was decided to adopt the proposal in a modified form, so that two beds might be endowed at least, but several subscribers intimated their intention of withdrawing their support if the original project was not carried out in its entirety.

BROMLEY MUSICAL SOCIETY.

MENDELSSOHN'S "ST. PAUL."

Notwithstanding the multifarious engagements which usually cluster around Christmas, there were few vacant seats in the Drill Hall on the 21st December, when the Bromley Musical Society gave a performance of Mendelssohn's oratorio "St. Paul," and it is safe to assume that at any other season, so excellent a programme would have drawn a crowded audience.

There can be little doubt that if this fine oratorio were heard more frequently, its popularity would be greatly increased. As compared with the "Elijah," for instance, it is comparatively little known; yet it in no way falls behind the latter in loftiness of theme or dignity and beauty of treatment. Many of the choruses comprise passages of rare sweetness and grandeur, while as regards the richness and variety of the solos, it is certainly not inferior to the better known work. When therefore it is rendered by an orchestra and choir so competent and so admirably trained as are those conducted by Mr. F. Lewis Thomas, and by such exceptionally gifted artistes as were the principals on this occasion, an attraction of no common order is offered to all lovers of good music.

The very important and somewhat exacting soprano solos were taken by Madame Clara Samuell, and it is needless to say could scarcely have been more perfectly rendered. The numerous tenor recitatives were allotted to Mr. James Leyland, whose remarkably fine voice and beautiful articulation enabled him to give them with great effect. Mr. B H. Latter rendered the bass solos with the taste and vigour which always characterise his singing; and the beautiful contralto air "But the Lord is mindful of His own" was very sweetly sung by Miss Maud Clough.

The choruses were excellently rendered throughout, the singing of the sopranos being exceptionally good, and though the contraltos and tenors might with advantage have been somewhat strengthened numerically, all the parts were well sustained.

When the general level of excellence is so high, it is perhaps hardly worth while to particularise, but it may be noted that the tenor and bass soli with chorus describing "the conversion," and the chorus "Happy and blest are they" were sung with much delicacy and feeling; the choruses "Stone him to death," "Rise up! arise!" and "Oh, great is the depth," were delivered with great vigour and effect; while a slight weakness was perceptible in "Take him away," and in "The gods themselves as mortals."

The orchestra, led as usual by Mr. Norman Bath, rendered the overture in exellent style, and played the accompaniments throughout with a precision and sympathy with the voice parts, altogether admirable.

There was evidently a very strong and general feeling that regard for the character of the work and the close sequence of the various numbers would render any manifestation of applause inappropriate, if not indecorous; but on several occasions the enthusiasm of the audience broke through restraint; and all present testified alike by the close attention with which they followed the whole performance, and by the heartiness of their applause at the end of both the first and second parts to their thorough enjoyment of the music. It is some seven or eight years since the last performance of "St. Paul in Bromley, but the reception accorded to it on the present occasion, may perhaps warrant its repetition after a somewhat shorter interval.

A VETERAN VOLUNTEER.

RETIREMENT OF BUGLE-MAJOR HEAYSMAN.

Among the veteran Volunteers who have recently retired from the ranks of the Bromley Detachment, 2nd Volunteer Battalion, "The Queen's Own" (Royal West Kent Regiment), none have been better known nor seen longer service than Bugle-Major T. Heaysman, whose duties have brought him into close contact with all companies of the 2nd Battalion. A brief review of his career in the service is, therefore, opportune, and the photograph which accompanies these few particulars, will, we are sure, lend additional interest to them. Mr. T. Heaysman's record in connection

Davey Lavender.] [*Photo.*

BUGLE-MAJOR HEAYSMAN.

with the Volunteer movement dates back to 1862, when, on January 27th, he joined the 2nd Battalion of the Royal West Kent Regiment as a bugler. His valuable services to the band were quickly recognised, and in 1872 he was presented with a handsome cup by Lieut.-Colonel Lenon, V.C., in recognition of his assistance in this direction. About the same time Mr. Heaysman was promoted to Bugle-Major and this position he has held continuously up to the time of his resignation last month. His skill and organising ability in the carrying out of band duties have deservedly gained for him the warm appreciation of all ranks, who will be sorry to lose the services of such an able and experienced comrade. It may be mentioned that when the Battalion attended the Royal Review at Aldershot in 1887, on the occasion of Her Majesty's Jubilee, Bugle--Major Heaysman had charge of a brigade of bands, and on this and many other occasions he showed himself a capable and successful

leader.. In the training of buglers for the Bromley Band and also for that at headquarters, Mr. Heaysman has done excellent work, and for years he has actively interested himself in promoting the general efficiency of the Bromley Band. He has had the honour of serving under all the commanding officers at Bromley and also Blackheath, and was one of the first in the regiment to receive the long service medal. In a variety of ways, Mr. Heaysman has shown his personal attachment to the Volunteer cause; and to him and others like him the progress made locally is in a considerable measure due. The various shooting competitions have regularly for years been given his support, he being a good average marksman; and in accepting his resignation last month, the Commanding Officer testified to the great value of his long and zealous efforts on behalf of the Battalion.

An act of gallantry brought Bugle-Major Heaysman into public notice, during the holding of the regimentlal camp at Minster, Isle of Sheppy, in August, 1890. A man named William E. Hunt, while bathing was in imminent danger of drowning when Mr. Heaysman pluckily effected his rescue, and for this he received a testimonial inscribed on vellum from the Royal Humane Society.

Mr. T. Heaysman, who resides at Delaware Park-road, is a native of Bromley.

VOLUNTEER PRIZE DISTRIBUTION. — The prize-winners in the annual shooting competitions of the Bromley Detachment, 2nd Vol. Batt. the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) were, on Wednesday, December 22nd, presented with their prizes at the Bromley Drill Hall, by Mr. Justice Bruce. Captain Bertram Latter presided, and there was a large company present, including Lady Gainsford Bruce, Major C. and Mrs. Satterthwaite, Colonel E. Satterthwaite (Commandant of the Battalion), Major E. Latter, Deputy-Surgeon-General Blatherwick, Captain Matthews, Captain R. G. Mullen (4th Queen's Mounted Infantry), Lieut. Lynch White, Mr. A. Wright, &c. After distributing the prizes, Mr. Justice Bruce, replying to a vote of thanks, remarked that the Volunteer movement had achieved very great success, and he did not know that there was a more important event in the modern history of their country than the establishment of their Volunteer army. It had become a permanent part of their military system, and a very efficient part, providing an important second line of defence that could do good service in emergency. They might hope, he said, for perpetual peace, but it had been well said that perpetual peace was a dream and not even a beautiful dream, because war was one great element in the moral government of the world. He rejoiced to know that that Detachment was in a flourishing state.

LIBERAL MEETING AT BROMLEY.—A public meeting, arranged by the Bromley District Liberal Association, took place at the Bromley Grand Hall on Tuesday, December 7th, Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., presiding. Addresses on the political outlook were given by the Chairman, the Earl of Crewe, and Mr. Halley Stewart, formerly Member of Parliament for the Spalding division. The attendance was not very large, owing principally to the unpropitious weather which prevailed.

THE RAINFALL. — The rainfall for November, measured in Widmore-road, Bromley, amounted to 1.16in., the greater proportion of which fell in the last few days of the month. Rain fell on 13 days, the largest amount registered in one day being .42in. on the 27th. For the corresponding month last year the rainfall was 1.72in., in 1895, 3.64in., while in 1894 it reached a total of 4.12in.

Obituary.

MR. HERBERT BERENS, ST. MARY CRAY.

The death of Mr. Herbert Berens, third son of Mr. R. B. Berens, J.P., of Kevington, St. Mary Cray, which occurred on December 2nd, caused widespread regret, the deceased being well-known and respected throughout the district. Mr. H. Berens was a thorough sportsman, having captained the Cray Wanderers Football Club for several seasons, and he was an all-round athlete, popular with all classes. The deceased gentleman also held the position of captain of the Cray Fire Brigade. Death was due to pneumonia, caused or aggravated by Mr. Berens's attendance in his official capacity at a fire in the neighbourhood. A short time ago Mr. H. Berens very pluckily effected the rescue of a man who had fallen into a dene-hole near Crockenhill. The funeral took place on Tuesday, December 7th, at Orpington, in the presence of a large and representative assemblage. The chief mourners were Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Berens (parents), Misses Berens (sisters), Mr. R. Berens, Rev. G. Berens, and Mr. C. Berens (brothers). The fire brigades of St. Mary Cray, Bromley, Farnborough, Chislehurst, and Sidcup attended, as well as representatives of the Cray Wanderers F.C., Crays and Orpington Cricket Club, Bromley F.C., the Cray Valley Constitutional Club, and other institutions. Colonel Sir J. Farnaby Lennard, Bart., J.P., was among those present at the graveside.

MRS. PARR, BICKLEY.

We regret to record the death of Mrs. Parr, widow of General Parr, which took place at her residence, Powis Lodge, Southborough-road, Bickley, on December 14th. The deceased lady was a very old resident of Bromley, coming as a child of three years of age to Freelands in 1823, when her father, the late Mr. Charles Pott, took up his residence there. Though Mrs. Parr was in failing health for some months, the final illness was only of a few weeks' duration. The funeral took place at Harrow, where the late General Parr lived for twenty years prior to his death in 1883. In 1874, Mrs. Parr took up her residence at Bickley.

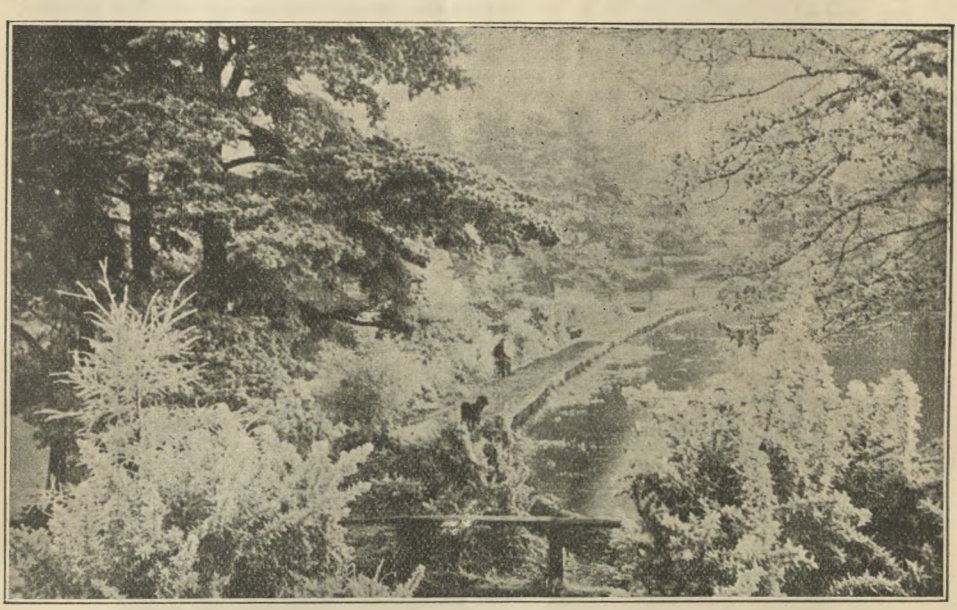
MRS. STRINGER, BROMLEY.

It is with regret we have to record the death of Mrs. Catherine Stringer, of Egerton Lodge, Park-road, Bromley, which occurred on Wednesday, December 22nd. The deceased lady, who had lived in Bromley for the past twenty years, was the widow of the late Mr. Stringer Stringer, of Goudhurst, Kent. The funeral took place on the following Tuesday, at Sevenoaks, where Mrs. Stringer formerly resided, and the burial service was conducted by the Rev. T. S. Curteis, rector of Sevenoaks. The chief mourners were Mr. Edward Belcher Stringer (eldest son), Mr. Theodore Henry Stringer (son), Mrs. Chalk (daughter) and Mr. Chalk, Lord Truro (nephew), Mr. Robert Chapman (brother), Misses Harriet and Hannah Chapman (nieces), Messrs. Vernon and Montague Chapman (nephews), Dr. Poolo, Mr. H. Payne, and Mr. Percy Ilott, the Hon. Mrs. Wilde (sister) being unable to attend owing to ill-health. Many beautiful wreaths were deposited on the coffin.

The death occurred at the Bromley Union Workhouse last month, at an advanced age, of Mr. George W. Taylor, an ex-Consul in Her Majesty's service, who had had a very varied career. About 1850 he was proprietor of the business of a stationer and printer, afterwards carried on by Mr. Strong, and since transferred to No. 14, Market-square, and subsequently he served in the American war, afterwards acting as consul for the United States. Through various causes he got into reduced circumstances, and in 1888 entered the Bromley Workhouse, where he had since remained.

"A WINTER SCENE."

The beautiful view of the upper pond at Keston Common, which we give below, represents a typical Christmas scene, such as would have met the eye of any visitor to this lovely spot last Christmas morning. The view is taken from the top of the bank, just above the well or bath which is the source of the Ravensbourne, and which is popularly known as "Cæsar's Well." Keston Ponds are not, as their appearance would lead one to suppose, natural pieces of water, but the work of man. In a view given in Hone's "Table Book," 1828, only one pond is shewn, and that much smaller



G. W. Smith] [*Photo.*

A WINTER SCENE AT KESTON.

than either of the present ones, and further from the spring. It was Mr. John Ward (who purchased the estate in 1823), we believe, who enlarged the one and excavated the other pond.

"On Keston Heath wells up the Ravensbourne
A crystal rillet, scarce a palm in width,
Till creeping to a bed, outspread by art,
It sheets itself across, reposing there:—
Thence through a thicket, sinuous it flows,
And crossing meads and footpaths, gathering tribute
Due to its elder birth, from younger branches,
Wanders in Hayes and Bromley, Beckenham vale,
And straggling Lewisham, to where Deptford bridge
Uprises in obedience to its flood,
Whence with large increase it rolls on to swell
The master current of the 'mighty heart of England.'"

The Countess of Derby is lying seriously ill at Holwood, whither she was removed at the beginning of the month from Lord Sackville Cecil's residence at St. Margaret's Bay. Lord Sackville is also himself, we regret to hear, laid up at Holwood.

The vicar of Bromley (the Rev. A. G. Hellicar) has resigned his appointment as acting chaplain to the 2nd Volunteer Battalion the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment), which he has held for over 26 years.

PRESENTATION TO MR. J. RUSSELL.—At a very representative gathering of Kentish sportsmen, numbering nearly one hundred and fifty, presided over by the Hon. Ralph Nevill, at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, on Monday, December 20th, Mr John Russell, of Sutton-at-Hone, was presented with a fine oil painting of himself, in recognition of his long and valued services to county agriculture and sport. Nearly every pack in Kent sent representatives to do honour to this fine old sportsman, those present from this neighbourhood including Dr. W. Chatterton (Bromley), Sir Patteson Nickalls (Chislehurst), and Mr. W. Waring, J.P. (Chelsfield).

SEIZURE OF BAD MEAT.—The Bromley Bench of Magistrates had before them on Monday, December 20th, a summons issued at the instance of the Bromley Rural District Council against Wm. Crittall, a butcher of some 30 years' standing at West Wickham, for having a carcase of unsound meat on his premises, deposited there for the purpose of sale for food, on December 1st. The evidence showed that the carcase of a bullock, found in the slaughter-house by J. E. Walker, sanitary inspector, was affected with tuberculosis; and a portion of the suet had been sold. The meat was quite unfit for food, being dangerous to health and life if eaten. It was urged for the defence that the bullock was purchased with others by the defendant's brother, and that he (the defendant) was quite innocent.—The Magistrates imposed a fine of £10, with 11s costs, and £1 1s. for the medical officer's fee.

A NEW MEDICAL CHARITY.—A new society for providing medical aid to the poor of Bromley has just been established, eleven of the local doctors having consented to give treatment at a nominal charge. Upon production of a certificate that applicants cannot pay the ordinary fees, the doctors will see patients at their surgeries or will attend to them at their homes, and the charitable can obtain free letters upon payment. The Rev. F. Haslam, of 9, Tweedy-road, Bromley, has consented to undertake the duties of honorary secretary.

RAMBLES IN SURREY.

ADDINGTON VILLAGE

In the South-eastern part of England there is perhaps no county more celebrated for its picturesque villages and charming scenery of bold downs and wealden undulations than Surrey. Kent, from an antiquarian point of view, is specially remarkable for its fine parish churches, many of which are of great antiquity; but Surrey, whilst somewhat deficient in this respect, is wonderfully rich in early cottage architecture, and in old houses of more pretentious and greater historical interest. In addition to its antiquarian attractions, Surrey affords an inviting field of exploration for those who, whether by means of cycle, shay or "Shanks' pony," love rambles through winding lanes and over heath-covered commons in search of the picturesque and beautiful in nature, and find pleasure in that peaceful serenity so characteristic of rural and only partially cultivated districts.

ADDINGTON CHURCH FROM THE SOUTH-EAST.

It has been thought that our readers would welcome a series of articles dealing with this subject, which might serve as a guide to the more beautiful and easily accessible localities, and in the present article it is proposed to describe a village adjoining the boundary line which divides Surrey from Kent.

Addington, which is situate five miles from Bromley, is one of those quiet little Surrey villages reposing amidst peaceful surroundings which, although little more than a dozen miles from London, has managed to preserve much of the simple and unassuming character it may have possessed during the middle ages.

Of course many of the buildings are of comparatively recent date, but they still occupy sites close by the church, of which a portion dates from the period when Norman architecture was in vogue. A stranger visiting the village would probably fail to find in it anything of a remarkable character, and it must be confessed that upon a casual and imperfect acquaintance there does not appear to be any mark distinguishing it from neighbouring villages of equal size and similarly rusticated character. It is only necessary, however, to interrogate an ancient inhabitant upon the point in order to discover that Addington, judged from the standpoint of local tradition, has in its day occupied a place of no ordinary importance, and has figured in no ignoble fashion in the annals of the county.

Aubrey, one of the old writers on the topography of Surrey, thus quaintly records the traditions current among the inhabitants of this village in the seventeenth century:—"The inhabitants talk much of a tradition currently believed among them that anciently this town was far bigger than now it is; and could not only vie with any of these parts, but for inns, or public houses, infinitely surpass them. They strengthen this notion by now and then plowing up of groundsels, with other vestigia of ruinated buildings. Nay, further, they show you, at some distance, a copped hill, whereon, it's said, stood formerly a castle, which still retains the name of Castle Hill. If what they say hath any colour of truth in it, it entitles this place to a great antiquity."

Although scarcely accurate, perhaps, regarding the former size of the village and the abnormal number of its houses of refreshment, this account is unquestionably right so far as the antiquity of Addington is concerned, for the Manors of Addington are mentioned in very early historical documents. From the Domesday Book, we find that there were at that time two manors in this place. One of these, held in the time of Edward the Confessor by Godric, was divided before the time of Edward I., into two portions, whereof one was given to the Knights Templars by Walter de Merton. The other portion was granted to the monastery of St. Mary Overie. The other original manor mentioned in the Domesday Book remained in lay hands, and was held by a curious tenure, namely, by the service of making and presenting a certain dish to the Sovereign on the day of his or her coronation. The origin of this singular tenure is explained with some amount of probability by the supposition that the manor was held of William the Conqueror by Tezelin, who was king's cook. Accounts of the service and of the composition of the dish vary somewhat. According to one writer, it would seem that the Manor of Addington is held by the service of finding a cook to dress such victuals in the king's kitchen as the seneschall shall

order, or, in other words, by executing the office of cook by deputy; and history goes to show that this is the usual way in which the service has been performed.

Addington Church is, as we have already mentioned, partly of Norman architecture. The chancel, or, at any rate, the eastern wall of it, is of this early date. Three small, round-headed and deeply splayed windows pierce this wall, while the south and north walls contain evidences of work of considerably later periods. In the chancel is a handsome brass commemorating John Leigh, of Addington, Esquire, and Isabel his wife. An inscription on a verge of brass extends entirely round the slab of stone in which are inserted full-length figures of the persons named, effigies of their five children, and the arms of the families of Leigh, Payne, Harvey and Nernuit. The usual emblems of the four evangelists are placed at the corners of the marginal inscription. The date of this brass is 1509. Another brass, with figure in armour, commemorates Themas Hattecliffe, Esq., who died in 1540. On the north side of the chancel is a handsome tomb of black marble and alabaster, also in memory of members of the Leigh family. This family, which at one time held an important position in the county, lived in the ancient manor-house of Addington—a house which formerly stood in the adjoining park and was demolished soon after the present mansion was erected—that is to say about the year 1780. It is interesting to find that the last member of the family—Sir John Leigh—at the age of 70, married Miss Wade, the daughter of Mr. Wade, apothecary of Bromley, who succeeded in curing Sir John Leigh of a mortification in the toe. On the death of this baronet in 1737, the male line of the family became extinct.

At a short distance to the north of the church, half-way up the hill leading to Shirley Church, there still stand the gates with their handsome stone piers surmounted with crests, which once belonged to the former house, and the old cellars are said to be still in existence underground. Looking southward from this point one gets a good view of Addington village, with its cottages and cottage gardens, long famous for their beautiful flowers and prolific rose bushes. In the centre of the village rises the village church, with the red-tiled tower and grey walls. In the churchyard, which surrounds the church, are some old yew trees, whose deep colour helps to give a welcome contrast to the other foliage close by.

There are many humble and unknown graves in this quiet spot: in some cases only a few rose-bushes indicate the grave. In others, memorials of stone record a few brief particulars of the departed. But everything about the churchyard is humble, reverent, and pious in character.

No less than five Archbishops of Canterbury lie buried here, viz., Archbishops Manners-Sutton, Howley, Sumner, Longley and Tait. Here, also, are buried Mrs. Tait and Rev. Crauford Tait, the wife and son of the Archbishop.

At Addington Park, six successive occupants of the archiepiscopal throne of Canterbury have resided, but quite recently the estate has been sold, and this chapter in the history of the village—one which reflected no small distinction upon the district—has probably closed for ever.—The new purchaser of the estate is, we understand, Mr. English, who for a few months past, has been living at Chislehurst.

Fire at a Wedding.—On Thursday, December 16th, the festivities following the wedding of Miss Stein, daughter of Mr. Stein, of "Broomfield," Copers Cope-road, Beckenham, were rudely interrupted by an outbreak of fire in an erection where dinner had just been laid for the guests. Considerable damage was done, and the consequences would probably have been more serious had the wind not blown the flames away from the house. The Beckenham Fire Brigade attended, but were delayed in getting a supply of water.

ADDINGTON PALACE.

Marriage of Professor Flinders Petrie.—A marriage was solemnized on Monday, November 29th, at the Church of St. Mary Abbott's Kensington, between Professor W. M. Flinders Petrie, D.C.L., LL.D., son of Mr. William Petrie, of Crescent-road, Bromley, and Miss Hilda Mary Isabel Urlin, daughter of Mr. R. Denny Urlin, of the Middle Temple, and of Rustington, Sussex. The officiating clergyman was the Rev. R. Milburn Blakiston, assisted by the Rev. Horace Downes, cousin of the bride. Professor Petrie—who is the well-known Egyptologist—and Mrs. Flinders Petrie left London immediately after the ceremony for the Continent, en route for Egypt. Many useful and valuable wedding presents were received.

Sad Case of Suicide.—Mr. H. W. Powis, of Queen Anne Lodge, South Hill Park, Bromley, a wholesale timber merchant, of Leadenhall-street, was discovered dead with a bullet-wound in his forehead in a meadow adjoining Fixted farm, Pickhurst, Hayes, on December 7th. His right hand grasped a six-chambered revolver, and he had been missing for four days. The evidence given at the inquest showed that he had [illegible] worried a great deal of late, and once before he had been missing for some days. The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased committed suicide, the evidence being considered insufficient to show the state of his mind at the time.

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DIARY OF DECEMBER.

Nov.

29th.—Annual concert by the students of the Beckenham School of Music, at the Public Hall, when Mr. Eaton Faning gave an address on the importance of accuracy in the study of music.—Annual concert and prize distribution (by Mr. H. C. Bond) in connection with the Bromley Cycling Club, at the "White Hart" Assembly Rooms.—Lecture on "The Work and Characteristics of Kentish Rivers," by Mr. G. Weeks, jun., at the Bromley Co-operative Hall, under the auspices of the students' association in connection with the local University Extension movement.

Dec.

1st.—Meeting of the Beckenham Abstainers' Union at the Public Hall, when addresses were given by Mr. E. Welsh (of the National Temperance League) and Mr. Ryan (of the Cabmen's Union).—Bromley Naturalists' Society's meeting at the Literary Institute, when a paper was read on "Meteorological Instruments," by Mr. A. Rogers.

2nd.—Fire at Ee-Yuan, Manor-road, Chislehurst, the residence of Major Elers, the house being destroyed, and damage done to the extent of about £5,000.—St. Luke's Burial Board vestry, when Mr. J. H. Yolland was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. H. Hurst, and Messrs. Judd, Humphrey, Brown were re-elected.

3rd.—Entertainment in aid of the Library funds at Quernmore House School.—Annual sale of work opened in aid of the Church Missionary Society at the Parish Room, West-street, Bromley, and continued on the following day, about £100 being raised.

6th.—Amateur dramatic entertainment, "Trial by Jury" at St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common.—Concert by students of Mr. T. H. Jarvis at the Bromley Co-operative Hall.—Annual meeting of the Chislehurst Auxiliary of the Cornish Coast Mission, at Christ Church Schoolroom, Chislehurst, Mr. Alderman G. W. Truscott, J.P., presiding.

7th.—Liberal meeting at the Bromley Grand Hall, presided over by Mr. Robert Whyte, junr., and addressed by the Earl of Crewe and Mr. Halley Stewart.—Concert on behalf of the Bromley Common Cricket Club at the Village Hall.

8th.—Humorous lecture entitled "The Philosophy of Cant" by Mr. Robert Wallace, M.P., at the Bromley Grand Hall, under the auspices of the Bromley Literary Institute.—Distribution of prizes and concert in connection with the Bromley Conservative Athletic Club, at the Club-house.

9th.—Half-yearly meeting of the Beckenham Cricket Club at the Beckenham Club.

13th.—Bohemian concert arranged by Mr. Will Hole, at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

14th.—Sale of work and cafe chantant at the Bromley High School for Girls for charitable objects.—Lecture on the temperance question by Mr. J. Leicester, ex-M.P., at the Bromley Congregational Schoolroom, in connection with the Bromley Temperance Society.—Shortlands Choral Society commenced the season by a miscellaneous concert at the Parish Room, Valley-road.—The first concert of its fifteenth season was given by the Beckenham Orchestral Society at the Public Hall.

15th.—Successful performance of "The Parvenu" at the Bromley Grand Hall, by the Bromley Amateur Dramatic Society, in aid of the local Jubilee Deficit Fund.—Sales of work at the Bromley Baptist Schoolroom and at the Wesleyan Chapel, Widmore.—Meeting of the Bromley Naturalists' Society, at which Mr. G. M. Gunn, F.R.G.S., read a paper on "Ocean depths and currents."—An industrial exhibition, promoted by Miss Russell, was held at the National Schoolroom, West Wickham.—Annual entertainment of the Beckenham Board Schools, at the Arthur-road premises, at which Mr. A. J. Baker addressed the parents.

16th.—Sale of work at the Presbyterian Church, Bromley.—Evening concert at Albemarle College, Beckenham, to provide Christmas dinners for the poor of Holy Trinity parish.—Fire occurred during a wedding party held at the residence of Mr. Stein, Bromfield, Copers Cope-road, Beckenham.

17th—Annual exhibition of students' work at the Beckenham School of Art, when an address on the art of drawing was given by Mr. J. Brett, A.R.A.

18th.—Annual distribution of prizes and entertainment at Quernmore House School, the Rev. W. Hodgson (vicar of Plaistow) presenting the prizes.—Beckenham and Penge Benefit Society held its annual sharing-out meeting, presided over by Mr F. W. Lawrence.

20th.—Meeting of the Beckenham Urban District Council, when the question of fixing upon the site for the proposed public baths and institute was postponed until after the election in March next.

21st.—Bromley Musical Society's second concert for the season at the Drill Hall, when the oratorio "St. Paul" was performed.—Distribution of prizes, with musical and dramatic recital, in connection with Bromley Park College, at the Co-operative Hall, East-street; also presentation of prizes to the students at Bromley Park School.

22nd.—Sir Gainsford Bruce distributed the shooting prizes to the Bromley Detachment of the 2nd Vol. Batt. the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) at the Drill Hall.—Presentation of clock to ex-Police - constable R. Leaves and ex-Police-sergeant R. Dudman, on their retirement after lengthy service in the Bromley Sub-Division of the Metropolitan Police.

Miss A. J. Romilly, of Bromley, was presented with a beautiful edition of the works of Shakespeare, Tennyson, and Sir Lewis Morris, &c., on the 9th of last month, in recognition of her valuable services as honorary secretary to the local centre of the University Extension Society.

A REVIEW OF 1897.

"Remembrance only makes the footsteps last
When winged time, which fix'd the prints, is past."

Nationally, the year just closing has been very memorable and remarkable on account of the spontaneous and universal outburst of rejoicings witnessed in June in celebration of Her Majesty's reign of sixty years—a reign which has surpassed not only in length of years but in material and intellectual progress and in prosperity that of any previous British Sovereign. Loyalty and patriotism have never been lacking in the British race, but the fervour and enthusiasm on this occasion surpassed all expectation. Every city, town, and hamlet in Great Britain took part in these demonstrations of loyalty, while the peoples of the whole Empire wherever situate, proved their affection for Queen and Motherland in an equally effective and united manner. In Ireland alone, as the truthful historian must record, were such feelings either entirely wanting or suppressed. Excluding that unhappy land, the year has witnessed a most surprising and encouraging growth of the sense of the oneness of the British race both at home and in the Colonies, and this remains one of the most important features in the history of the year. Marking as they did an unprecedented event in our nation's history, the jubilations of June evoked both interest and sympathy among the other great nations of the world. Leaving the subject of these happy and long-to-be-remembered national rejoicings, the retrospect of events, both in our islands and abroad, is much less pleasing.

Arising from the continuous misgovernment of the Island of Crete by Turkey, and owing in no small measure to the impotence of the Great Powers, who had undertaken to see the wrongs of the Cretans righted, a war broke out between Greece and Turkey, which soon resulted in the complete humiliation of the former country, and a treaty of peace has just been concluded between them. With regard to foreign affairs generally, the year has witnessed a renewal of the experiment on the part of the Great Powers of Europe of acting together for all purposes as to which they have interests in common. These common interests have so far appeared to be almost entirely of a negative character, and all efforts have therefore been devoted to as far as possible preserving the status quo. This limitation compels their intervention to be frequently useless, and sometimes harmful, and such must continue to be the case so long as the laws of progress and change continue to apply to states equally with individuals and nature. Whether the Powers will so far overcome their present jealousies and timidity as to permit of the Concert being gradually developed into a practical Federation with the power of an international police force, as may be hoped, remains to be seen. Hitherto it must be confessed co-operation with its neighbours has resulted in compelling Great Britain to make the greatest sacrifices, and have perhaps the least voice in arriving at the united decisions, of any of the nations.

One of the most unsuccessful and deplorable wars in which British arms have been engaged for a long time has been that on the frontier of India, where a force of 70,000 men has so far failed to reduce to submission the hardy tribesmen who appear to have been provoked by the Government's unfortunate "Forward" policy.

At home, almost as soon as the Penrhyn Quarry dispute was settled, a most regrettable industrial war in the engineering trade broke out and has raged now for nearly half-a-year, appearing to be as far off settlement as ever, though it has necessarily caused great loss to both sides as well as to the country. In Parliament the Conservative Government have lost a few seats, a result which their supporters attribute to the natural swing of the political pendulum, while the Liberals see in it evidence of growing dissatisfaction with their administration of public affairs.

We now turn to our annual review of local affairs.

LOCAL JUBILEE CELEBRATION.

Bromley's feeling of loyalty was first voiced at a meeting of the Urban District Council on June 1st, when a congratulatory address to Her Majesty, on the sixtieth year of her accession to the throne was agreed upon. The Council also took into consideration the question of celebrating the auspicious event, and appointed a committee, with outside members, to arrange for a fitting recognition of the occasion. The celebration commenced on the Sunday preceding Jubilee Day, when special services were held at the local places of worship, and on the appointed day, the following Tuesday—June 22nd—the festivities commenced, a huge procession preceding athletic sports which were held at the Recreation Ground, while at night a monster bonfire was lighted on Martin's-hill. Wednesday was the children's day, and over four thousand of them partook of tea on the Recreation Ground, and this was followed by various amusements, each child receiving a Jubilee mug and book before leaving. The great event was also appropriately observed in the surrounding villages and at the Bromley Union Workhouse. Bromley received one very valuable gift in commemoration of the Jubilee, Mr Coles Child, J.P., handing over to the town the greater part of the White Hart field for the purpose of a public pleasure garden for ever. A Jubilee drinking fountain was also given by an anonymous donor, through Dr. A. E. Price, and this has been erected at Masons-hill. As a permanent memorial a sum of nearly £1,900 has been subscribed for the endowment of beds in Convalescent Homes for the use of Bromley people.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

For this local governing body the past twelve months has provided a good variety of matters for consideration, and some important improvements have been effected. An effort was made to induce the Kent County Council to pass bye-laws for the suppression of rowdyism in the streets, and several new regulations have been issued as the result, but the condition of the streets is not yet what it should be in this respect. The Council has been engaged in a good deal of litigation during the year—not always with a favourable result. An endeavour to get the mortuary removed from its present position in West-street was made with some persistency, but in the absence of a good alternative site the Council have done nothing in the matter. The public lighting of the town has been considerably improved by the adoption of incandescent burners in the principal thoroughfares. There have been three changes in the membership of the Council, one caused by the resignation of Mr. Hugh Tweedy, whose place was taken by Mr. H. C. Bond, the other two taking place at the annual election, when after contests Dr. A. E. Price and Mr. J. E. Harris were elected to fill the vacancies caused by the retirement of Messrs. J. Fielding and Wheeler Bennett, who did not seek re-election. Mr. T. Davis has succeeded Mr. D. Grinsted as Chairman, and has so far filled the position to the general satisfaction. Other important subjects that have come within the purview of the Council are dealt with separately.

ROAD IMPROVEMENTS.

The large number of local improvements, principally road widenings, decided upon or actually carried out during 1897, form, perhaps, the most striking feature in the work of the Council. A

further instalment of widening in Beckenham-lane has been commenced, and the widening of the High-street at the "Bell" Hotel will soon be completed. Another much needed improvement has been effected by the widening of the bridge over the Ravensbourne and the adjoining roadway at the bottom of Glassmill-lane—a veritable death-trap in past years for cycling visitors. Plaistow-lane, at its Sundridge end, has also experienced improvements, a piece of land measuring some five hundred feet in length and averaging ten feet in depth having been given up by the trustees of the London Parochial Charities and thrown into the roadway. College-road, Plaistow, likewise has been widened near St. Mary's Church, Major C. Satterthwaite having presented the necessary land for the purpose, and similar widening works have been or are to be carried out, at Chislehurst-road, Crown-lane, and London-lane In Little Hayes-lane the steep ascent has been cut down and the road widened, for this the Cottage Hospital authorities have to be thanked.

THE FIRE BRIGADE.

Early in the year the Council took over the duties hitherto undertaken by the Volunteer Fire Brigade, and with the co-operation of the old members established this important institution on a public and a firmer basis. New headquarters, consisting of a fire station and stables, are now nearing completion at the rear of the Council's offices in West-street, and everything has been done—including the purchase of a new engine, the connection of the firemen with the telephone system, and the erection of several fire alarms—to further improve the efficiency of this important service.

THE DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

The principal contentious topic during the twelve months related to the disposal of house refuse, a subject which had engaged the attention of the Sanitary Committee for a long time past. In February this Committee presented an exhaustive report upon the question, giving as their conclusion that destruction by heat was the only thoroughly effectual method of dealing with refuse. The proposed purchase of a dust destructor met with considerable opposition, both inside the Council and outside, and so evenly was opinion divided that consideration of the matter has been twice adjourned and the question still remains undecided.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

The important question of the water supply has been practically at a standstill so far as Bromley is concerned for the greater part of the year. It will be remembered that at the end of 1896 the Bromley Urban Council declined to take any part in the promotion of the Kent Authorities Water Bill, which, with the London County Council's Bill, was ultimately rejected by the House of Commons, and another Royal Commission has since been appointed to consider the question, the first sitting taking place quite recently. The Bromley Council have since agreed to contribute a sum not exceeding £20 towards the cost incurred by the Kent County Council in placing the views of the Kent Authorities before the Commission; and there the matter remains for the present. It is satisfactory to hear that an analysis of our water has shown that there is nothing of an injurious nature in it.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.

The Urban Council having decided to accede to a local syndicate's request to transfer to them their electric lighting powers, the draft deed of transfer has been submitted for consideration of the Board of Trade, who have suggested various alterations, and intimated that at least £5,000 of £20,000 capital of the Company must be subscribed before their approval to a transfer is given. The amended draft deed is now before a Committee of the Council, but it is not expected that the transfer will be much longer delayed. The Company have provisionally entered into a contract for the supply of installation plant and mains at the price of £16,380, and expect to spend a further sum of £3,500 on lands and buildings. They have appointed a consulting engineer (Mr. Lacey) who has reported favourably upon the scheme and the method proposed to be adopted. The Company have agreed to pay to the Council the amount expended in obtaining the Provisional Order, calculated at £361, together with all subsequent costs.

FINANCIAL MATTERS.

Although the District Council have little, if anything, more than usual to show for their expenditure, their demands upon the pockets of their constituents have been unusually heavy, the district rate in the first half of the year being 1s. 9d. and in the second half 1s. 10d. in the £; and this despite the fact that a re-assessment of the parish in the autumn has increased the rateable value by over £8,000, which is in itself equal to a rate of 3d., and that loans are obtainable at an ever-cheapening rate, the last having been effected at the unprecedentedly low rate of 2¾ per cent. These facts seem to point to the conclusion of mismanagement somewhere on the part of those who have the spending of the money.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

The town has maintained its excellent standard of public health during the past year, though infectious diseases– chiefly scarlet fever and principally among the young—were again rather prevalent during the summer, and taxed the hospital accommodation so severely that other quarters had to be provided. The population continues its steady increase, the vital statistics for the twelve months giving, as nearly as can be ascertained, the number of births at about 580, and the deaths at about 242.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The year's working of this useful and popular institution has been very successful. From January 1st to December 29th inclusive, the library was open on 298 days for the issue and receipt of books and no less than 3,463 reader's tickets have been in force. The books borrowed for home reading numbered 64,336, while 1,909 volumes were consulted on the premises, making a total of 66,245 and a daily average issue of 222 volumes. Owing to the large amount of the annual income absorbed in the repayment of the principal and interest of loans, only 757 volumes have been added to the stock of books, which now comprises 6,886 volumes. The reading-room continues to be well patronised, and from actual counts it has been found that 300 persons daily use it.

SUGGESTED INCORPORATION OF THE TOWN.

Early in the year the Bromley Urban District Council 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 Bromley. After considerable debate the resolution was lost by a narrow majority, but the Chairman was subsequently requested by the ratepayers to convene a public meeting to consider the matter. This was done, and at the meeting, which took place on February 26th, it was decided to take a poll of the parish, but the Council declined to bear the expense of this proceeding, and though a fund was raised the poll has never been taken. The proposal met with a good deal of opposition, and at a meeting of ratepayers held a few weeks later at Plaistow a resolution protesting against the agitation, on the ground that Incorporation would involve greater expense, was carried. The idea of connecting the scheme with the commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee never met with

much approval, and since then the effort to secure this change of constitution appears to have been abandoned.

RURAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

In the management of the rural affairs of this district, several matters of interest, requiring very careful consideration, have cropped up during the year. Soon after the dawn of 1897 the dispute between the Hayes Common Conservators and the Bromley Rural District Council, respecting the digging of gravel on Hayes Common, was settled by a compromise. The spending powers of the various Parish Councils were increased in May, up to 50 per cent. of the estimated expenditure; and the licence of the Chislehurst Electric Lighting Company has engaged attention, and recently received the Board of Trade's approval. At the annual meeting in April, Col. Sir John Lennard, Bart., was unanimously re-elected to the chair, and Mr. H. J. Willis was again appointed vice-chairman. One of the most troublesome topics of the year, has been a village water guarantee, in which Cudham, Downe, and Knockholt are concerned. The matter still remains unsettled, Cudham having declined to take part in a conference upon the question of re-adjustment. The carrying out of sewer works at Crofton also gave considerable trouble on account of the shifting nature of the soil in places, and a deviation had to be made from the line originally selected.

POOR LAW.

The work of our Poor Law Guardians during 1897 has been mostly of a routine character. In March Mr. T. Filmer vacated his seat as representative for Cudham, and this is now occupied by the Rev. Nigel Freer. The Guardians had before them in April an application from the Beckenham Urban District Council for the transfer to them of the power to appoint the Beckenham Poor Rate collector, and this was acceded to. No change has been made in the chairmanship, the valuable services of Sir John Lennard, Bart., being retained in that capacity. A proposal for the taxation of ground rents received the support of the Guardians in July; and during the year the Brabazon employment scheme, by which the leisure of the inmates is usefully occupied, has worked very successfully. The number of inmates has remained at about the same figure, the return for the week ending December 17th last showing a total of 447 as compared with 425 this time last year.

EDUCATIONAL.

From an educational point of view the year of the Jubilee appears to have been profitably spent in Bromley, the efficiency of the schools in both secular and religious instruction having been well maintained according to the reports received from the inspectors. Many advantages in the way of education continue to be offered by the body entrusted with the expenditure of the Technical Education funds, but so far these have not been utilised to the extent they might be. In the month of April the triennial election of the Bromley School Board took place, and its personnel underwent considerable alteration. Four members of the old Board, the vicar of Bromley (the Rev. A. G. Hellicar), and Messrs. F. Peill, J. Fielding, and E. Bragg, did not seek re-election, their places being taken by Messrs. H. W. Amos, G. Weeks, jun., Rev. R. Silvey (Baptist), and F. Packham, while the other five retiring members were re-elected. The religious question has never caused any difficulty to the Bromley School Board, and was not raised in the present instance, though the Government's educational measures in Parliament caused more interest to be taken in the election than would otherwise have been the case. In the early part of the year the School Board proceeded with their scheme for the extension of the Schools at Raglan-road, Bromley Common, Messrs. J. C. Arnaud & Son's tender for £7,780 being accepted for the work. The need for the extra accommodation has been keenly felt, and the new building is now nearly finished, and in a short time room for 360 more junior mixed scholars and 344 infants will be available. In order to provide for future contingencies the Board has purchased a piece of land adjoining these schools which was offered for sale. From an interesting comparison made in the autumn, it appeared that the Board School scholars number 1,948, and the Voluntary Schools have a total muster of 2,260, the average attendance working out at 85 per cent. for the Board Schools and 87 per cent. for the Voluntary Schools. In the summer the School Board tried an experiment in throwing open their play-grounds during the day-time, but this resulted in much damage to the premises, and after a short trial it was abandoned. A proposal to establish a few scholarships for children has been under consideration, and the Board are now inquiring into the possibility of establishing at a reasonable cost a higher grade school. Among its other activities the Board has reduced its quorum from five to three members, has changed its place of meeting from the District Council Offices to its own premises in Wharton-road, and is now occupied in a revision of its bye-laws. The continuation evening schools have again been opened, while no undue encouragement has been offered to parents with regard to "half-timers." Twice unfortunately studies have had to be interrupted and schools closed owing to outbreaks of infectious illness.

TRADE AND LABOUR.

Building operations have proceeded in the district on the same extensive scale as of late years, a large number of new houses making their appearance in the twelve months, while several building estates have been partly developed and new roads laid out. This has led to the demand for labour being brisk throughout the year. It is difficult to feel the pulse of the trade of the town, but there is reason to believe that business generally has been fairly good. At any rate this impression seems to have prevailed outside, for an unusually large number of London firms have established branches in our midst, and the modernising of old premises has proceeded apace. The agitation in favour of a service of workmen's trains between Bromley and London has recently been renewed, and has received the support of the Bromley Urban District Council and the Board of Guardians.

RELIGIOUS MATTERS.

There has been no relaxation of effort for the promotion of the town's moral and spiritual welfare during the past year; on the contrary Bromley has been visited by an unusually large number of representative preachers and teachers. In the month of May the Bromley Presbyterian Church secured the services, as pastor, of the Rev. C. Moinet, D.D., of St. John's, Presbyterian Church, Kensington; and the only other ministerial change has been the departure of the Rev. H. Hamilton Jackson, on his appointment to the rectory of Milton, Berkshire. During the last week in November a mission was held at St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common, conducted by the Rev. Canon F. C. Carter, Tait Missioner of the diocese of Canterbury The new church of St. Mark's is now within measurable distance of completion and in July a grand bazaar in aid of the funds was held at Bromley Palace, opened by Lady Sophie Scott, at which a sum of about £500 was raised. The annual festival of the Diocesan Branch of the Church of England Temperance Society, held at Bromley in October, was one of the most successful in the annals of the Canterbury Diocese. His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury (Dr. Temple) visited Bromley for the

first time in his new capacity, and preached and spoke on the temperance question to crowded audiences. The local Nonconformist pulpits have been occupied by several well-known ministers, including the President of the Wesleyan Conference (Rev. W. L. Watkinson), Rev. Dr. Dallinger, Rev. Dr. Newman Hall, Professor Cave, of Hackney College, Rev. Vaughan Price, professor of New College, and others. The Jubilee of the Band of Hope Movement has been celebrated by several large meetings in the district.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

Interest in all forms of outdoor recreation has kept at about the same level locally during 1897, the chief event of note in the cricketing season being the Kent v. Surrey match at Beckenham, when the home representatives suffered defeat by 156 runs. Some creditable displays both with the bat and the ball have been made among the local clubs. Among the sporting events of the year must be mentioned the publication of Mr. Philip Norman's interesting "Annals of the West Kent Cricket Club." Cycling appears to have an ever larger number of devotees in this district. Bromley's premier football team ended last season very satisfactorily, carrying off the trophy as champions of the 2nd Dvision of the London League, but their performances during the present season have been disappointing, chiefly owing to the loss, from various causes, of several of their best players. At the end of the year Bromley occupies the sixth position in the 1st Division of the London League, while their career in the London Cup contest was cut short by their defeat at the hands of the Old Etonians early in the season. Among smaller local clubs the Bromley and District League competition is still the main attraction, and at present Bromley A's stand at the top of the list with 12 points out of a possible 14, Bromley St. Luke's being second, while the Bromley Swifts—the winners last season—have only played two matches in this contest up to date, but have won them both. The Bromley Albions head the second division of this local league; and Quernmore House School top the list of schools competing for the West Kent Schools Cup. Our hockey club appear likely to retain the championship for the South of England, and several of its members have assisted Kent in various county competitions.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The exploitation of the coalfields in Kent has been commenced in earnest, and threatens to change the face of the county.—The outbreak of typhoid fever at Maidstone in the autumn was one of the most serious visitations of modern times, though fortunately the deaths resulting from it were unusually few.—The year has seen the opening of the new Post Office in Bromley, which has proved a great boon to staff and public.—The local Volunteers, though they have had to give up their range at Southend and now have to journey to Milton, near Gravesend for shooting practice, have progressed both in numbers and efficiency.

THE YEAR'S OBITUARY.

Death has taken a number of old and well-known residents from the Bromley district since our last retrospect.

Mr. T. J. I. Nettleton, of 75, Bromley Common, died on January 8th, aged 60 years. The deceased gentleman came to Bromley in 1861, and for many years actively associated himself with religious work at the Bromley Common Baptist Chapel.

The death occurred in February of Miss Chapman, well-known and respected in the neighbourhood of Keston, where in conjunction with her sisters she carried on a private school.

Mrs. Mills, who for some years had carried on a grocery business at Farnborough, passed away in February at the ripe age of 78 years.

Mr. Philip James Stanger, of Crosbie, Masons-hill, Bromley, died on February 4th, after a week's illness. Mr. Stanger was formerly in business at St. Mary Cray, and was regarded as the leader of Liberalism in that district, while his religious sympathies were with the Congregational denomination.

The Rev. James E. Clapham, a prominent Wesleyan minister, died at his residence, Crescent House, Beckenham, in March, at the age of 54.

Mr. Homersham Cox, the late County Court judge of this district, died at Tonbridge in March, at the age of 75.

Mr. H. G. Cooper, who had for thirty years carried on business as a butcher at Bromley, passed away at his residence, Widmore-road, on March 27th, aged 52 years.

Mr. Robert Crowhurst, a retired draper, of Sussex Lodge, Bromley Common, died on March 23rd, in his 82nd year. He was one of Bromley's oldest inhabitants, commencing business in the Market-square in 1839, and giving it up to his sons in 1884.

Mrs. Johnson Gedge, an old and highly respected resident of Bromley, died at her residence, Ivy Lodge, Palace-grove, on April 27th. The deceased lady was 86 years of age, and was the widow of Mr. Johnson Gedge, of Bury St. Edmunds.

The Rev. H. E. Brooke, a former minister of Christ Church, Bromley-park, passed away at Beckenham, in April.

Mr. Henry Ackermann, formerly in business at Penge, died at 30, Masons-hill, Bromley, on April 13th, aged 69.

The death occurred at Hastings in the month of May, of Mrs. James Collett, formerly a resident of Bromley.

Major Herbert C. Young, of Beckenham, died at Bloemfontein, South Africa, on April 25th, aged 47. He was the son of a former rector of Kirkby Mallory, Leicestershire.

Mr. G. Buchanan, M. Inst. C.E., F.R.G.S., a civil engineer, who constructed the first railway in South Africa, died at his residence, Towerfields, Keston, on June 7th.

Mrs. Reed, widow of the late rector of Hayes and rural dean, died at St. Leonard's-on-Sea, on July 19th, at the advanced age of 79 years.

The Rev. W. Garwood, a retired Baptist minister, passed away, in his 90th year, at 34, Palace-grove, Bromley, on August 22nd. His eldest son, Mr. R. W. Garwood, died at Southborough in the previous month.

Mr. Manning Keer, who for over thirty years conducted a draper's business at 27, High-street, Bromley, died on September 10th, aged 59 years.

Mr. Arthur R. Gowing, a journalist on the "Daily News" staff, died at his residence, "Linbank," Shortlands, in September. The deceased was forty years of age.

Mr. T. Ingledew Bath, a farmer well-known in the neighbourhood of St. Mary Cray and Bromley, died during October, at the age of 52.

Mrs. Duncanson, wife of Mr. E. F. Duncanson, of Bickley, died on October 2nd.

The death occurred on October 15th, at Alma Villa, Masons-hill, Bromley, of Mr. John James Potter Thomson, a member of the Common Council of the City of London, at the age of 56.

Mr. Joseph Harradine, of Phoenix Lodge, London-road, Bromley, died on October 17th. For twenty-five years he was agent for the Phœnix Fire Office, and came to Bromley in 1852, holding the licence of the "Swan and Mitre" for ten years. He was one of the four founders of the local Foresters' Court.

Mrs. Willis, the wife of Mr. H. J. Willis, of Chislehurst, died on October 18th, at the advanced age of 79.

Mr. E. Hedley, a large colliery owner, of "Rainham," The Avenue, Beckenham, died on October 18th.

Mr. W. Lovelock, builder, the oldest member of the Beckenham Urban Council, and an old inhabitant of that parish, died on October 17th, aged 57 years.

Dr. F. W. Barry, of Tower House, Downe, senior medical inspector to the Local Government Board, died suddenly on October 12th, at Birmingham, whither he had gone on duty, aged 46 years.

Mr. Edward Maynard, for many years landlord of the Bricklayers' Arms, Masons-hill, Bromley, died during October.

On October 28th, the death occurred of Mr. W. Milstead, carman and contractor, of Masons-hill, Bromley, at the age of 54.

Mr. Charles Thomas Marzetti, aged 74, who was mainly instrumental in founding the Tea Clearing House, died at Widmore Cottage, Bromley, on November 6th.

Mr. H. Hurst, a member of the St. Luke's Burial Board, who had resided in Bromley for thirty years, died on November 18th, at 62, Pope-road, Bromley Common, aged 66 years.

Mrs. Smith, wife of Mr. J. A. Smith, of "East bank," Westgate-road, Beckenham, passed away, after a long illness, on November 16th.

Mr. J. M. Thomson, who resided for some years at Chilchester Lodge, Beckenham, died in the month of October.

The death occurred on November 25th, of Mr. W. Perry, of "Broad Oak," Chislehurst Common, at the age of 76 years.

Mr. Herbert Berens, son of Mr. R. Berens, J.P., of Kevington, St. Mary Cray, died on December 2nd, from pneumonia. Deceased was captain of the Cray Fire Brigade, and a very popular sportsman.

Mrs. Parr, widow of General Parr, died at Powis Lodge, Southborough-road, Bickley, on December 14th. The deceased lady came to Bromley in 1823, and had lived at Bickley since 1874.

Mrs. Catherine Stringer, widow of Mr. Stringer Stringer, who had lived in Bromley for twenty years, died at Egerton Lodge, Park-road, Bromley, on December 22nd.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT CHISLEHURST.—On December 3rd, a fire occurred in the early morning at "Ee-Yuan," Manor-road, Chislehurst, the residence of Major Elers, who was away at the time. Despite the efforts of the Chislehurst Fire Brigade, the house was completely gutted, the damage being estimated at £5,000.

BROMLEY AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY.—This newly formed Society gave its first public performance at the Bromley Grand Hall, on Wednesday, December 15th, when the comedy entitled "The Parvenu" was most successfully staged and acted before a large audience, the following being the cast:—"Sir Fulke Pettigrew" (of the Warren), Mr. S. Pamphilon; "Mr. Ledger, M.P." (of Pagnett Royall), Mr. F. H. Norman; "The Honble. Charles Tracey," Mr. A. Hutson; "Claude Glynn," Mr. Fred W. Covington; "Jeames," Mr. E. E. Cochrane; "Boatman," Mr. J. F. Hawkins; "Lady Pettigrew," Miss Lizzie Henderson; "Gwendolen Pettigrew," Miss Sylvia Allen; "Mary Ledger," Miss Ethel Allen. The amateur performers acquitted themselves admirably, and the enjoyment of the entertainment was enhanced by the contributions of a choice selection of music by an orchestra of local ladies and gentlemen, under the able baton of Mr. R. Neville Flux. Messrs. F. W. Covington and A. Hutson satisfactorily undertook the stage management, and Messrs. R. C. Armstrong and J. F. Hawkins acted as honorary secretaries. The proceeds, amounting to nearly £30, were devoted to reducing the deficit on the local Jubilee celebration fund.

ANTIQUARIAN NOTES.

WOOLWICH DISTRICT ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.—We have received a copy of the second annual report and abstract of proceedings of this Society, which shows that though the Society has only been in existence two years it already has 132 members, and is a thoroughly vigorous institution. Among the places to which summer visits were paid were May Place, Crayford, Crayford Church, the Moated House at Howbury, Erith Parish Church, the Pilgrim's Way, Trotters-cliffe, the Cromlech at Coldrum and Trotters-cliffe Church, Cooling Castle and Church, Keston Church, War Bank, and Hall Place, Bexley. During the winter session papers were read on such interesting subjects as Local Place Names, Woolwich Parish Church Registers and Vestry Books, Antique Chairs, the Folk-lore of Shakespeare, Ancient Lamps and Lights, and Roman Coins relating to Britain. The proceedings contain a view of Howbury House, and a re-production of a number of signatures from the Woolwich Church Registers and Vestry Books. The Society is fortunate in possessing such an able and enthusiastic President as Mr. W. T. Vincent, and such a painstaking and whole-hearted hon. secretary as Mr. R. J. Jackson.

ANOTHER DENE-HOLE EXPLORED.—The above-mentioned Society recently raised a fund for the exploration of a dene-hole discovered at Plumstead some years ago, and the re-excavation of it took place last summer, though unfortunately with but inconclusive results so far as ascertaining the purpose of these holes is concerned. The following is an account of the exploration given by Mr. Jackson:—

The *mound* hole was discovered about 250 feet from the one found in 1890, and was excavated by the Woolwich District Antiquarian Society last summer. The total depth of the shaft was 66 feet. It was cut in the sand on the slope of a slight declivity. It was found to be filled with clay to a depth of 24 feet. Below this it was hollow for 15 feet, where the chalk stratum began, so that the chalk was encountered 39 feet from the surface. The rest of the shaft, and two chambers at the bottom, were filled with fine sand, evidently thrown in when the hole was disused. The chambers were found lying east and west of the main shaft, and extended into the chalk a distance of 26 feet each way from the centre of the shaft. They were oval in form, the sides being arched barrel-shape, rising to about 17 feet, where they terminated in a flat roof 2 feet 6 inches across. At this widest part, the width of the chamber floor was 9 feet. The shaft was perfectly cylindrical, 3 feet in diameter, till the chalk was reached, when it opened out to 4 feet 6 inches. Nothing was found excepting a few ox-bones at the bottom of the shaft.

INTERESTING DISCOVERY.—Workmen in the employ of Messrs. Knight, Bevan, & Sturge were engaged in excavating brick earth at Northfields, Swanscombe, Kent, on the 13th ult., when they discovered a portion of the remains of a mammoth. The news was conveyed to the manager, Mr. Maxwell Williams, who soon took steps to carefully detach the tusk visible from the sand in which it was embedded, and this was accomplished with a gratifying degree of success. The tusk was a gigantic one and lay in the sand with the butt end pointing to the north-east, while to the right could be seen the butt of another tusk, but inclining the other way. There was a drift of sand over the remains and over that the brick-earth.

"IVA KILDARE,"

BY MRS. L. B. WALFORD,

Author of "Mr. Smith," "Cousins," "Frederick," "A Mere Child," "The Baby's Grandmother," etc., etc.

While the fate of Old Cary Hall hung in the balance, the baronet often looked at his beard, undecided as to whether it became him or not. With better times, he would of course be able to afford all the little comforts his soul loved, and these would certainly include an entire new shaving apparatus, should he conclude to divest himself of what journalists designate the "hirsute appendage"; but, after all, the hirsute appendage was warm and comfortable, and saved a confounded lot of trouble. When he pulled it to one side and the other to see how he would look without it, he was by no means sure that he would look better.

The beard was grey, but it was fairly thick, and had a slight curl. Having passed through the early stages of stubble growth, and run the gauntlet of his friends' exclamations, having even obtained from the latter some favourable opinions as soon as the novelty had worn off, he was inclined to pause before taking any further step. He would consult Reggie. And so entirely had trifles gone to make up the sum of his poor vagabondish life for many years past that in finally deciding to go down to Somersetshire, it went for more than Sir Philip would have owned to anyone, the taking of Reggie's opinion on this important matter.

As he now sprang out of bed, and peered from the latticed window of his little room—a clean, pleasant chamber, infinitely preferable to the dingy apartments he was accustomed to—he pulled his beard quite cheerfully, and yawned and stretched himself with an amount of complacency he had certainly not experienced for many a bygone day. The tooth was out, and the jaw was already healing.

Certes, he had no intention of starting any fresh ache by further probing of old memories, of associations, by another visit to the halls of his forefathers. On that point he was as firm as he had been the night before; for firmness coincided with inclination.

"There can easily be no time," nodded he, withdrawing from the window. "'Tis a fine day, and I must look round. It will only be civil to call at one or two of the farms—no, confound it! I couldn't do *that*—couldn't stand the talk and questioning—but I can pretend to Reggie that I will. We might have made a bolt for it after breakfast but for him. He has got to pack his traps, and take leave decently. It would not do for him to skulk off as if in disgrace. Besides, it is safe to get about that I have been down, and if I am seen by no one, and go nowhere, there would be nasty things said. As it is, if I make my appearance on the roads—if I am seen walking along pretty fast, with papers sticking out of my pocket—it will go down all right. The Hodges will say I was pressed for time, and had a lot of business to get through. The Hodges? Hum!"—meditating—"we must tell them, I suppose? Or, no; I don't see why we should. Writing will do. It will be enough for the present that they should know Reggie is about to be transferred to another regiment—a better regiment—and go to India sooner than he expected. They know he was to have gone next year, anyway. They can easily be made to understand that he is keen to get out into the world——"

Suddenly Sir Philip paused in his dressing operations, with a hand uplifted, an idea having just occurred to him. "I suppose he *is* keen?" he murmured, half-aloud.

So full had he been of his own story, and so anxious to present the part he was playing in its most favourable aspect, that he had neither marked at the time nor could now recall in what fashion his nephew had received the first tidings of that which mainly concerned himself, namely, his transfer and its immediate consequences.

"He was dying for it once; I suppose he hasn't altered his mind," ruminated Sir Philip, buckling straps anew. "And he certainly *said* he was pleased, and he thanked me. Of course, he was not pleased at the sale; and of course, like an inconsiderate greenhorn, he did not reflect that but for the sale he might have whistled for his transfer. But, poor lad, he's young and callow, and he loves the old bones—loves them as I did once—dash it all! no more thinking about that now!" he broke off, with an angry twitch of his neckcloth.

"But I can't blame Reggie," pursued Sir Philip, checking down other sensations. "I should be far more vexed with him if he did not care. Not one young man in a hundred would care twopence, as long as he could swagger in a fine regiment, and cut a dash. But I thought Reggie had a drop of the old blood in his veins. I thought it would sting; by Jove, it *did* sting! How he jumped when he took it in! I—upon my word, it was a bad half-minute for *me*. No more of that for Phil Goffe, thank you! You don't catch me going through another experience in the tapestry hall. Pshaw! what am I meandering on about? He won't desire it any more than I. He can go by himself—probably would prefer it—and be free to pick and choose as he pleases. Yes; I shall tell him at breakfast he is to be quite untrammelled, and that anything he fancies he may look on as his own. He need not even tell me what he takes," proceeded Sir Philip, with a sensation of magnanimity, and some real kindness to boot. "It would only make us both have the blues afresh. If he takes along an old box—I daresay Mrs. Hodge could furnish one—and packs it there and leaves it, one of the farm men could be sent to fetch it just before we go. When do we go? Let me see," extracting from his papers a penny book on local trains, with which he had provided himself the night before. (N.B.—He would gladly have made use of it then and there, and looked at the yellow cover with animation now.)

"Ah! here we are! continued Sir Philip, pouncing upon a page, and following a column downwards with his finger. "One o'clock. Three-thirty. Five-forty-five. Five-forty-five? Ye-es. Yes, that might do. Rather late; but we have nothing to do when we get up, and a long evening together—no, no; a long evening together would not be the best possible conclusion to a day of this sort We'll shorten it, Reggie—or rather, we'll cut it out. Arrive about nine-thirty, eat, and go to bed. To-morrow we'll do the Horse Guards, the Rag, tailors, outfitters, everywhere. He will soon get into the spirit of the thing. Gad! I shall enjoy it too—this part of the business over. And yesterday was the worst day—oh, decidedly it was the worst!" concluded he, briskly brushing hair and beard, and pausing for a few minutes to contemplate the latter.

"'Pon my word, I—I think it makes me rather a fine-looking fellow!" cried the poor butterfly baronet, with a feeble flutter of his singed wings.

And he stepped across the room to open the door, with a step that was almost a strut.

CHAPTER XIV.

REGGIE AND SIR PHILIP.

"Morning, Reggie!"

A glance at his nephew's countenance decided Sir Philip to go on talking, without waiting for rejoinders which might be long in coming. "Beautiful morning!" continued he, rubbing his

hands with a brisk, businesslike air. "Took a whiff of ozone from my window before I came down. Glorious it was! And the leaves are still on the trees, I see; and the old rooks bustling about. I saw a couple of wild duck too. Been after duck, Reggie? There used to be some very decent ducking down by the stream. Snipe and woodcock too, if I remember rightly. They ought to be here by now. Oh, there's no place in the world like Old England on a fine autumn morning —ahem!"—recollecting too late that this was not precisely the keynote best suited to conversation on the present occasion—"that's to say, the Old England that used to be—the Old England I was brought up to—not the England of to-day. Times are changed, and we must march with the times. But 'tis pleasant to—come, come, nephew, look a little less glum about it, can't ye? Things might be worse. Anyhow, I have lost at least as much as you; and it is rough on me to have to do all the cheerfulness. . . . . Eh? What? You think I have had time to recover from the first shock? . . . . So I have. And I mean to hold fast by the recovery. It is all for the best; and come what may, we'll have no ill-blood between us. Shake hands, my boy."

"All right, sir." Reggie, who had been standing by the window, only half-hearing the stream of prattle, and wholly indifferent to its tenor, turned round as he spoke, and held out the hand his uncle waited for. "I'm afraid I haven't helped you much," he said, then suddenly forced a few rapid utterances, the composition of which had come to him in the night. "It is awfully difficult for a fellow to speak, uncle Philip; but I don't want you to think me ungrateful, and all that. Of course, you have a right to do as you please with your own, and of course it's not as if I were your son——"

"If you were my son, it must have come to this just the same; remember there is no entail now. Although you are recognised, and I intend to make you my heir, you have no legal rights," emphatically. "Even had you possessed any, I think—I fancy—no heir of mine would have gone against me, now that things are at this pass. Surely, Reggie, you do not mean—you cannot mean that you would wish me to leave debts of honour unpaid?" The colour stole into Sir Philip's thin cheeks as he looked keenly for the answer.

"No-no—no—of course not." But the young man drew a sigh, and paused. "I can't explain it," he went on after a while, "because I do not myself understand how I feel. I know you are right——"

"That's a good lad!"

"And I do believe," with an emphasis which was for himself alone, "that it is the best thing in the world for *me*."

"Aha! You have found that out?"

"But the physic is bitter," said Reggie, with a wry smile. "It is horrible. It wrings my mouth and scalds my throat in the swallowing."

"Aye; so it did mine—skinned it."

"If you could have kept a few acres—ever so few —just to preserve some sort of link——"

"No, no, my boy. No link. The chain is rusty —covered with gangrene; snap it, and throw it away. 'Tis the only thing to do."

"I have always looked upon Old Cary Hall as a home, and it is the only home I ever knew."

"A poor sort of home," muttered Sir Philip; but he regarded his nephew with a kindlier eye. "It speaks well for you, young man—deucedly well, I must say—that you should give so much affection where you have got so little; but some of these days you will want a very different kind of domestic hearth, and how would it have suited you to have had nothing but the cold ashes in those rooms up yonder?" pointing over his shoulder—"nothing but them to call your 'ain fireside,' with no chance of kindling them into life again? I like your spirit, Reggie; 'pon my soul, I do. It does me good to find there is some family feeling, some pride, still left on the face of the earth; but—ha, here comes good Mrs. Hodge with our breakfast"—not unwilling to change the subject "A fine old teapot that, Mrs. Hodge, and a rare teamaker, I'll warrant! I have been so long accustomed to coffee for breakfast that——"

'Coffee, Sir Philip? If I had thought of it, now——"

"By no means. That was the last thing I meant." Sir Philip, all courtesy, threw out his hands in deprecation, another trick he had contracted abroad. "Tea—good English tea—will be a treat to me. And as for those eggs and bacon and sausages—it seems we are to be well fortified for our work to-day, Reggie," cried he, helping himself with a liberal hand. "Does Mrs. Hodge always victual you like this?" laughing pleasantly to the gratified dame. "Because, if so, you ought to do her more credit. You are as lean as I. Isn't that so, Mrs. Hodge?"

"'Tis not in the family to be stout, Sir Philip."

"The family has not always been so well treated." Sir Philip poured the rich cream into his cup with the enjoyment of a schoolboy. "'Pon my word, this is most luxurious! Your own baking, mistress?" tearing off a crusty hunch from the loaf in front of him.

"Just my own, Sir Philip. And the butter is only out of the churn an hour ago. The girl churned on purpose. So I know *it* will please you," cried the worthy woman, laying a stress upon the "it," as though to infer that all the rest was nothing. "But indeed 'tis so little we have to offer—though, to be sure, more eggs—they could be done in a minute——"

"No more—no more indeed! Why, Mrs. Hodge, we shall hardly get through what we have got here. No, no; here's a breakfast fit for a king!" and Sir Philip ate, and praised, and chatted, and feasted, with an adaptation to the humour of his hostess and appreciation of her humble efforts on his behalf which Reggie could not but own to be both wise and kindly.

He wished he could have followed suit; but what would have been his own impulse twenty-four hours before was now an impossibility.

"Summat's gone wrong with the poor lamb," decided the farmer's wife, retiring at last with her apron corner between her fingers. "Summat's upset him. He doesn't like his uncle's coming, and he doan't seem as if he could eat wi' him comfortable. 'Twas the same wi' his dinner last night. Eh, but Sir Philip's a fine gentleman, and 'tis a pleasure to see *him* eat so hearty, anyway," and she trotted off to attend to other appetites.

"You will have a hornet's nest about your ears, if you don't put a better face upon it, Reggie." observed Sir Philip drily, as the door closed. "If this gets wind——"

"It must get wind sooner or later."

"You don't wish to be here when it does? Let them clack when we two are safe out of hearing. London din will shut it out of our ears. Or, better still, I can ask to have the sale kept dark till after you start for India. That will be in a week's time, and no one could think it unreasonable to wait a week. I understand that he is a very decent fellow."

"Who?"

"Who? The man who has bought the place. The owner now—confound him!—of Old Cary Hall. I told you I had signed and sealed."

"Have you met him—the man?"

"Never set eyes on him. There was no need for it. Worthington managed the whole thing, and I must say did it beautifully. Found a purchaser, bargained with him, got a very respectable price out of him, and even recollected the fittings and—

the—the odds and ends we spoke about last night. By the way, I am afraid I shall not be able to go with you to the old place this morning. I have been looking over my papers, and find there are too many things chalked out for me to do already. (He's not inquisitive; he will never inquire what they are, mentally.) "So, if you will just excuse me, my dear boy, you can have the keys and go where you like, and take what you like. Will that suit you, eh?"

"Thank you, yes." It suited Reggie particularly; he had been pondering how to manœuvre this very getting away by himself. "I suppose I may go at once?"

"As soon as you please. Directly you have finished your breakfast. When you come back you will want to pack up, and, I daresay, to write some letters. I have letters too," continued Sir Philip, with a brisk reflection that here was a safe and orthodox outlet. "I'll just take a look round and have my cigar first, then come in and write. And before luncheon—by the way, what time shall we go to the Tilburys'? Shall we lunch with them, eh?"

"Better not, sir. They have visitors arriving to-day. And I fancy—yes, I know I heard they were lunching either early or late, I forget which, on that account. The visitors were to come about the middle of the day. Our going might be——"

"*Mal-apropos.* As you please. You know best. What time shall we go, then?"

"Later on they are nearly always at home. They are sure to be so to-day, because of these people coming, and the horses having had to go so far already. Lady Tilbury spoke of sending to a distant station." (He had thought it all out in the night.) "Our best plan will be to be packed and ready by three o'clock, then walk up; if we find no one in, we can take a turn in the garden and wait. Considering what errand we come on——" He turned his head aside, affecting to be engaged with Jess, the spaniel, who had crawled to his feet.

Sir Philip stole a glance. "Faith, this is a little queer!" quoth he to himself.

It was something, however, to have found a subject on which his uncommunicative nephew would talk, and he took mental note that whenever conversation flagged he could always set it going again by a remark about the Tilburys.

Obviously the Tilburys had counted for a good deal in Reggie's life, and as obviously no one else—at the present moment—counted for anything. The traveller had no one else to whom farewell was to be said. He professed no desire to communicate the great change which had taken place in his life to any other human being.

"I'll just pack up and tell the Hodges to—to look after Jess," he said, "unless——"

"Take her with you to Tilbury Court. Lady Tilbury would give the poor brute a home for your sake, I doubt not."

"I was thinking so," said Reggie slowly. But he was not thinking precisely so. He was substituting another name for that of Lady Tilbury.

(To be continued.)

Births.

BERT.—On the 5th Dec., at Seafield, Bockenham, the wife of William Berg, of twin sons.

DALTON.—On the 17th December, at Hillside, Harrow Weald, the wife of John Dalton, of Barham House, Bromley-common, Kent, of a son.

GALLIE.—On the 23rd December, at Thornbury, Shortlands, Kent, the wife of James Buttler Gallie, of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-law, of a son.

STEWART.—On the 10th December, at Sabragalba, 5, Hope-park, Bromley Kent, the wife of Charles Tait Stewart, of a son.

Marriages.

COCKBURN—STEIN.—On the 16th December, at St. Paul's, Beckenham, by the Rev. Henry Arnott, Rector, assisted by the Rev. Hubert Green, Robert Charles Radcliffe, eldest son of the late Robert Adolphus Cockburn, of Fetcham, Leatherhead, Surrey, and grandson of Surgeon-General R. Cockburn, to Sybil Blanche, daughter of Andrew Stein, of Broomfield, Beckenham, Kent.

PETRIE—URLIN.—On the 29th November, at the Parish Church, Kensington, (St. Mary Abbot's) by the Rev. R. Milburn Blakiston, assisted by Rev. Horace Downes, (cousin of the bride) Professor W. M. Flinders Petrie, D.C.L., LL.D., (son of William Petrie, Esq., of Crescent-road, Bromley, Kent,) to Hilda Mary Isabel, daughter of R. Denny Urlin, Esq., of the Middle Temple, and of Rustington, in the county of Sussex.

STRACHAN—HELMORE.—On the 6th Dec., at Christ Church, Wanstead, by the Rev. F. J. Poole, B.A., Capt. David Hughes Strachan, 1st Wilts Regt., to Mabel Constance, fourth daughter of the late George Helmore, Esq., of Shortlands, Kent, from the residence of her brother, Percy Helmore, Esq., Craiglands, Blake-hall-road, Wanstead.

Deaths.

DAVIS.—On the 3rd December, at De La Mare, Bromley-common, Kent, Matilda, widow of the late John Day Davis.

GARRARD.—On the 7th Dec., at Campsie, Beckenham, Rosina Mary, the dearly loved wife of Thos. E. Garrard.

PARR.—On the 14th December, Harriet Parr, widow of the late General Thomas Chase Parr, of Powis Lodge, Bickley, in her 78th year.

PEEL.—On the 16th December, suddenly, at her residence, Moore House, Beckenham, Kent, Ann Augusta, widow of the late Captain Robert Moore Peel, 6th Inniskilling Dragoons, of Merivale, Edgbaston, Birmingham. Friends, please accept this (the only) intimation.

POOLE.—On the 11th December, at Bournemouth, of consumption, William Mackay Crichton Poole, dearly loved and only son of the late Henry Poole, of Chislehurst, and Mrs. Poole, 15, Werter-road, Putney, aged 19.

ROBERTS.—On the 16th December, at his residence Rosenberg, Beckenham, Kent, William Roberts, aged 74.

SCOTT.—On Tuesday, the 14th December, at Bromley, Kent, Margaretta Scott, widow of the late George Robert Scott, of the Stock Exchange, aged 77. Friends kindly accept this intimation.

STRINGER.—On the 22nd December, at Egerton Lodge, Bromley, Catherine, widow of the late Stringer Stringer, Esq., of Goudhurst, Kent, aged 77.

WOOD.—On the 22nd December, Herbert Stone, younger son of Henry Drew Wood, of Meadow View, Beckenham, and Basinghall-street, E.C., in his 32nd year.

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

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AND

H. COSMO O. BONSOR, Esq., M.P.

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AN

ENTERTAINMENT

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DISGUYSED MINSTRELS

(STUDENTS OF GUY'S HOSPITAL).

With the STUDENTS' ORCHESTRA,

ON

TUESDAY, JAN. 11, 189-,

IN AID OF THE FUNDS OF

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TO carry on the full work of Thomas Guy's Charity, his Hospital needs £21,000 annually from voluntary sources over and above its income from Estates and Re-endowment Fund investments. The Disguysed Minstrels have, as the result of previous performances, endowed with the sum of £500 a Cot in Miriam Ward, and are supporting two Beds by an annual payment of £100.

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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.

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THE

BROMLEY RECORD

AND

MONTHLY ADVERTISER.

No. 475. **FEBRUARY, 1898.** **Price One Penny.**

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LOCAL REGISTER
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PORT.	per doz.	per bot.
TARRAGONA PORT	12/0	1/0
GENUINE DOURO WINE	18/0	1/6
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COCKBURN'S FINE OLD	36/0	3/0
FINE OLD CRUSTED WINES, from	42/0	3/6
And upwards.		
SHERRY.		
FULL PALE	12/0	1/0
NATURAL	16/0	1/4
LIGHT SOUND WINE	24/0	2/0
DINNER SHERRY	30/0	2/6
CHOICE OLD, from	36/6	3/0
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SOUND GOOD	12/0	1/0
VIN ORDINAIRE	15/0	1/3
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ST. JULIEN	24/0	2/0
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BEAUJOLAIS	24/0	2/0
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SUPERIOR	30/0	2/6
FINE OLD	36/0	3/0
G. ROE'S	42/0	3/6
DUNVILLE'S V.R.	42/0	3/6
JOHN JAMESON'S OLD BONDED	42/0	3/6
BEST LONDON GIN.		
UNSWEETENED (40 under proof)	18/0	1/6
UNSWEETENED or SWEETENED	24/0	2/0
FINEST OLD TOM	30/0	2/6
FINEST UNSWEETENED	30/0	2/6
BRANDY.		
BRITISH BRANDY	30/0	2/6
BLENDED BRANDY	42/0	3/6
PURE COGNAC	54/0	4/6
VERY CHOICE ****	69/0	5/9
HENNESSY'S. OUR OWN SHIPPING and BOTTLING	66/0	5/6
RUM.		
BLENDED	30/0	2/6
OLD JAMAICA	36/0	3/0
VERY CHOICE	42/0	3/6

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NEW BEDSTEADS.

BATCHELAR & SON invite an inspection of their NEW STOCK of BRASS and IRON BEDSTEADS, which includes all the Newest Styles of the best makers at the most moderate prices. Batchelar and Son make every description of Bedding on the premises and guarantee the purity of all Mattresses, &c. Orders for any kind of Bedstead and Bedding can be executed on a few hours' Notice and delivered by own vans.

Hair Mattresses.

Wool Mattresses

Spring Mattresses.

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HEAD OFFICES: CROYDON.

APPOINTED BY SPECIAL ROYAL WARRANT

SOAP MAKERS TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

Begin work early if you want to; but in any case you won't have to work late if you use

Sunlight Soap

because it washes clothes quickly. Use Sunlight Soap next washing day and you will know what easy washing means.

Less Labour.
Greater Comfort.

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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.

The Bromley Record.
FOUNDED 1858.

FEBRUARY, 1898.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st.—Bromley Urban District Council meeting at the Offices, East-street, at 7.30 p.m.—Lecture by Professor Malden, on Nansen's Arctic expedition, at the Bromley Grand Hall.—Great united demonstration in support of Sunday closing of public-houses, at the Bromley Drill Hall, at 8 p.m., to be addressed by Mr. Harmar Greenwood, B.A., and Mr. R. Foulkes Griffiths, barrister. Mr. W. Joynson-Hicks will preside.

3rd.—Amateur dramatic performance in aid of the funds of the R.S.P.C.A., at the Grand Hall, Bromley, at 8.15 p.m.

4th.—Conservative smoking concert at the Bromley Drill Hall, and presentation to Mr. Colin Campbell, upon his retirement from the post of hon. secretary to the local Conservative Club.—"Queen's Evidence," by Miss Inez Howard's company at the Bromley Grand Hall, and on following night.

5th.—South of the Thames cross-country championship to be run at Oakley, Bromley Common, at 3.15 p.m.

6th.—*Septuagesima Sunday.*

7th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court-house, at 10.30 a.m.—St. Luke's Burial Board meeting at the St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common, at 8 p.m.—Bromley School Board meeting at the Wharton-road Schools at 8 p.m.

9th.—Vocal and instrumental concert, arranged by Mr. Bromley, at the Bromley Grand Hall, the programme including Liza Lehmann's song-cycle, "In a Persian Garden," at 8 p.m.

10th.—Annual general meeting of the subscribers to the Bromley Cottage Hospital at the Parish-room, West-street, at 5.30 p.m.

11th.—Monthly sitting of the Bromley County Court, before Judge Emden, at the Sessions House, Market-square.

13th.—*Sexagesima Sunday.*

14th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court-house at 10.30 a.m.—St. Valentine's Day.—Mr. Sam Houlding's annual Bohemian concert at the Bromley Grand Hall, at 8 p.m.

15th.—Bromley Urban District Council meeting at the Offices, East-street, at 7.30 p.m.

16th.—Dramatic performance in aid of the funds of the Bromley Cricket Club, by local amateurs, at the Bromley Grand Hall at 8 p.m.

17th.—Concert at Camden House, Chislehurst.—Blind School concert at the Bromley Grand Hall.

20th.—*Quinquagesima Sunday.*

21st.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court-house at 10.30 a.m.—Bromley School Board meeting at the Wharton-road Schools, at 8 p.m. Evening concert arranged by Mr. T. H. Jarvis, at the Bromley Grand Hall, at 8 p.m., when several well-known artistes will appear.

22nd.—Shrove Tuesday.

23rd.—Ash Wednesday.

27th.—*First Sunday in Lent.*

28th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court-house at 10.30 a.m.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

This Council met twice during January, on 4th and 18th, both meetings being of a rather interesting and lengthy nature.

ELECTRIC LIGHT POWERS.

The proposed transfer of the Council's electric lighting powers to a private company has been the most prominent question of the month, and at both meetings it was discussed at considerable length. In the previous month the Council had requested fuller particulars respecting the constitution of the private company, and on January 4th the company's solicitors replied, stating that the present directors were Messrs. Medhurst and Taylor, both of High-street, Bromley, and Mr. Gripper, an electrician of Twickenham, and these gentlemen were willing to take £5,400 worth of shares in the company. The Council were informed that the company would be prepared to consider the nomination of any member of the Council as a director, if this was desired, and as an explanation for not having invited the local public to subscribe shares, the company's solicitors pointed out that payment to the contractors would not be made until three months after the works were completed, so that the money was not required yet. Considerable discussion followed, several councillors — Messrs. Worley, McIntyre, Lawrence, Mallett, and the chairman (Mr. Davis)—expressing their doubts as to the "local" character of the company. The absence of any offer to the ratepayers to take shares was strongly commented upon, and the chairman, in a lengthy statement, urged the importance of fully protecting the interests of the ratepayers. Having seen nothing of the prospectus of the company he doubted whether it was actually formed, and the Council ought not, he said, to hand over such a valuable property as that Provisional Order to a company of electricians so that they might make a profit out of it. Before parting with the Order they should be clear that the shares had been actually subscribed and allotted, and the company properly started, and he, therefore, suggested that the matter should be delayed until they possessed still further information. The chairman intimated in the course of his remarks that he wished to make his position clear concerning the question, as he would be away—on a trip to Australia—when the matter would have to be definitely settled.—At the following meeting, a mass of correspondence was read on the subject from the Board of Trade, who intimated their readiness to consent to the transfer, and from the company's solicitors (Messrs. Todd, Dennes, and Lamb), who stated that 1,084 shares, of the value of £5,420, had been subscribed for and allotted. They urged

the Council to settle the transfer without delay, so that the works might be commenced, and the light put in operation at an early date.—From the discussion which ensued, it was evident that the majority of the members were not altogether satisfied with the information supplied. Mr. McIntyre first voiced this feeling by moving a resolution adjourning the question for a fortnight, and asking the company's solicitors, in the meantime, to state the number of shares taken by each of the subscribers, to furnish a copy of the prospectus, and of the contract entered into with Edmundsons, Limited, this information to be referred to a special committee of the whole Council to consider and report. Mr. Worley seconded, agreeing that fuller particulars were desirable, and Mr. Lawrence remarked that several thought there might be a few subscribers locally, but that the other shares would be taken by speculating bodies of electricians. Mr. Dickins and Mr. Grinsted pointed out that the Council had already published an advertisement, expressing their intention to transfer the Order to an approved company. Every concession asked for by the Council had, they said, been granted, and they failed to see what more could be wanted. Mr. Grinsted criticised Mr. Davis's conduct in making the statement he had at the previous meeting, without submitting any resolution. Mr. Mallett agreed with the majority that it was not unreasonable to request further information, and Mr. Peill remarked that if £20,000 was subscribed, as had been the case at Richmond, the Council would have a guarantee that the work would be carried out. Subsequently Mr. McIntyre's resolution was carried, and the transfer accordingly stands over.—Two communications from Mr. H. Podger and Mr. Gascoigne, urging the Council to retain the Order for the benefit of the ratepayers were read, and the Clerk was instructed to reply stating that the matter was under consideration.

CHAIRMAN'S TRIP ABROAD.

At the meeting on January 4th, the Chairman (Mr. T. Davis) informed his colleagues that he had to make a business journey to Australia and New Zealand, and he would be absent for about six months. As his term of office would expire in April next, the Council passed a hearty vote of thanks to him for his able services in the chair, and at the same time paid a similar—though late—compliment to Mr. D. Grinsted, for his presidency over the Council during the previous year.

THE RAILWAY COMPANY'S BILLS.

With reference to the Bills to be introduced in the next session of Parliament by both the L.C.D. and the S.E.R. Companies, the Council, upon the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee, decided to instruct their solicitors (Messrs. Willett and Latter) to communicate with the S.E.R. Company, with a view to obtaining the insertion of clauses as to the width of bridges, accommodation at the Bromley and Sundridge Park Stations, and protection of sewers, etc., and also with the L.C.D.R. Company to obtain undertakings to widen to a width of forty feet the bridges over the Homesdale-road, Bickley-avenue, and Clarence-road.

UNSATISFACTORY STATE OF ROADS.

Concerning a number of complaints which had been made of the bad condition of Sandford-road, the Highways Committee reported that as the road was a private one the Council were unable to assist the complaining residents, and suggested that they should communicate with the owners. This recommendation was adopted, but Dr. Price, who remarked that the road was always a swamp in wet weather, elicited the fact that the Council could compel the owners to put the road into reasonably good repair. Mr. Mallett said the owners had always done what was necessary and would probably do so again; but at the next meeting Mr. A. Hicks wrote to the effect that the residents knew the futility of trying to get the owners to do anything; and he appealed to the Council to exercise their right in the matter, and the Council agreed to send a copy of Mr. Hicks' letter to Dr. Codd, the Medical Officer.

The attention of the Council was called by Mr. W. Green, of Bickley, to the unfinished and insanitary state of Southlands-road. The writer said a loan for the necessary work had been obtained, but the Clerk stated that only sufficient was borrowed to do a portion of the road. The matter was eventually referred back to the Highways Committee.

A letter referring to Clarence-road, which was described as being in an impassable state, was also received by the Council, and the agents to the trustees wrote to the effect that the road was a private way. The matter is to have the consideration of the Highways Committee.

INCORPORATION RE-APPEARS.

The question of applying for a charter of incorporation for Bromley cropped up again at the last meeting, by a proposition from Mr. Dickins in favour of granting the use of a room at the Science School to those in favour of incorporation.—Mr. Grinsted seconded, but the resolution met with no support, and Mr. Worley remarked that incorporation appeared to be Mr. Dickins' hardy annual, for he took it up for three months and then dropped it for nine.—After some desultory discussion the proposition was abandoned.

GRAND HALL LICENCE.

In reporting upon the Bromley Grand Hall, the Surveyor recommended that the seating accommodation in the body of the hall be limited to 520 persons, and that the gallery be limited to 280. Other minor alterations were suggested, and the report was adopted, the lessee (Mr. W. Morton) having written agreeing to the Surveyor's recommendations. The licence was ordered to be sealed.

THE WATER COMMISSION.

The Council were informed by the Secretary to the Water Commission that the Commissioners would be prepared to receive the views of the Council on the matter, either singly or collectively. It was pointed out by the Clerk that the Council had decided to join with other authorities, but in the discussion which followed one or two members thought some further steps might be taken to acquaint the Commission with their own particular views on the question, and eventually the matter was adjourned until the next meeting, the Clerk being instructed to ascertain what action the Parliamentary agents were taking in the matter.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At the meeting on the 17th it was announced that Messrs. Lawrence, Worley, Peill, and Mallett had been appointed a sub-committee to consider a scheme for the laying-out of the White Hart Field.—A hearty vote of thanks was given to the Bromley Amateur Dramatic Society for the handsome effort they had made to clear off the deficit on the Jubilee Celebration account.—At the previous meeting attention was drawn to the alleged inadequate cab arrangements at Bromley S.E.R. station.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

Two meetings of this authority were held on January 10th and 24th respectively.

DEFECTIVE HEATING APPARATUS.

It was reported by the Chairman that the construction of the flue of the furnace at the Valley-road School had been found to be defective, the sulphur being enough to asphyxiate anyone, and an order for the defect to be remedied at once had been given.—This action was approved of by the Board.

WHARTON-ROAD SCHOOLS.

The Inspector's annual report on these schools was submitted. He remarked that some ground had been lost during the year owing to it being closed on two occasions, and it appeared from it that the grant earned by the mixed school amounted to £131 15s., an increase of £29 15s. on the previous year, and by the Infant School £57, making a total of £188 15s., which with the final payment of fee grant made a grand total of £220 17s. 6d. —The School Management Committee reported that they had adjourned consideration of the plans and specifications of the proposed caretaker's cottage at Wharton-road, until January 31st. Having considered the Inspector's report they recommended, on January 24th, that the salaries of the head teachers be increased by £8 per annum each, and this was approved.

THE TRUANCY QUESTION.

Referring to the institution of proceedings against a number of parents, the Chairman suggested that in all cases where children had been absent from school for long periods, the Board should take steps to have them sent to a truant school. Mr. Loly sympathised with the Chairman's desire to find a remedy, but deprecated any indiscriminate application of the Truancy Orders.—The Chairman said he did not advise any indiscriminate action, and added that there was no doubt that the Committee was weak.—Mr. Loly resented this allegation, and remarked that if anyone was to blame it was the magistrates for not increasing the fines when the orders of the Bench were treated with contempt. He thought that no case of persistent irregularity should be dealt with under the truancy orders, unless such irregularity was the result of truancy.

PROPOSED DIVISION OF CHISLEHURST.—The suggested division of Chislehurst parish into two wards for electoral purposes was the subject of a public inquiry, held by Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis on behalf of the Kent County Council, at the Village Hall, Chislehurst, on Monday, January 24th. Mr. Travers Hawes (Chairman of the Parish Council) made a lengthy statement on behalf of the advocates of the change, pointing out that the Parish Council had decided in favour of the proposal by a small majority, and laying stress on the inconvenience of the present state of things on account of the great distance separating the Upper and Lower Boroughs. Mr. R. G. Mullen (Clerk to the Bromley Rural District Council) stated that that authority offered no objection to the scheme, and Mr. Murton, who observed that he had lived in Chislehurst for 23 years, spoke in favour of the change. He contended that the different parts of the parish had separate interests of their own which could best be dealt with by having the separate representation as proposed.—Sir Patteson Nickalls, among others, strongly opposed the proposed change, stating that the inhabitants of the Lower Borough were unanimously against it.—The result of the inquiry will be made known in due course.

CLERICAL CHANGE AT BICKLEY.—The Rev. Robt. Wood has just retired from his position as vicar of St. George's, Bickley, in consequence of ill-health, and the Rev. W. A. Carroll, M.A., head of the Christ Church Oxford Mission, Poplar, is to be Mr. Wood's successor.—The Rev. T. T. Norgate, senior curate at St. George's, Bickley, has been appointed to a curacy in Beckenham parish.

A LOCAL LAWSUIT.—The case of Simon v. Powell came on for hearing before Mr. Justice Romer last week at the High Court. The plaintiff, who is the assignee of the lease of Keston Lodge, Widmore-road, Bromley, applied for an injunction to restrain the defendant, Mr. Powell, who is the freeholder of Kendal Lodge, Widmore-road, from maintaining an addition which he had made at the north-east corner of Kendal Lodge, and also asked for £250 damages in respect of diminution of light to the plaintiff's side-door. The case disclosed an extraordinary conflict of testimony, the plaintiff producing a great many witnesses who swore that from 1872 onwards to the present time the side-door in question had had in it two glass panels, and that a shutter was put up at night on the inside of the door, while the defendant produced several witnesses whose testimony proved that from 1885 to 1892 the door in question was one of solid wood, without any glass at all in it. His evidence also showed that during that period no shutter had been put up, and he produced expert evidence proving that the door in its present condition was not as it had been constructed, but bore upon its face evidence that the original panels had been cut out and glass inserted, also that the door showed that no shutter was now put upon it, or ever could have been put upon it in its present condition. The defendant rested his case upon the contention that the lights claimed by the plaintiff were not ancient lights, and that if the court should hold that ancient lights did exist, the damage done was of a most trivial nature. Mr. T. Roger Smith, who is a professor of architecture of University College, gave distinct evidence as to the almost infinitesimal nature of the damage which the plaintiff had sustained, and that only for a few minutes on the night of the longest day of the year was it possible for the sun's rays to reach the door in question, before Mr. Powell's new addition had been made. After the case had been fully gone into, the Judge held that the lights were ancient but that the damage done was exceedingly small; that it was not a case for an injunction, and that he should answer the plaintiff's claim for damages by awarding her £60 instead of £250. He added that he was so impressed with the smallness of the injury that if he had felt that it would have been possible to try the case in the county court he should have given the plaintiff county court costs only.

BROMLEY CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY.—Mr. J. Scott, junior, J.P. (one of the vice-presidents) presided over the annual meeting of the Bromley Chrysanthemum Society, at the Parish Room, West-street, on Monday, January 24th. The sixteenth report, which was presented, was of a highly satisfactory character, showing both an increase in the subscriptions and in the receipts at the last annual show, which it was stated had been declared by judges to be one of the best in the South of England. For the second time in four years the Society had carried off the National Chrysanthemum Society's trophy. The balance-sheet showed a balance in hand of £37 3s. 2d. Mr. Coles Child J.P., was re-elected president; and the vice-presidents were all re-elected. Mr. P. Chase Parr was re-appointed treasurer, and both honorary secretaries (Messrs. W. Weeks and H. Edger) were re-elected. During the meeting the chairman expressed his intention of giving a special prize for competition at this year's show.

The annual meeting of the Bromley Liberal Association was held on Friday, Jan. 25th, at the Club-room, East-street, when Mr. Howard Moore was elected president for the ensuing year, in the place of Mr. Robert Whyte, who would not accept re-election.

RECORD PORTRAITS.

No. XXV.—Mr. H. G. WELLS.

"On the 21st, the wife of Mr. J. Wells, High-street, Bromley, of a son."—The above, which appears in the BROMLEY RECORD for October, 1866, is, we believe, the first newspaper notice of Herbert George Wells, the young but already well-known writer, the subject of our sketch this month. He was born at No. 47, High-street, Bromley. Mr. Wells's father, who kept a china shop, and

Walery] [*164, Regent Street, London.*

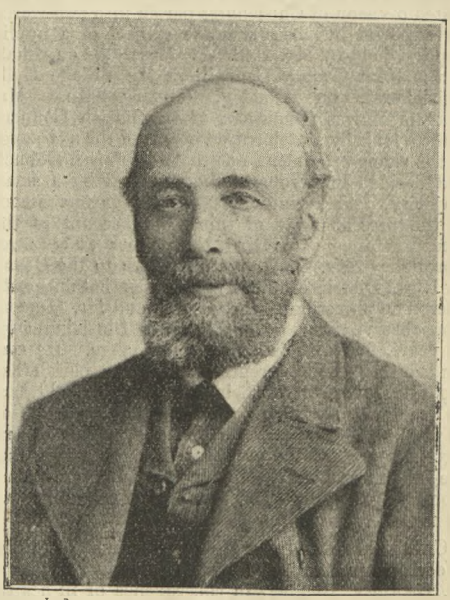
MRS. J. WELLS.

also sold cricket paraphernalia, will be well remembered by many who cannot claim to be old inhabitants. The premises are now occupied by Mr. Medhurst, draper. Mr. Joseph Wells was a mighty cricketer before he was overtaken by sciatica, and as we learn from Mr. Philip Norman's "Annals of the West Kent Cricket Club," was one of that club's professionals from 1857 to 1869. He came of a cricketing family, being a nephew of Timothy Duke, the famous bat and ball maker of Penshurst. He played for Kent for two seasons—1862 and 1863—and performed a memorable feat in the first-named year, by taking in the Kent v. Sussex match four wickets with four successive balls, though not in the same over. It was Mr. Wells' good luck to have his parents in sympathy with his early literary and artistic inclinations. His mother taught him to read before he was five, and both offered him every encouragement to write and draw. And for a small retailer's household, 47, High-street, was in those days remarkably well furnished with books. We are glad to know that Mr. and Mrs. Wells, senior, are still alive and in the enjoyment of good health, and we have pleasure in placing their photographs in company with that of their son. We are not surprised to hear that they take a keen interest in his career.

At the age of seven, young Wells commenced his education at the "Bromley Academy," then and for many years previously, presided over by Mr. Thomas Morley, who was for so long a well-known character in our midst. This gentleman was at that period responsible for the education of a large proportion of the youth of the commercial class of the town, and it may be mentioned that at least three of his scholars at present possess the honourable distinction of membership of our Urban Council—namely, Mr. Mallett (the acting Chairman), and Messrs. G. H. Payne and Douglas Payne. Another pupil and the particular friend of Mr. Wells, was Sidney Bowkett, who became an actor, went to America and returned with the Daly Company a few years ago. He is now a rising playwright. "The Mummy," of which he was part author, will perhaps be familiar to some of our readers. He is still Mr. Wells's most intimate friend, and the two are now busy in collaboration upon a play that may see the light next year.

Asked as to whether his writing propensity was an early one, Mr. Wells replied that his earlier taste was for drawing, though as a matter of fact, he used to tell long illustrated sagas during school hours. Among the auditors were Bowkett, Sheffield, Gedney, and Gomer—of which the two latter are still Bromley names. Some amusing side-lights are thrown on his school days, as we may suppose, by Mr. Wells himself in his recently issued volume, "Certain personal matters," which is a collection of articles and essays "mainly autobiographical," contributed from time to time to the "Pall Mall Gazette," "Saturday Review," &c. The article to which we particularly refer is headed "On Schooling and the Phases of Mr. Sandsome." It is not, of course, a portrait of Mr. Morley, but to any former "Morley's Bull Dog" the flavour of reminiscence will be evident enough.

"I remember," the author says, "Mr. Sandsome chiefly as sitting at his desk, in a little room full of boys, a humming hive whose air was thick with dust, as the slanting sunbeams showed. When we were not doing sums or writing copies, we were always learning or saying lessons. In the early morning, Mr. Sandsome sat erect and bright, his face animated, his ruddy eyes keen and observant, the cane hanging but uncertainly upon its hook. There was a standing up of classes, a babble of repetition, now and then a crisis. . . But as the lank hours of that vast school time drawled on, Mr. Sandsome lost energy, drooped like a flower—



Lavender] [*Bromley.*

MR. J. WELLS.

especially if the day was at all hot—his sandy hair became dishevelled, justice became nerveless, hectic, and hasty. Finally came copy-books; and

yawns and weird rumblings from Mr. Sandsome. And so the world aged to the dinner hour. . . . After dinner," he proceeds, "Mr. Sandsome was at his full. We now stood up, thirty odd of us together, to read, reading out of books in a soothing monotone, and he sat with his reading-book before him, ruddy as the setting sun, and slowly, slowly settling down. But now and then he would jerk back suddenly into staring wakefulness as though he were fishing—with himself as bait—for schoolboy crimes in the waters of oblivion—and fancied a nibble. That was a dangerous time, full of anxiety. At last he went right under and slept, and the reading grew cheerful, full of quaint glosses and unexpected gaps, leaping playfully from boy to boy, instead of travelling round with proper decorum. But it never ceased"; or if it did, "Mr. Sandstone woke up and into his next phase forthwith—a disagreeable phase always, and one we made it our business to postpone as long as possible. During that final period, the last quarter, Mr. Sandsome was distinctly malignant. It was hard to do right; harder still to wrong. A feverish energy usually inspired our government. 'Let us try to get some work done,' . . . Mr. Sandsome would say, demanding a colossal tale of sums perhaps, scattering pens and paper, and sowing the horrors of book-keeping or chastising us with the scorpions of parsing and translation. . . . And at last came relief, and a bag of green baize, and home."

Of course there is a touch of "chaff" in this description. Mr. Sandsome is not a portrait, and does not represent Mr. Wells's opinion of Mr. Morley—who was, he assures us, save for his occasional lapses into somnolence, an able, original, and energetic teacher.

At the age of fifteen, young Wells left school and became a draper's apprentice, but two years' experience of this business proved sufficient. He then became the junior master at the Midhurst Grammar School, then a scholar at the Royal College of Science, where he studied biology under Professor Huxley, and was afterwards science-master in a private school; but from the age of nineteen onwards he was making frequent attempts at humorous black and white work and fiction. He had not a gleam of success for years. He learned to write, he tells us, by editing the "Student's Magazine" at the College of Science, and subsequently by contributing to the educational papers, more particularly, "The Educational Times" and the "Journal of Education." His first success beyond this was the acceptance of an article by the "Fortnightly Review," and he then went on to doing "turnovers" for the "Globe." Mr. Henley, who has helped so many men, did much to help and encourage him in the "National Observer" days. He became a regular contributor to the "Pall Mall Gazette" in 1893, and this brought him into contact with Mr. J. M. Barrie, who has also been a good friend to him. He was for a time on the staff of the "Saturday Review," and the reviewing staff of "Nature," and for a month or so, dramatic critic to the "Pall Mall Gazette." So recently as 1895 he gave up regular newspaper work in order to devote his time to writing books. But before taking leave of his educational period we must mention that he holds the degree of Bachelor of Science (of London University) in first-class honours, and he is also a Fellow of the College of Preceptors, and was in 1890 "Doreck Scholar." He still takes a keen interest in educational questions. A series of articles on

Mayall & Newman, Ltd.] MR. H. G. WELLS. [*Brighton.*

the defects of our secondary education appeared in the "Daily Mail" last November and December; and he will contribute an article upon London University affairs to the new weekly, the "Onlooker," which will appear on February the 5th.

With regard to the character of Mr. Wells' books, they are, as many of our readers are aware, mostly stories, of a particularly original and fascinating type of imagination. He has been well styled an English Jules Verne. But he is distinctly the superior of the French author in respect of the human interest running through his books. Possessed, as may be judged from his University degree, of an intimate knowledge of natural science, he has put that knowledge, coupled with a fertile imagination, to very good use in most of his novels, as for instance, in "The Time Machine," "The Invisible Man," and his last published book, "The War of the Worlds," which deals with the invasion of the Earth by the inhabitants of Mars. This latter volume appeared last week, and it is certainly his most elaborate and sustained effort in this direction. It had previously a serial publication in "Pearson's Magazine," and in the American "Cosmopolitan." Reviews of it appeared last Saturday in the "Spectator," "Academy," and "Saturday Review."

He has, however, another style, which may be exemplified by that charmingly-written story "The Wheels of Chance," which recounts the adventures of a draper's assistant, who takes his annual holiday awheel, and by his innate spirit of chivalry, wins a "fair" of a social station superior to his own. In his own opinion—but he is almost alone in that—his best work is the "Island of Dr. Moreau." Most readers find the horror and terror of that rather more than they can stand. His books were published in the following order:—In 1895. "The Time Machine," the "Stolen Bacillus," and the "Wonderful Visit"; in 1896. "The Island of Doctor Moreau," and the "Wheels of Chance"; in 1897, "The Plattner Story," the "Invisible Man," and "Certain Personal Matters," and this year, the "War of the Worlds." His next story, "When the Sleeper Wakes," will, when completed, appear serially in the "Graphic," and in America in "Harper's Weekly," and as a book in the spring of 1899.

Mr. H. G. Wells is married, and his wife has been, it is no secret, the mainspring of her husband's literary success—just the happy stimulus to activity so many men need. She also does a good deal of his correspondence—her handwriting being indistinguishable from his own—reads all his proofs, and in other ways takes a considerable amount of labour off his shoulders. They now live at Worcester Park, Surrey, in a pleasant house known as "Heatherlea," away from the hurry and bustle of town life and yet near enough to the "capital of the World" to enable our author to attend an occasional dinner, or other gathering of literary people.

Our readers will be interested to know something as to Mr. Wells's methods of work; and it will strike everyone that there must be something good about methods which have yielded such results up to the present, both in quantity and quality. In reply to a question as to how he arranged his day's work he said: "In the morning I merely revise proofs and typewritten copy, see to letters, and, in fact, do any work which does not require the exercise of much imagination. If it is fine, I either have a walk or a ride on the cycle. We also have a tandem bicycle, and sometimes my wife and I take the double machine out. After lunch, I have tea about half-past three in the afternoon, and I like my tea extremely strong. It is after this that I do my real work. The afternoon is the best time of the day for me, and I nearly always work right on until eight o'clock, when we have dinner. If I am working at something in which I feel keenly interested, I work on from nine o'clock until after midnight, but it is on the afternoon work that my output mainly depends."

We have not attempted any criticism of Mr. Wells's books, and it would be beyond the scope of this article to do so, but before taking leave of him we will venture to assure him of the sympathetic interest with which his future career will be followed by his friends known and unknown in this district, who are proud to think of him as a native of their town. May his future be as prosperous as his present is promising! While all who have read his books are his debtors for many fascinating hours, the rising generation are particularly under an obligation to him for proving once more how in these days abilities—even in a draper's assistant—get a fair chance of earning their just reward. We cannot do better than conclude our sketch by a quotation from the author taken from "The Wheels of Chance":—

"The Young Lady in Grey" is encouraging the "Draper's Assistant," who wonders if he could "get really educated." "Of course. You are a man. You are free." She warmed. "I wish I were you to have the chance of that struggle." —He laments having lost eight years. "You can make it up. *You*, certainly, can make it up. What you call educated men—they're not going on. You can catch them. They are quite satisfied playing golf and thinking of clever things to say to women like my stepmother, and dining out. You're in front of them already in one thing. They think they know everything. You don't. And they know such little things. . . Hundreds of great men have come from the very lowest ranks of life. There was Burns, a ploughman; and Hugh Miller, a stone mason; and plenty of others. . . *Work*. Stop trifling with life. You have proved you have courage—resolution. Begin!"

We are indebted to an interesting interview in "The Young Man" for many of the above details concerning Mr. Wells's life.

DUCHESS OF ALBANY AT CHISLEHURST.—On January 22nd, H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany paid a visit to Camden House, Chislehurst, and, after luncheon had been partaken of, presided over a committee meeting in connection with "The Deptford Fund," a charitable organisation working at Deptford. The Duchess, who was attended by Miss Maxwell and Sir Robert Collins, K.C.B., was received at Chislehurst by the Revs. Canon Murray, H. Lloyd Russell, W. Fleming, J. Goodge, E. S. Shelton (Wesleyan minister), the Hon. and Mrs. Marsham Townshend, Sir George Hayter and Lady Chubb, Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P., Mr. J. T. Firbank, M.P., Alderman Truscott, J.P., Alderman Samuel Green, J.P., and many other ladies and gentlemen. Sir George Hayter Chubb (Chairman of the Local Committee) drew attention, at the meeting, to the great need in Deptford for an extension of the work, pointing out that the ratio of pauperism to population was much greater in the south of London than in any other part. Short speeches were also made by Mr. A. H. Tarleton, J.P., the Rev. Canon Murray, Mr. James E. Vanner, Mr. Alderman Truscott, J.P., and Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P., and during the proceedings a handsome gift of £1,000 from Mr. Herbert Sharp, of Bingley, was announced, and other donations of £100 each by Sir G. H. Chubb and Mr. J. Vanner.

Sir Samuel E. Scott, Bart., of Sundridge Park, has been adopted as Conservative candidate for the West Marylebone Parliamentary Division, the vacancy being caused by the elevation to the peerage of his step-father, Sir Horace Farquhar.

LECTURE BY SIR JOHN LUBBOCK.

With the object of arousing increased interest in the St. Mary Cray Library, the Committee have arranged a series of fortnightly entertainments during the winter months, and in pursuance of this scheme the Committee had requisitioned the services of Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., who is always so ready to impart some of his boundless stores of knowledge to less fortunate mortals, and the distinguished baronet delivered a most interesting lecture — which opened up a wide field for thought and investigation — at the Library on Thursday, January 18th. The audience, unfortunately, was not large, though this was accounted for by unavoidable causes. The chair was occupied by Mr. Augustine Spicer, who in introducing Sir John Lubbock, expressed his pleasure at being present in the chair, as he was aware that with a speaker like Sir John, his position would be a sinecure. Sir John Lubbock was so near a neighbour and was so well-known in Cray that there was really no need for him to introduce him.

Sir John Lubbock, who met with a hearty reception, in his prefatory remarks observed that in dealing with the subject of his lecture two courses were open to him—to give a resume of the work of other naturalists, or to speak of the results of his own observations. He thought the latter would be the most interesting, and he would therefore confine himself to them. (Applause.) He then proceeded with his lecture, remarking that, as all knew, the sense of sound was produced by the vibrations of the atmosphere striking on the tympanum of our ear. The tone depended on the number of vibrations, the deepest sound being produced by about 30 vibrations in a second, the shrillest by about 35,000. If the vibrations were more rapid they became inaudible, but he gave reasons for thinking that in other animals the range was different and that they could hear higher notes. Colour in the same way was produced by vibrations of ether impinging on the retina. If 600 millions of millions of vibrations struck the retina in a second we received the impression of blue. The spectrum or rainbow to our eyes consisted of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and violet. But the red and violet were not absolute limits, but only the limits of our perception. The thermometer demonstrated the existence of rays beyond the red in one direction; a photograph could be taken beyond the violet in the other. He had proved that the limits of vision of animals extended beyond ours at the violet end. Our organs of sense then enabled us to perceive vibrations up to 32,000 in a second, which give us the impression of sound, and beyond 400 millions of millions in a second which give us the impression of light; but between 32,000 and 400 millions of millions, vibrations produce no definite impression on us, as we have no organ calculated to receive them. But it is obvious that between these limits any number of senses may exist. He then showed that animals possess sense organs of the use of which we are as yet entirely ignorant, and he suggested that these may be the seats of unknown senses. At any rate they can certainly hear sounds which are inaudible to us, and see light which is beyond the range of our eyes. Moreover, looking at the question from another side we find in other animals complex organs of sense, richly supplied with nerves, but the functions of which we are as yet powerless to explain. There may be several other senses as different from ours as sound is from sight, and outside the boundaries of our senses, and there may be endless sounds which we cannot hear, and colours as different as red from green, of which we have no conception. These and a thousand other questions remain for solution. The familiar world which surrounds us may be a totally different place to other animals, to them it may be full of music which we cannot hear, of colour which we cannot see, and of sensations which we cannot conceive. To place stuffed birds and beasts in glass cases, to arrange insects in cabinets, and dried plants in drawers, was merely the drudgery and preliminary of study; to watch their habits, to understand their relations to one another, to study their instincts and intelligence, to ascertain their relations and adaptations to the forces of nature, to realise what the world appears to them, was—as it seemed to him at least—the true interest of Natural History, and may even give the clue to senses and perceptions, of which at present we have no conception. (Loud applause.) At the close of his lecture, the salient points of which elicited the warm applause of the audience, whilst the risible faculties of his hearers were frequently tickled, Sir John was heartily applauded.

The Chairman observed that the lecture had been most interesting, but if anything too short. It was certainly the most interesting heard in the Library, and one which would afford much food for reflection.

Mr. Frank Stanger, in proposing a vote of thanks to Sir John Lubbock, spoke of the rare collection at High Elms and the versatility of its owner. He accounted for the rather meagre attendance by the large amount of illness prevalent in the village at the present time. The Committee, however, thoroughly appreciated the kindness of Sir John in coming there that evening, as he had always taken an interest in the Library, and many of his works were found on the shelves.

The Rev. W. Lewis seconded the vote, and in doing so spoke of the delight he had experienced in reading Sir John Lubbock's works. They were grateful for his neighbourliness, and proud of the fact of the lecturer living in their district.

The vote was very cordially given, and Sir John in a few well-chosen words, briefly replied.

On the proposition of Mr. W. B. Mimack, seconded by Mr. R. H. Strouts, a vote of thanks to the Chairman was heartily accorded; and that gentleman's reply brought the proceedings to a close.

Old Quernmorians' Dinner. — On Thursday, January 27th, the second annual dinner of the Old Quernmorian Association, formed of old boys of Quernmore School, Bromley, took place at the Restaurant Frascati, Oxford-street, London, under the chairmanship of Mr. G. Loly, B.A. (head-master of Quernmore). The company numbered about 70, including Major L. W. Pead, the Rev. G. S. Reaney, Mr. John Gibson, Mr. Harry Dudbridge, Dr. Fearon Ranking, Mr. A. Carr, Mr. C. M. Treadwell, Mr. R. F. C. Hillman, and others; and the proceedings were of a very successful and enjoyable character.

Police Minstrelsy.—On January 27th, a very large audience attended the annual entertainment by the Metropolitan Minstrels, given at the Bromley Drill Hall, on behalf of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage. A capital programme was carried out, giving much amusement to the audience, and Inspector Hool and other members of the local force, who had admirably arranged the affair, had good reason to be satisfied with the very liberal support given by the residents.

Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P., is to preside at a smoking concert to be held at the Drill Hall, Bromley, on February 4th, when a testimonial will be presented to Mr. Colin Campbell, the late hon. sec. of the Bromley Conservative Club.

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DIARY OF JANUARY.

Dec. 1897.

26th.—Sacred musical service at St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common, when the Christmas part of Handel's "Messiah" was rendered.

28th.—Slight fire occurred at Mr. H. Collins' drapery establishment, Market Square, Bromley, damage being done to the extent of about £250.

Jan. 1898.

3rd.—Successful amateur dramatic entertainment at St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common, arranged by Mrs. S. Green, of Bickley.

4th.—Entertainment at the Bromley Congregational Schoolroom, under the auspices of the Bromley Temperance and Shortlands' Mission Bands of Hope.

5th.—Annual meeting of the Bromley Detachment, 2nd Vol. Batt. the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) at the Drill Hall, Bromley, Captain B. H. Latter, presiding.—New Year's conversazione of the Beckenham Abstainers' Union at the Public Hall, the Rev. T. Eynon Davies presiding.

7th.—The Bishop of Natal addressed a meeting at St. Mary's Institute, Plaistow, on missionary work in Africa, the Vicar of Plaistow (Rev. W. Hodgson) presiding.

10th.—The Bromley Philharmonic Society gave a performance of "Acis and Galatea" at the Grand Hall, Bromley.—Lecture on J. R. Lowell, by the Rev. Pedr Williams, at the Beckenham Congregational Schoolroom.—Monthly meeting of the Chislehurst Parish Council, when it was reported that the negotiations for the purchase of land at West Chislehurst for a recreation ground had fallen through.

11th.—Entertainment in aid of the funds of Guy's Hospital, by "Disguysed" Minstrels, at the Bromley Grand Hall.—Amateur performance of "Ruddigore" at the Village Hall, Chislehurst.—Dramatic entertainment at St. Michael's Parish Room, Beckenham, in aid of the funds of Christ Church, Penge.

12th.—Social meeting at the Bromley Congregational Schoolroom, to welcome the new choirmaster, Mr. H. Sharland.—Bromley Co-operative Society's annual tea and entertainment at the Drill Hall.—Twenty-first annual meeting of the Beckenham and Penge Benefit Society, at the Alexandra Hall, Beckenham, Mr. F. W. Lawrence occupying the chair.—Presentation of a teapot and a purse of money to Mrs. Jane Gower, of Arthur-road, Beckenham, by the Penge Police force, in recognition of her bravery in assisting a police constable.

14th.—Illustrated lecture on "Mountaineering in the Alps" given at the Bromley School of Art, by Mr. W. A. Green, under the auspices of the Bromley Camera Club.—Monthly sitting of the Bromley County Court, before Judge Emden.

15th.—Annual meeting of the Beckenham Golf Club, at the Club-house, Woodside, presided over by Mr. P. G. Collins. Mr. B. H. Latter elected captain.

16th.—The Archbishop of Canterbury preached at the evening service at St. Luke's, Bromley Common, in connection with the recent mission at that Church.

17th.—Mr. F. C. Selous, the well-known traveller and naturalist, gave a lecture on his adventures in South Africa, at the Bromley Grand Hall, under the auspices of the Bromley Literary Institute. Sir Samuel Scott, Bart., presided.—Twentieth annual meeting of the Alexandra Mission Hall Band of Hope, presided over by Mr. R. Murray Hyslop, at the Hall, Parish-lane, Penge.

18th.—Concert in connection with the Bromley Temperance Society, at the Congregational Schoolroom, Widmore-road, by a select choir of the London Temperance Choral Society.—Performance by a Ben Greet Company of "The Two Little Vagabonds," at the Bromley Grand Hall, and on two following nights.

19th.—Meeting of the West Kent Ornithological Society, at the "Oxford Restaurant," Bromley, when it was decided to introduce rabbit and cavy classes in future shows.—Mr. F. W. Lawrence presided over the annual meeting of the Beckenham Y.M.C.A., held at the Public Hall.—Dinner to allotment-holders at the Parish Room, Park-road, Chislehurst.

20th.—Afternoon and evening courses of lectures on "Shakespeare" and "Tennyson," respectively, commenced at the Bromley Parish Room, in connection with the local centre of the University Extension Society.—Vestry meeting held at Beckenham, at which the Rev. J. Rooker, (the new Vicar of Christ Church) was appointed one of the Beckenham Parochial Trustees, in the place of his predecessor, the Rev. J. Harding.—Lecture at the Library, St. Mary Cray, by Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., on "The Senses of Animals."

21st.—Mr. Justice Bruce presided over the annual meeting of the Bromley Naturalists' Society, held at the Literary Institute, Widmore-road. The report and financial statement were considered very satisfactory.

22nd.—Visit of H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany to Chislehurst, in connection with "The Deptford Fund"; a committee meeting being held at Camden House.

24th.—Public inquiry held by Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, on behalf of the Kent County Council, at Chislehurst, respecting the Chislehurst Parish Council's application for a division of the parish into two wards for electoral purposes.—Mr. J. Scott, jnr., J.P., presided over the annual meeting of the Bromley Chrysanthemum Society, held at the Parish Room, West-street.—Recital by Mr. Albert Chevalier, assisted by other artistes, at the Bromley Grand Hall.

25th.—Annual vestry meeting for Plaistow parish, held at the Schools, when Messrs. Lamb and Webb were re-elected members of the Plaistow Burial Board.—Beckenham Choral Society gave its first concert of the season at the Public Hall, the programme including the ballad entitled "The Battle of the Baltic," and the choral ode "The Sun Worshippers."

26th.—Members of the Bromley Detachment of Volunteers held their annual ball at the Bromley Drill Hall.—Chislehurst Foresters' annual dinner at the Crown Hotel, Chislehurst.—The Rev. H. Haigh, of Mysore, gave an address on "Bible Work in India" at the Wesleyan Schoolroom, Bromley.

27th.—Second annual dinner of the Old Quernmorian Association, presided over by Mr. G. Loly, at the Restaurant Frascati, Oxford-street, London.

28th.—Annual meeting of the Bromley Liberal Association, at the Liberal Club, East-street, when Mr. Howard Moore was chosen president for the year.—Mr. Dayrell Reed presided over the annual meeting of the Bromley Conservative Club, at the Club-house, Mr. Edward Packe being re-elected as president.

THE YEAR'S RAINFALL.

We have been favoured by Mr. J. Batten with the following record of the rainfall registered at his residence, The High Field, Bickley. The rainfall for last month totalled 2.74 in., and for the year amounted to 24.72 in. The following table shows the totals for the month and twelve months respectively, for each of the last 20 years.

	1878.	1879.	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.
Dec. ...	2·77	1·18	3·67	3·25	2·20	·86
Year...	29·52	27·60	31·82	29·23	26·61	23·16

	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
Dec. ...	2·56	1·55	5·20	1·39	1·38	1·51
Year...	19·99	25·44	28·38	21·84	30·03	26·31

	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
Dec. ...	1·36	3·52	1·61	2·76	1·68	2·53
Year...	24·43	31·11	28·05	20·06	30·18	20·72

	1896.	1897.
Dec. ...	3·27	2·74.
Year ...	25·50	24·72.

COMPARATIVE RAINFALL OF THE DISTRICT.

The following table shows the rainfall for the last two years of nine stations in the neighbourhood of Bromley.

	1896. Inches.	1897. Inches.
Greenwich	22·47	22·08
Beckenham	23·95	24·05
Bickley	25·50	24·52
Bromley	25·88	24·24
Hayes	29·31	25·08
Keston	28·78	23·25
Knockholt	33·06	27·89
Orpington	30·64	23·04
West Wickham	32·27	24·93

PRESENTATION TO MR. F. S. NEWCOMBE.—Mr. F. S. Newcombe, who has for the last twenty-five years rendered efficient service as organist and choir-master at St. Paul's church, New Beckenham, has been presented with a handsome testimonial amounting to no less than £155 from members of the congregation and the many other friends he has in Beckenham. Mrs. Fredk. Bullivant promoted the testimonial, and the success to which it was carried was largely due to the energy she displayed. In addition to his position as organist at St. Paul's, Mr. Newcombe is conductor of the Beckenham Orchestral Society, and holds a foremost place in local musical circles.

EMIGRATION TO CANADA.—The Dominion Government, through the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria-street, London, S.W., are making unusual exertions to bring the advantages offered to settlers in the different provinces of Canada prominently before the public. They claim that in all the provinces, unlimited opportunities exist for the investment of capital, either in manufactures or in the natural industries connected with the forests, the mines, the fisheries, and agriculture. The mineral development both of Ontario, of British Columbia, and of the Yukon district, is attracting much attention. Persons with moderate incomes will find in the Dominion many advantages not to be obtained elsewhere, and for those with growing families the facilities for education and for starting young men and young women in life, deserve special consideration. The classes especially desired are those with capital, persons with moderate incomes, and farmers, farm labourers, and domestic servants. Free grants of 160 acres of land are given to male settlers above the age of 18 years, in Manitoba and the North-West Territories. Crown lands can be obtained in the other provinces, either free or on nominal terms, while improved farms, ready for occupation and cultivation, may be purchased in every part of the Dominion at reasonable prices.

SUNDRIDGE PARK INFANTS' SCHOOL. — Lady Farquhar gave her usual Christmas tree and tea to the children attending her school on Tuesday January 18th. Accompanied and helped by Mrs. Coles Child, her ladyship attended to the creature wants of the 104 small juveniles, who did full justice to the good things provided for them, withstanding for the time the excitement caused by the presence of the giant Christmas tree, twelve feet high, loaded with pretty things for every one. Tea over, the work of dismantling the tree proceeded apace, and each little one went home happy in the possession of a pretty doll or other toy, a fancy box or basket of sweetmeats, a cracker—which somehow seemed to "go off" spontaneously—and a parting gift of a bun and orange for refreshment by the way.

LOCAL UNIVERSITY EXTENSION WORK.—In his report on the work done by students of the Bromley centre of the University Extension movement, on "Shakespeare," during the Michaelmas term, 1897, the Examiner (Mr. A. Wilson Verity, M.A.), stated that the answers were decidedly good, and all the candidates gained half-marks or over, while three obtained distinction. The names of the successful candidates were as follows, the asterisk denoting that the candidate had obtained distinction:—Violet E. Crafer, Bertha Dow, *Annie Dykes, Edith L. Hanson, Gertrude Madden, *Agnes McFarlane, Fanny E. Newport, *Alice J. Romilly, and Rosetta E. Whittington.

VOLUNTEER BALL.—The members of the Bromley Detachment, The Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) held their second annual ball at the Bromley Drill Hall, on Wednesday, January 26th. The building had been very artistically decorated and prepared for the occasion, and the large company present included Col. and Mrs. Satterthwaite, Lieut.-Col. Gallie, Major Harman, Capt. B. H. Latter, Captain and Mrs. M. C. Matthews, Lieut. R. Lynch Whyte, Mr. S. Satterthwaite, Mr. A. Wright, Mr. H. C. Bond, Mr. K. P. Brown, Mr. Rice, Sergeant G. Pyrke (of the Royal West Kent Yeomanry), &c., &c. The ball was considered a distinct advance on that of the previous year.

Messrs. Brown, Shipley & Co., announce that Mr. Lawrence Edlmann Chalmers, son of their Mr. Frederick Chalmers, has been admitted a partner in their firms in London and in the United States.

KENTISH CASTLES.

WALMER.

The level coast-line, which commences at Walmer Castle and extends for some distance in a northward direction, possesses great historical interest from the fact that it was almost undoubtedly the scene of the landing of Julius Cæsar on August 25th, B.C. 55. Any traces of defensive works in this locality, therefore, have an importance in connection with the military antiquities of Kent which could not be easily over-estimated.

The lofty and precipitous cliffs near Dover form a natural barrier of defence against invaders, and the Romans in their expedition to Britain recognised that this was a dangerous and unpromising spot to land on, and sought a place where they could bring their ships to the coast under more equal conditions. Sailing northwards up the Straits of Dover, they found that the line of chalk cliffs terminated at the place where Walmer Castle now stands, and there is very strong evidence to show that between that point and Deal the Romans ultimately effected a landing.

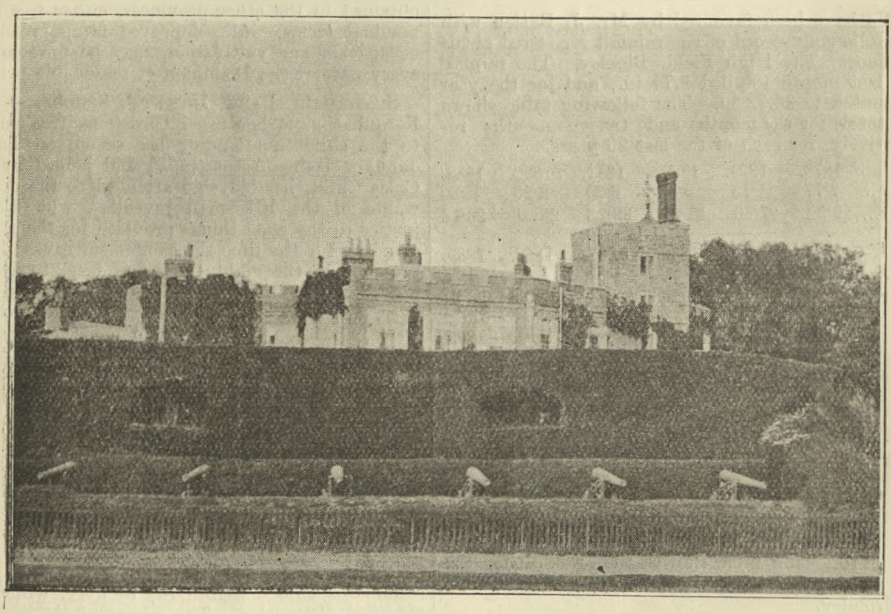
In the middle of the town of Deal, and also near Walmer Castle, there are still remaining traces of defensive earthworks thrown up either by the Britons or by the Romans after their landing.

Building operations have destroyed or hidden these works to a large extent, but Hasted and other historians mention them and record their precise position. One, known as the "Great Bulwark," or the "Black Bulwark," was situated at the spot now occupied by Walmer Lodge; another, called the "Little Bulwark," or the "White Bulwark," was about mid-way between that spot and Deal Castle—that is somewhere about the place where the present lifeboat-house stands.

Of the three castles which served to protect this coast three hundred years ago, one at least—that at Sandown—was of Norman date, but probably the castles of Deal and Walmer were first built by Henry VIII. in the year 1539, although it is highly probable that both buildings were erected on the sites of, and as a sort of successors to, earlier fortified points.

Like Deal Castle, Walmer Castle was built on a plan specially calculated to resist cannon-shot. The walls are of great thickness, and from every point sea-wards present a curved rather than a flat surface. The elevation of the building is not great, and the walls are entirely surrounded by a deep and wide moat crossed by a drawbridge.

The general principles upon which the fortress is constructed are as follows:—In the centre is the keep, which consists (or rather formerly consisted) of a circular tower with an arched bomb-proof cavern beneath. This central part is surrounded by lunettes or bastions of very thick arched work with 52 port-holes below for scouring the moat by which the whole is encompassed. These port-holes were secured by a massive structure of iron, while their defenders were relieved from the smoke caused by their fire-arms, by means of funnels or chimneys through to the parapet of the upper work; which funnels, in case of the enemy having effected an entrance were calculated to serve the defenders as machicolations down which grenades might be thrown. In the upper parts of the lunettes were the larger embrasures for cannon.



WALMER CASTLE.

The entrance to the castle is on the landward side by means of a strong machicolated gateway, from which a drawbridge could be raised or lowered at will. Thus, although of no great height, this fortress was, in proportion to the means of attack in those days, of very considerable strength, the walls being in some parts twenty feet in thickness.

The central round-tower of Walmer Castle has been replaced by a modern-looking dwelling-house, though the ramparts and irregular bastions remain. The embrasures are disused, and the guns, 36-pounders, are now mounted, ornamentally rather than for use, outside the castle walls. Our illustration, taken from a recent photograph, clearly shows these features.

When first established Walmer Castle was provided with a garrison receiving pay as follows:—

A Captain	£30	9	2	per annum.
A Deputy or Lieutenant ...	£9	13	4	per annum.
A First Porter	£9	13	4	per annum.

A Second Porter ... ... £8 6 6 per annum.
10 Gunners and 4 Soldiers £116 11 0 per annum.

In 1595, according to the State Papers, the following great ordnance were mounted at Walmer Castle:—"One cannon, one culvering, five demi-culverings, one sacre, one mynion, and a falcon"—ten pieces in all.

In the great struggle which took place between Charles I. and his Parliament, Walmer, and the two adjacent castles of Deal and Sandown, fell into the hands of the Parliamentary party, and much minute and curious information upon this point may be gleaned from that store-house of historical facts, the collection of Civil War Tracts in the British Museum. Space does not permit any lengthy quotation from this source, but it may be interesting to note that at that period, after the fortress had fallen into the hands of the Parliament, the garrison and pay were as follows:—

A Governor ... ... 2s. 3d. per diem.
A Corporal ... ... 12d. per diem.
20 Soldiers, each ... ... 8d. per diem.
20 Soldiers, for fire and candles 6d. per diem.

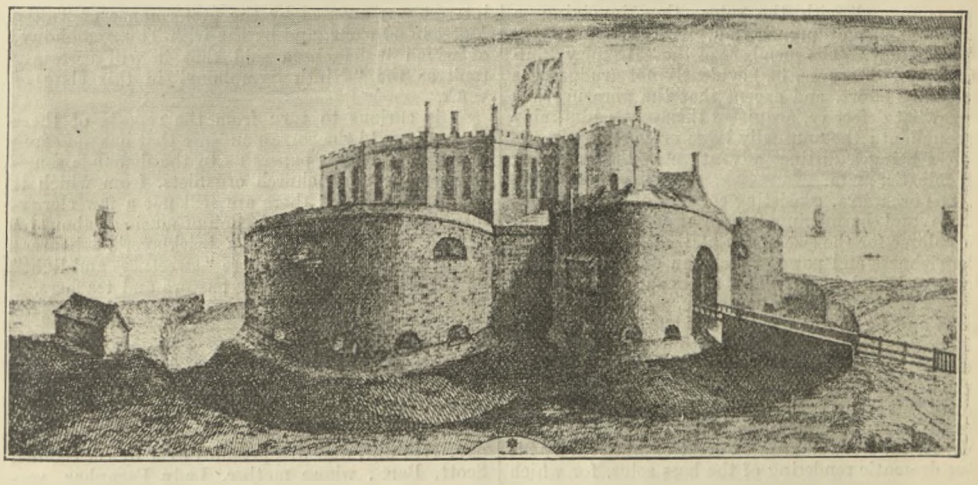
Immediately after the Restoration some important alterations were made in the garrison, the strength of which was much reduced. The following list of Captains of Walmer Castle includes some remarkable and interesting names:—

1. Thomas Alleyn, appointed by Henry VIII.
2. William Blaicbinden, appointed 13th June, 1551.
3. William Hawkes, named as Captain in the State Papers, 29th April, 1576.
4. Edward Isham, named as Captain in the State Papers, 31st October, 1597.
5. Sir George Perkins, mentioned in a muster roll, 7th October, 1607.
6. William Broughton, appointed 28th June, 1609.
7. Edward Lisle, appointed 29th March, 1617.
8. Sir John Mennes, appointed 10th November, 1637.
9. Col. Rich, appointed by Fairfax, July, 1648.
10. Alban Spencer, named as Governor in the State Papers, 17th November, 1653.
11. Edward Lisle, named as Governor in the State Papers, Captain in 1662.
12. Sir John Mennes, restored before 11th August, 1662.
13. Sir Thomas Ingham, appointed 15th April, 1663.
14. Christopher Boys, appointed in 1677.
15. The Hon. C. J. Fox, Captain in 1779.
16. William Scott, Captain in 1799.
17. George Leith, Captain in 1800.
18. Captain Watts, the last Captain, appointed by the Duke of Wellington.

The list of Lords Wardens is as follows:—

Duke of Dorset, K.G., 1708—1713.
Duke of Dorset, re-appointed 1727.
Earl of Holderness, 1765.
Lord North, afterwards Earl of Guildford, K.G., 1778.
Right Hon. William Pitt, 1792.
Lord Hawkesbury, afterwards Earl of Liverpool, 1806.
Duke of Wellington, K.G., 1829.
Marquis of Dalhousie, K.T., 1852.
Viscount Palmerston, K.G., 1861.
Earl Granville, K.G., 1865.
Marquis of Dufferin and Ava.
Marquis of Salisbury.

The structural alterations of Walmer Castle already referred to, by which the place was converted from a grim and gloomy fortress into a convenient dwelling-house, date from the period when it became the official residence of the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. The lack of trees was much felt towards the end of the last century, for the castle had lost its military character, and had become essentially a sea-side residence, and during its occupation by Mr. Pitt, Lady Hester Stanhope had the plantations carried out under her direction, an addition which gives much of the charm to the place at the present day.



WALMER CASTLE, 1735.

One very interesting phase in the story of Walmer Castle belongs to the period of Mr. Pitt's association with the fortress. As Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, Mr. Pitt resided here, and in a tiny room frequently took counsel with Lord Nelson, who came hither for that purpose when his flagship was in the Downs with the fleet engaged in watching the Boulogne flotilla. Here it was that Pitt set to work to organise and drill his Cinque Port Volunteers.

In connection with Pitt's residence here, a story is told which illustrates the way in which that great Prime Minister's mind was engrossed by State affairs, even during his periods of rest and recreation. It is said that his servant often heard him rise before daybreak, and pacing up and down his room, declaim an impassioned speech, as if he were in the House of Parliament.

Perhaps the one event of all others connected with Walmer Castle, which figures most prominently in our national annals, was the death of the Duke of Wellington here on 14th September, 1852. The room in which the Iron Duke passed away had served for the treble purpose of library, study, and sleeping apartment. It was chiefly remarkable for

the scantiness and plainness of its furniture, and its original state is still preserved so far as possible.

Of all the castles of Kent, Walmer stands first on account of its association, more or less intimate, with eminent personages. Not to mention Julius Cæsar's visits, we have the names of Lord North, Pitt, the Earl of Liverpool, Wellington, Palmerston, Earl Granville, the Marquis of Dufferin, and the Marquis of Salisbury as residents here, and Nelson, the Duke and Duchess of Cleveland, Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and the Prince Consort as visitors.

BROMLEY PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

The programme put forth by the above Society for the concert at the Bromley Grand Hall on 10th January, was of quite unusual magnitude; indeed, its chief fault was that it contained too many good things.

The first part consisted of Handel's "Acis and Galatea," which charming work, though always warmly appreciated by an audience, appears to be by no means popular with amateur choirs. Probably this is partly owing to the fact that the choruses, while very exacting, are but few in number compared with the solos, thus involving a large amount of preparation, with comparatively little display. The members of the "Bromley Philharmonic," however, had evidently not grudged the necessary effort, and except that the phrasing was somewhat defective, acquitted themselves admirably throughout; the unusually large proportion of male voices being a distinct advantage in the rendering of this Serenata.

The orchestra, consisting entirely of strings, with piano and harmonium, though perhaps sufficient in volume for the size of the hall, necessarily lacked the richness and power which can only be supplied by wood and brass. The accompaniments, however, alike to choruses and solos, were played with taste and feeling and with good effect.

The solos were without exception admirably sung. Miss A. L. Burns made a charming "Galatea," in which part her fine voice and excellent delivery found full scope for display; Mr. H. Slaughter was heard to much advantage in the tenor part; and Mr. A. M. Borwell aroused great enthusiasm by his fine dramatic rendering of the bass solos, for which his voice is well suited.

The second part of the programme included two orchestral pieces, the overture from Gounod's "Mirella," and Handel's "Occasional Overture," both of which were well received; though considering the large amount of work which had fallen to the orchestra in the first part, it may be questioned whether one of them might not have been omitted without loss. The "Song of the Vikings," by Eaton Faning, was effectively sung by the choir; two violin solos, a "Romance," by George Palmer, and "Capricio Valse," by Wieniawski, were played in capital style by Miss Edith Jarvis; Miss Burns gave Gounod's song, "Far greater in His lowly state"; and Mr. Borwell, "Over the desert," by Kellie. Although no encore was possible, each of the three last named artistes was enthusiastically recalled. The concluding chorus and Mr. Slaughter's song were both omitted owing to the lateness of the hour.

There was a fairly good attendance; and Mr. T. H. Jarvis, who conducted, and the members of the Society, have reason to be satisfied both with the success of the performance and the appreciation of the audience.

It may be mentioned that on this occasion the experiment was tried of turning the seats of the hall towards the gallery on which the choir and orchestra were located, and it proved quite a success, from an acoustic standpoint.

MUSICAL JOTTINGS.

There has not been much of purely local interest to record under this heading during January. The "Bromley Philharmonic" concert, noticed in another column, the operatic performance organised by Mrs. Miller at St. Luke's Institute in aid of the church funds, and the organ recital at the parish church on the 26th (at which the programme consisted almost entirely of the works of living composers), are almost the only items demanding notice.

The conference of the Incorporated Society of Musicians held during the first week in January quite fulfilled the anticipations formed of it, both as to numbers present and the interest of the papers read. Sir John Stainer, in his opening address, spoke wise and earnest words as to the evil of "cram" examinations, rewarded by certificates which certify practically nothing. His proposed remedy, however, viz., to render it compulsory that all teachers who take fees for their work should hold a diploma from a properly constituted Board of Examiners, is probably not to be looked for in the very near future, though good results would certainly ensue from such legislation.

Two musical evenings were given, and profound interest was aroused by the performance of Tallis' Motet in 40 parts, and by the Irish Toy Symphony, of which it has been said that it will certainly rank as the "Ninth Symphony" in this class of work.

It is curious to turn from the reports of these proceedings to the correspondence that has appeared in several London papers as to the demands sometimes made upon church organists, from which it would appear that there are still not a few clergymen who regard the profession of music as about on a level with the work of a bricklayer's labourer! Verily there is room for more "sweetness and light" on the part of some of our pastors and teachers.

AN AFRICAN TRAVELLER'S LECTURE.—One of the principal events of local interest last month was the lecture given to a crowded Bromley audience at the Grand Hall, by Mr. F. C. Selous, the well-known African adventurer. It took place on Monday, 17th ult., and was presided over by Sir Samuel Scott, Bart., whose mother, Lady Farquhar, was among those present. Mr. Selous described in a lucid and interesting manner his travels in the African interior, and some of the hairbreadth escapes he had had whilst on hunting expeditions. He had spent twenty-five years hunting and travelling in South Africa, his first visit being in 1871, when he obtained the permission of the chieftain Lobengula to hunt elephants in his country. At that sport Mr. Selous was very successful, and the stories he told during his lecture showed that he had met with equal success in the pursuit of other big game. He also related how he had a very narrow escape from being murdered by some hostile natives on one occasion, when he and his followers —with the exception of twelve who were killed— only escaped by dispersing and hiding in the high grass and travelling back during the night to some more safe place. Mr. Selous on that occasion journeyed alone for fourteen days before meeting with any of his own men, and during that time experienced considerable hardship. He also made some reference to the part he took in connection with the Matabele rebellion, and speaking of the natives remarked that he had not found them to be incapable of gratitude. Though he had fought against them he had made many friends among them.—The lecture was arranged by the committee of the Bromley Literary Institute on behalf of its funds, and we are glad to hear that a profit of over £50 was realised.

DEATH OF LORD SACKVILLE CECIL.

SKETCH OF HIS LIFE.

We record with deep regret the death of Lord Sackville Arthur Cecil (half-brother of the Marquis of Salisbury) which took place on Saturday afternoon, Jan. 29th, at Holwood, Keston, Kent, the seat of his mother, Mary, Lady Derby, his own residence being the Oast House, Hayes Common. His lordship had been ill for some eight weeks, but was making progress towards recovery until an attack of pleurisy came on, which in his weakened state he was not able to fight against. He was in his fiftieth year. His lordship, who was an extremely hard worker at his own business, took a great interest in ecclesiastical affairs, and was identified both with Hayes Parish Church, and also with the new church of St. Audrey, at the top of Hayes Common, but in the parish of Keston

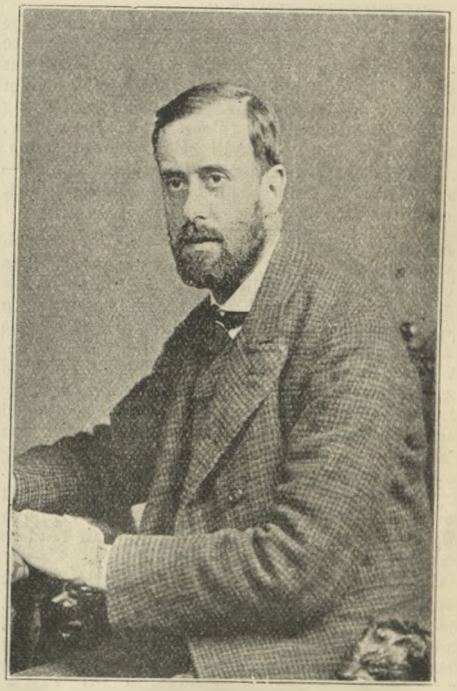
The funeral is to take place at Hayes Church on Wednesday or Thursday.

Some few months ago we printed a sketch of Lord Sackville Cecil's career, which in the present sad circumstances is of sufficient interest to re-publish.

Lord Sackville Arthur Cecil was the fourth son of the second Marquess of Salisbury, and the eldest of his children by his second marriage with the daughter of the fifth Earl De La Warr, whose wife, Lady Elizabeth Sackville, was the sister of the Duke of Dorset, and last direct representative of the Sackvilles of Knole and Buckhurst, whose ancestor Thomas Sackville Lord Buckhurst, was minister to Queen Elizabeth and a friend and colleague of Lord Burleigh the ancestor of the Cecils. Lord Sackville Cecil was thus a nephew of Lord Sackville the owner of Knole, first cousin to Earl De La Warr and the Duke of Bedford, and half-brother to the present Marquess of Salisbury.

Born in 1848, Lord Sackville Cecil was educated, like his brothers and half-brothers, under the supervision and according to the ideas of his father, the late Lord Salisbury, who, although a man not fond of the notoriety of public life, was an able administrator, member of two Conservative Governments, and intimately associated with the political events of his time. The Duke of Wellington was much at Hatfield, the Wellesleys being related to the Cecils. Between the Duke and Lord and Lady Salisbury there existed a close friendship, and the Duke was godfather to their children in whom he took especial interest. The late Lord Salisbury, as President of the Council in the Derby Cabinet, had charge of what is now the Education Department, and he is still remembered as a man who influenced the course of educational advance in England. His sons got the benefit of their father's study of the subject, but their lives were moulded by the tone of the society at Hatfield as well as by the careful training for which they were indebted to their parents' judgment and opportunities. All the sons were brought up from childhood to work, and it was said of the late Lord Salisbury that he was the hardest worker on his estates. Accepting the strictest principles of the great Duke of Wellington, no considerations of personal ease or amusement were allowed to stand in the way of duty, and the sons are consequently by habit less men of ease than many of their compeers. The late Lord Salisbury succeeded to his estates a young and comparatively poor man burdened with an encumbered property, and it is due to his personal management and extreme simplicity of his life that in later years he was able, with the aid of his wife, a lady of great ability, to make Hatfield a centre of what is said to be the purest in English society. He emulated his many workmen on his estate, was personally acquainted with them all, took an interest in their work, and with one or two foremen of his own training, successfully completed the re-building of Hatfield after the fire. He improved the labourers' cottages, built churches, and executed many other works on his estates which would have taxed the powers of many professional men. He had a special love of engineering, at which he was instinctively an adept, besides having an intimate acquaintance with the Poor Law and Local Government, on which, and on agricultural subjects generally, he was an authority.

With such early associations it was not likely that the sons would adopt the ordinary careers of peers' sons. Encouraged by his parents, Lord Sackville Cecil spent much of his time amongst his father's workmen instead of in the recreation field, and under them learnt the rudiments of carpentry, smith's work, and building which determined him in his profession of an engineer. Next came four or five years at a private school, and after that he was sent to Wellington College, which was then



THE LATE LORD SACKVILLE A. CECIL.

under the headmastership of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, but not being robust enough to bear for very long the strain of a somewhat rigorous regime, designed on the Duke's plan to fit boys for soldiers, Lord Sackville Cecil was sent later with his brothers and a tutor to prepare for Cambridge, first to Paris and then to the old half-ruined Manor House at Cranbourne, where his sons' reading was systematically mapped out for them by Lord Salisbury, and, much after the fashion of colonial life, they had to provide their comforts and luxuries by their own personal labour and exertion.

After passing through Cambridge, where he took his degree in the then new subject of Applied Science, Lord Sackville Cecil served an apprenticeship in the Great Eastern Railway workshops, and in those of the Great Northern at Doncaster and King's Cross. On leaving the latter Lord Sackville Cecil was, through the instrumentality of his friend the late Sir James Anderson, attached to the engineers' staff of the French Atlantic Cable, and, subsequently, was charged as chief electrician with the laying of the Marseilles-Bona link in the chain to the east. This

voyage in the heat of summer, and the work of laying the cable end through the sewers in Marseilles, brought on an illness which prevented Lord Sackville from actively resuming the career of an electrical engineer, and on his recovery he went back to the traffic department of the Great Eastern Railway, under his friend Mr. Samuel Swarbrick, who had been selected to pull that line out of its financial difficulties, and he remained there during the rest of Mr. Swarbrick's tenure of office, acting as his principal assistant. On the retirement of Mr. Swarbrick, Lord Sackville Cecil was appointed general manager of the Metropolitan District Railway, where he had the personal management of the traffic, locomotive and engineering departments. After completing five years of hard work on the District Railway, Lord Sackville Cecil retired and devoted himself more to submarine telegraphy, with which he had always kept in touch, and he was a director of the Eastern and Brazilian Telegraph Cable Systems, where he served a professional apprenticeship many years ago.

After the death of Lord Cranworth in 1868, the Dowager Lady Salisbury and her children came to live at Holwood. In 1870, Lady Salisbury was married to the fifteenth Earl of Derby, who bought Holwood from the late Mr. Alexander, and, dying in 1893, by his will left this estate to his widow, and step-son Lord Sackville Cecil in succession, with the ultimate reversion to the Stanley family.—Our portrait is from a photo by Maull & Fox, Piccadilly, W.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT TO A BOY.—On January 6th a very serious accident occurred at Mason's Hill to a boy named Joseph Collins. He was riding on the axle-bar of a cab when his leg became entangled in the spokes of one of the back wheels, and he became jammed between the wheel and the body of the cab. Dr. Chatteron was quickly on the spot, and ordered the boy's removal to the Cottage Hospital, where he was found to have sustained a severe compound fracture of the right thigh, while the left was broken in two places, and he was also suffering from concussion of the brain. It was found necessary to amputate the right leg above the knee, but we are glad to state that the little fellow, who is only ten years old, is now on a fair road to recovery.

VOLUNTEER ANNUAL MEETING.—At the conclusion of the company drill on Wednesday, 7th ult., the annual meeting of the Bromley Detachment 2nd V.B. the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) took place in the Recreation Room under the presidency of Captain B. H. Latter. The committees and officials were elected as follows:—General Committee: Mr. W. W. Baxter, Mr. Coles Child, J.P., Major E. Latter, Mr. R. G. Mullen, Mr. Gerard Norman, J.P., Mr. Edward Norman, Mr. E. Packe, Major C. Satterthwaite, Colonel E. Satterthwaite, Sir S. E. Scott, Bart., Mr. G. Weeks, and Mr. A. Wright, and six members of the corps—Colour-Sergeant W. Bulleid, Sergt. A. G. Verralls, Sergt. W. G. Lane, Corpl. H. Smith, Col.-Sergt. E. Towell, and Pte. J. Lovell. Auditors: Messrs. G. Weeks and W. W. Baxter. Hon. Treasurer: Mr. A. Wright. Shooting Committee: Lieut. T. H. Stringer (president); E Company—Col.-Sergt. W. Bulleid, Sergt. H. J. Davis, Sergt. A. G. Verralls, Corpl. J. Park; F Company—Col.-Sergt. Towell, Sergt. J. Crowhurst, Lce.-Corpl. W. H. Brown, and Corpl. Owen. Band Committee: Sergt. Verralls, Col.-Sergt. Towell, Lce.-Corpl. Brown, Lce.-Corpl. Bagwell, Pte. Church, and Pte. Tuffin. Recreation Room Committee: Sergt. Crowhurst, Corpl. Park, Pioneer Winn, Corpl. Fawsitt, and Lce.-Corpl. Morgan. On the motion of Captain Latter, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded the officials for services in the past year.

"IVA KILDARE,"

BY MRS. L. B. WALFORD,

Author of "Mr. Smith," "Cousins," "Frederick," "A Mere Child," "The Baby's Grandmother," etc., etc.

CHAPTER XV.

"ALL'S OVER NOW."

The ladies were in the garden, and saw the gentlemen approaching.

One was Reggie, of course, and Iva flushed and shook a little as she discerned the well-known figure; but who could the other be?

"Someone he has fished up to bring along and tide over the awkwardness," concluded she, relieved by the idea. "That shows *some* sense, at any rate. We shall have to laugh it off, and have a sort of silly reconciliation; and I must get that thing out of him, or at any rate have his solemn promise that he will put it with the rest, and have no sort of sentimental nonsense about it in the future. It was just what I was afraid of—something of this kind—when I told mother we should have to keep that boy at arm's length; but I never guessed *how* bad it would be. Well, I have got to go through with it," and Miss Kildare turned to the young visitor whom she was escorting through the flower-borders. "Have you ever met Reggie Goffe? Oh, yes, I am sure you have. He is always here, when he is not anywhere else—I mean when he is on leave, and is not shooting or fishing at houses—I mean——"

"Who can that be with Reggie, Iva?" came Lady Tilbury's voice from the rear.

"Can't imagine, dear mother," cried Iva gaily back.

And when Reggie presented his uncle, even Sir Philip felt it odd to be so absolutely unrecognised in his native place.

He could, however, find no fault with his reception; indeed the announcement of his name caused quite a little sensation in the group; and Lady Tilbury, who had never yet acquired the properly passive demeanour of the British matron, coloured and exclaimed with an animation which made her look handsomer than ever.

Unfortunately, it was too late in the day for Sir Philip now to think so. He had sold his lands, let Lady Tilbury look as charming as she chose.

But, at any rate, he would enjoy the very becoming warmth and effusiveness of her welcome; he would respond with gallantry, and accept the position of chief guest with alacrity. He stroked his beard, perked his head, recalled that he had seen a fine-looking man in the glass that morning, and set about talking to her agreeable ladyship with all the zest in the world.

"Miss St. Leger has just come over from Ireland, Reggie," said Iva, conducting her small party behind. It had been reinforced by Miss St. Leger's aunt, who had been ousted by Sir Philip.

"Such a beautiful country!" cried the young lady, thus indirectly appealed to. "And we were stopping in such a beautiful part! Do you know Ireland well?" and she proceeded to accept the young man with whom she had been tacitly presented. Iva fell back and walked with the aunt.

"She shan't be shunted a third time, poor thing," quoth she, able now to laugh again—now the momentous meeting was over, and nobody worse. Lady Tilbury had cross-questioned daughter with some pertinacity on the previous evening, but had got nothing out of Iva had allowed—that is to say, she had noticed—that things had gone cross between her and Reggie Goffe. and that one of the old disputes taken place between them; but she had its flatly to say what the discord was. Het of

tiresome and heedless—just like a great silly boy—was all she would aver.

"You yourself say: 'What is the use of being angry with him?'" cried Lady Tilbury at last, "and that there is nothing he likes better than to get people angry with him; yet you have just walked into his trap!" But if she thought that Iva would walk into hers she was mistaken. Iva was not to be caught.

Iva had recognised the difference between Reggie's present misdeed and former ones. This was involuntary. Therein lay an appalling line of demarcation.

It was so every way appalling that it called for an entirely new coat of armour on her part. She had, it is true, been betrayed into a momentary explosion; but she had thought things over in the night, and cooled down.

After all, she was a woman; and let a woman be ever so wroth with homage to her charms, she will melt in time.

To be sure, she mused, Reggie was—there was no reason why Reggie should not be—if Reggie *were* impecunious, and impossible, that did not prevent his—his having feelings like other men. They all knew he was fond of them—of the family, as a family. In her own heart she also knew that he was—was fondest of her. "Of course, he always liked me best," she told herself frankly. And a little voice within announced further that she would have been indignant at the bare idea of not being liked best.

But she certainly meant the liking to stop there. Reggie was just to be Reggie—their own appropriated Reggie. She was half-vexed now, now even when she had herself passed him on to her friend, to see how well the two got on together. He was quite Ethel's "form," of course. Just the sort of smart-looking man Miss St. Leger was accustomed to; and his looking graver, and somehow older than usual, was so much in his favour. He looked his full age—even more—as he strolled along, not in his usual rough tweed and gaiters, but in a well-made suit—what Iva knew to be his best suit.

What had he put on his best suit for? Out of respect to his uncle? It was not like Reggie to do this; he never changed for anybody when merely walking about the countryside. But Sir Philip, being also carefully attired, might have instigated the new departure; he might have suggested to his nephew that it was hardly *de rigueur* to make a morning call all in the rough—not knowing the very intimate terms upon which Reggie stood at Tilbury Court.

She had just satisfied herself as to the probability of this explanation when another was offered, and one which, in spite of herself, made her start. Sir Philip had just reached the point with Lady Tilbury when he felt it incumbent on him to take advantage of an opening for broaching the purport of his re-appearance in his own country.

The party had reached the end of a long gravel-path, which terminated only in a view; and consequently it was necessary to turn round and retrace their steps if continuing to walk. Iva, coming up last of the couples with her despised spinster, was now addressed, conjointly with her mother, by Lady Tilbury's companion.

"You won't be best pleased with me, my dear ladies, when I confess what brings me to Somersetshire just now," said Sir Philip, summoning all the ease he could command; "rather cool of me to say so, but still I can't help flattering myself you will miss the boy. I am carrying off Reggie—carrying him straight off with me to London this afternoon, *en route* for India."

"Reggie!" Lady Tilbury stood still in her astonishment, then looked over her shoulder. Reggie was close behind her; Iva in front, facing Sir Philip. "Reggie? *You?* Going to India—*to-day?*" cried the warm-hearted creature, almost with a scream; "going *to-day?*"

"Within the hour, Lady Tilbury." It was Sir Philip who spoke—Sir Philip, with both amusement and animation in his voice. On the whole, he rather enjoyed his *coup*.

"It is my doing," proceeded he briskly. "Entirely my doing. He knew nothing whatever about it until I took him by storm last night. Came down upon him with the news, and took his breath away. Fact is, he has always been hankering after a cavalry regiment, and cavalry regiments are dam—extremely expensive things. But I have contrived to arrange it for him at last, and he will be transferred to the — Dragoon Guards this week, and join at once. The regiment is at Peshawur. That leaves us no time to spare, you see; so I came down to fetch my nephew, and also to explain to him—hum—ha—how I was able to afford the transfer." (It must be owned that Sir Philip possessed one fine art, what has been denominated "the art of putting things." Who was to guess that the generosity so described was in reality a mere sop to quiet any possible outcry on the part of a defrauded heir, also, perhaps, to relieve the speaker's own conscience, which pointed out that however cogent were the causes which prompted his course of action, he had consulted nobody in adopting it?) "I have had to sell my estates," he said, pointedly.

"Your estates? Old Cary Hall, and——"

"All there was to sell." Sir Philip waved his hand, but a close observer might have seen his lips twitch. "Yes, my dear madam, that is what we poor impoverished landowners all come to—at least, you Tilburys are more fortunate, and long may you remain so!—but I fancy Sir Thomas did not entirely depend on land, as I do. Oh, to be sure! It is we unfortunates, who have never worked for our bread"—(he could not resist the insinuation. Sir Thomas's younger brother had reinforced the Tilbury coffers from Liverpool dockyards)—"we have got to starve now, to teach us better ways," concluded Sir Philip, with an affectation of jocosity. "Reggie and I will be known in Somersetshire no more, Lady Tilbury. But—well, well; think kindly of us when you think at all; and—we'll quit the subject, if you please, my dear lady," and he held out a shaky hand and looked at her with a watery smile.

Such an ending obliterated the beginning. No one could now feel as they had been feeling, that the speaker was heartless and contemptible. Lady Tilbury even went so far as to hold and press the shaking hand, the while such sympathy streamed from her fine eyes that poor Sir Philip, beneath its consolatory influence, revived and flourished afresh. 'Gad, he wished—he did wish—he had known this charming widow sooner.

As it was, however, he suffered himself to be led gently towards the house; and though he looked at his watch, and queried how long it took to drive to the station, and how long to walk from Tilbury front door to the farm, he was persuaded at last that another half-hour might be conceded, and followed the mistress of the mansion into her drawing-room.

The rest of the party straggled irresolutely after.

A thousand voices were ringing in Iva's ears. "Going to India! Going *to-day?* Now! Never to return! Never, at any rate, to be as once the intimate, dear, familiar friend—the Reggie of years and years—of winters and summers! Never more to be seen hurrying across the park, waiting in the roadway, hailing the carriage with his joyous confident call! Going with yesterday's angry flare for his last memory of the house that had almost been his home! Going with no word of explanation—no whisper of regret!

Oh, she saw it all now!

The altered dress, the unwonted demeanour, the troubled, averted eye. Not once had it been raised during Sir Philip's narration; no movement either of face or figure had co-operated.

Miss St. Leger had turned to her companion with a simper and a "How interesting! How excited you must be! How I wish I were in your place!" and he had responded with a mechanical smile and an inaudible mutter.

Older? He looked twenty years older; he looked old enough for anything.

The minutes were passing.

Were they to halt where Sir Philip was calling a halt in front of the door, to have no chance of, no loophole for, for one kind word, one murmur of forgiveness? A thought occurred to Iva.

"Will you please follow my mother?" she addressed her visitors courteously. "Reggie, show them the way. I must go and fetch the girls from the schoolroom; they will want to—to say 'Good-bye.'" She was half up the staircase, when there came a flying tread behind her. She knew who it was.

"Not there," said Reggie hoarsely, seeing she was about to turn in at the nearer doorway. "Let that wait. I'll see them—oh, yes, I'll see them"—impatiently—"but here—come in here," pushing open a small empty sitting-room, once Sir Thomas's den, now unused. "Iva, you *must* come in!" shutting the door. "You must give me these few last minutes. It is all over, you know; all *that* is over and done with; never mind what happened yesterday, it seems so little and so old—so long ago. When I left here last night, I—all I thought of was to get you to forgive me—and to let me keep the photograph—and—and perhaps—never mind what. That's all at an end. You *must* forgive me now?" He paused; she mutely inclined her head.

"We are friends, are we not, Iva?"

"Yes."

"You don't mind my holding your hand?"

"No."

"What I want to say is that I shall never forget you. I don't know what I am going to do nor what sort of life I am going to lead. Like other fellows, I suppose. I'll try to keep straight, and work my way up in the service, and shoot and fish when I go on leave and—but I shan't come back to England. All's over here. . . . . Of course, you will marry. Why shouldn't you? I—I hope you will—at least, I think so. But it can't do anyone any harm for you to know that a poor fellow who once loved you goes on loving you. Because I shall. Shall I tell you how I know I shall? Because there has never been a time in my life when I have not. . . . . Oh, don't cry. It's true, and I'm glad of it. I found it out last night; it was my caring so much about it, and—and other things that came out because of it, all together laid bare what had been hidden even from myself. You don't mind my telling you, do you, dear? I felt as if I couldn't go away without your knowing——"

And he repeated it over and over again.

The clock on the mantelpiece struck the half-hour. "I must go," said Reggie, hurriedly. "We were to have left before this. It will take all our time to get off now. Iva"—he bit his lip—"Good-bye," he said quietly, both hands in his.

"Good-bye," came in a tremulous whisper back.

A long sigh, and he walked slowly to the door, she standing where she was.

But at the door Reggie turned, and paused for an instant as irresolute. Then he moved back to her side. "Iva," he said, "I *can't* go without—?"

It took but a few seconds, that embrace which was to last a lifetime.

There was one mute, imploring movement, one solitary kiss—nay, it scarce had any passion in it, it was so sad, so tender, and so hopeless—and the two fell apart, his arms dropping from her waist.

Her eyes blind with tears, she heard the door close.

CHAPTER XVI.

MR. JABEZ DRUITT.

"I must own I do not see it in the light you do."

The speaker, a pleasant-looking man between forty and fifty years of age, coloured slightly as he spoke, and his hesitating accents sounded as if he were anxious to convince himself even more than the person to whom they were addressed.

That person was his brother, and an older, bulkier, harder-featured edition of himself. No one could ever have mistaken Amos Druitt for anything but a business man, a clumsily-built, ill-dressed, probably rich and prosperous partner in a commercial house. He looked the character—knew that he did—and had no desire to look anything else. To his mind a Manchester merchant was anybody's equal—so long as (metaphorically) his pockets bulged.

What, therefore, Jabez meant by "cutting the concern" at his time of life, withdrawing his share of the capital, and turning his back upon 'Change, with all its merry ups and downs, interest, excitement, and almost invariable profit, was to the elder Mr. Druitt inexplicable. He had always thought his younger brother a fool, but it appeared that Jabez was a bigger fool than he had believed possible.

Some intimation of this had just elicited the remark wherewith this chapter opens, and the contempt of the senior partner had caused the rising colour on the junior's cheek.

"I do not see things as you do, Amos. I never have, as you know. With me business has always been the means to an end, not the end itself. I have worked here for over twenty years——"

"What have *I* done?" A brusque, pertinent interruption.

"Ten years more, I admit. You are ten years older than I, and might have retired at my age had you chosen. I have often wondered you did not."

"Wouldn't be paid to do it. Retire? And pray, what should I do with myself if I were to retire, as you call it—stagnate, as I call it?"

"Still, I cannot see that your inclinations need control mine. It is not my opinion that I shall 'stagnate,' and it is my intention to 'retire.'" And in spite of the moderation with which the opinion was announced, it was obvious that Mr. Jabez Druitt would adhere to his intention.

"Oh, you will do as you please, of course," sneered the elder brother. "Leave the dunghill behind you, and strut upon the housetop. You think you will be mistaken for a 'fine old country gentleman,' I suppose? That no one will ever know that you have trod a warehouse, or sampled a cotton bale? You think that people will accept you at your own valuation, without taking the trouble to inquire where you come from, or where your money comes from?" He stopped to grin, a wide-mouthed, vulgar grin, and shook his head above his dirty collar. Jabez thought he had never seen his brother look more unprepossessing, more hopelessly, ingrainedly *common*. It gave him a gleam of satisfaction at the moment to recall that, although sons of one father, the two had had a different mother.

"Don't you think it, Jabez," proceeded the speaker, still shaking his bullet head derisively. "It's not to be done. Why, your very name betrays you, man. It's not a gentlefolks' name. We're plain working-men, you and I; and there's no making a silk purse out of a sow's ear."

("Certainly it would be difficult to make a silk

purse out of you!" reflected Jabez.) But aloud he merely replied, with a certain doggedness inherited possibly from the working-man's strain, whose existence on one side of the house could not be denied; "Whatever *is* to be done, I mean to do. I have no desire to assume anything to which I am not entitled. You may choose to impute to me motives and ambitions which your own brain has conjured up; but I deny, Amos, I emphatically deny that they have anything to do with my present course of action. I repudiate them, once for all, and altogether."

"You won't deny that you mean to set up for a gentleman?"

"I do not mean to 'set up' for anything. I am a gentleman."

"You a gentleman! You are no better than the rest of us, and we——"

"We have never seen alike on this point, and there is nothing to be gained by discussing it. It is your opinion that a man ought to stick to the line of life to which he has been born."

"Aye, it is. What have you to say against that? *I'm* not ashamed of my line of life."

"I have to say that if it does not suit his tastes and inclinations, and if he has the means of getting away from it, the sooner he does so the better. It is no question of being 'ashamed' of it."

"You'll never get away; you'll only make a fool of yourself."

Jabez was silent.

"If you must needs be too grand for business, and too idle for honest work, what was to hinder your keeping to your old neighbourohod and your old friends, at any rate?" pursued the elder Mr. Druitt, twirling a penknife sullenly between his fingers—he had been paring his nails previously, a habit particularly offensive to his brother. "You could have picked up a big house cheap somewhere in these parts."

"I have no wish to pick up a house cheap."

"Humph! You did not give much for Old Cary Hall. You got it a bargain—if it is anything like what you say."

"I gave a fair price. The place is old, and in need of repair. I shall have to spend a large sum upon it, making it habitable."

"Aye, an old moth-eaten, rat-eaten den, I'll be bound."

"It is a fine old mansion, perfectly sound, and suits me in all respects. I prefer a house of the kind to a brand-new villa." He paused, then resumed with animation: "Although I come of a plain stock, and on *one* side"—significantly—"have certainly no forbears to boast of, I can appreciate beauty and grandeur as well as the first nobleman of the land."

"Much some of them care for it! Give them race-horses and blacklegs——" But Jabez bore down the interruption.

"Hear me for once, Amos, and I shall not trouble you with my views and feelings a second time. You may say what you will of me—misinterpret and misjudge me, if so you choose, to others—but you shall not be able to do so to yourself. In leaving business and shaking off the dust of the warehouse from my feet, I am simply carrying into effect the purpose of a lifetime. From my earliest days, ever since I can remember, it has been my dream to live as my mother told me her people lived. You never would listen—I do not know if she ever asked you to listen—but to me it was like the story of another world. Stop a bit; hear me out," as there was an impatient movement. "Possibly that lay at the root of the matter, possibly not; but at any rate, even as a boy I vowed that if the way should ever be open for me to live in the real, free, open country, far from towns and turmoil, far from the struggling, jostling, elbowshoving uproar of Manchester, I would do it, come what may. Long before this I hoped that time had come; but there was always something or other to stop it——"

"You had not made enough money; that was what stopped it."

"Not altogether. Of course, to live in the way I aim at did—does require a good deal of money; but I could have been content with less. I did not need two hundred thousand to free me from the chain——" He paused.

"Certes, it seems a large amount," said Amos, drily.

"It was on my mother's account, as I think you know, Amos."

It was now Amos's turn to be silent; he did know.

He made an effort to recover himself, however. "You did your duty by the old lady, I admit." He nodded in a more cordial manner than he had yet manifested. "You were a good chap as far as she was concerned. But then, as I said, if it were for her sake you remained here, what was to hinder your transferring her to a place in the neighbourhood? They were to be had by the dozen."

"She was content with Brookfield; she was quite happy there."

"And what ailed *you* at Brookfield? As pretty a spot as you can find, if trees and fields and that sort of thing are what you want."

Jabez shook his head in a slow smile. It would not be possible to make his half-brother understand what he wanted. How could that dull, mechanical routine-loving earthworm, whose thoughts revolved round and round in one narrow groove from day to day, who was not only glued to his groove, but gloried in it—how was he ever to be made to lift up his eyes and behold the world afar? Amos Druitt would have told you that he did behold it—with scorn. What more was to be said?

The younger brother made, however, one final effort. "I see it is no use trying to explain," he said; "we never have been in sympathy, you and I."

"Oh, I don't know; we have hit it off pretty well; rubbed along as others do, I fancy. Don't you go away with a grudge against me and the old place."

"No, indeed, Amos. Glad to hear you say so, Amos. And I hope and trust you also bear no grudge."

Simultaneously each held out an honest hand, and perhaps at this moment the brothers felt more kindly towards each other than they had ever done before.

They had never suited; but, on the other hand, they had never quarrelled. If there had been no particular affection between them, there had been a perfectly good understanding, and in all matters of business absolute unanimity.

That was to say, Amos had taken the lead, and Jabez with entire good faith had been content to follow blindfold.

So that all went smoothly in the office; and, the office being the very marrow of the elder Mr. Druitt's bones, he could pass over with easy contempt his brother's peculiarities in other quarters. It was his principle—the home-brewed, hard-and-fast principle of the North of England working race—to live and let live; and it was due to him to add that as his sturdy, independent mind could ill have brooked interference from others, so was he rigid in abstaining from it on his own part. Jabez might do what he liked, run amuck among his fads and fancies as he chose, so long as he confined them to the domestic circle; all the elder brother did was to laugh his noisy laugh, or gibe in terms not the most refined, when anything new either in his brother's home or habits struck him as food for merriment.

But that Jabez on the death of his sole remaining parent should quietly set about disposing of his pretty house, with its well-laid-out grounds and gardens, and should announce his prospective retirement from the firm, with the intention of quitting also the neighbourhood, was too much. Nothing could have upset Mr. Amos Druitt's equilibrium more thoroughly.

He had been accustomed to Jabez from his youth up; had morning by morning nodded a greeting as he went to his desk, while Jabez went to his; had consulted him—to be exact, had announced to him the result of his own inward consultations—on every business point since the deeds of partnership were signed twenty years before; and had never had what he himself would have termed a "row" over any single transaction.

He could never hope to have another partner so docile. Indeed, he would never take another partner; rather a hundred times would he work by himself in the future than run the risk of being fretted by questions, shackled by doubts, and victimised by "I told you so's," if things went wrong.

Habituated so long to having a free hand, he could not now begin to step in double harness.

It was this conviction on the elder Mr. Druitt's part which made the defection of Jabez so important and so galling. Often as it had been hinted at in earlier times, he had looked upon it as a mere chimera, while of recent years so tongue-tied had his brother been by filial duty that the very remembrance had died out.

Now, when the blow fell—to be historically correct, the blow had fallen a month before, but the wound was as fresh as ever—he felt himself to be a deeply-injured personage; and although the matter was by mutual consent avoided in discussion until avoidance was no longer possible, it was scarcely ever absent from his thoughts.

To have to shape out a new rut in his well-beaten track at his age, and with his reluctance to approach the untried in any shape! It was horrible! It was cruel!

He brooded over it in secret, and stormed about it in conjugal privacy. To no one else than the wife of his bosom could the magnitude of his loss be confided; it would never do to have people whispering and conjecturing, as though it were the reduced capital of the firm which was the bother: but Mrs. Amos (as we shall call her for lucidity's sake in these pages), who held fast by her husband in all things, so long as she was kept in luxury, allowed to roll in her carriage, give big dinners, and patronise her acquaintances, was not stinting in her sympathy or reprobation. Her husband had that comfort.

"If the stupid owl had only come up three days a week—three? two—*one* would have done, so long as he were seen about the place at all," cried he at last; "just come for an hour on a Monday, or a Friday, and kept it dark that he was frittering his money away elsewhere. But no, he must needs let all the world into the secret. I shouldn't have cared if he bought Windsor Castle, as long as it were within an hour's rail of Manchester, and he could still have been seen on the line going up and down. And he is as stubborn as a mule—he who was always easy enough to manage in the office! I will say that for Jabez, no fellow could have been pleasanter to work with. Never a word was there between us. But it seems he has had this maggot in his head all the time. His mother, like a goose, laid it there, and no doubt all the time the two have been living alone together, since the pater and the sisters died, they have been fostering and cockering it. You know how niffy-naffy he is in his dress——"

"My word, Amos! I wish you were the same! If it were only his dress, I should not complain," cried Mrs. Amos, with a toss of her head. She was a dressy person herself, fond of gay colours, rustling gowns, and new bonnets; she had never yet learnt to submit with patience to her husband's creased coat-tails and ill-tied neckcloths.

"I suppose he will marry now," cogitated she, seeing that her implied challenge produced no effect.

"Marry a duchess. There are plenty to be had.' Mr. Druitt grimly smiled. "There are all kinds of scampering dowagers on the field, who would snap at two hundred thousand pounds. That's what Jabez takes out of the business, confound him! No credit to him, either. Part of it made by our father, part by me: what has *he* done to collar a lump sum like that?"

"You may say so indeed. Is it so much, really? Why, then, you must have a good deal more, Amos?" quoth the lady shrewdly; and the idea putting her in a good humour, she proceeded in brisk conversational accents: "I suppose you came in for Sam's share between you, as well as the girls' that died. You and Jabez being the only two to live out of the old set, you reaped the benefit."

"Humph!" said Mr. Druitt, looking at her. He had one soft—fairly soft—spot in his heart. He had a vein of family affection. "They might have lived for me," he said gruffly; "I would as soon have had them as their money," which was a good deal for Amos Druitt to say.

(To be continued.)

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Births.

Barnes.—On the 31st December, at Shanklin, Orpington, Kent, the wife of Henry Kendall Barnes, of a son.

Clarke.—On the 28th December, at Laurel Bank, Bromley-common, Kent, the wife of Herbert Garnett, Clarke, (lately of Rio de Janeiro), of a daughter.

Davenhill.—On the 21st Jan., at Eldridge, Chislehurst, the wife of Richard S. Davenhill, of Wootton Bassett, of a son.

Dawson.—On the 27th December, at The Gables, Shawfield park, Bromley, the wife of William Dawson, Junr., of Lincoln's-inn, M. A. Oxon., of son

Dawson.—On the 28th December, at 75, Copers Cope-road, Beckenham, Kent, the wife of C. Reginald Dawson, of a daughter.

De Jongh.—On the 1st January, at Keston Lodge, Widmore-road, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Alexander De Jongh, of a son.

Gibson.—On the 1st January, at 10, Palace-grove, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Archd. Gibson, of a son.

Martin.—On the 16th Jan., at Rusthall, Highland-road, Bromley, ent, the wife of James A. Martin, of a son.

Smith.—On the 20th Jan., at Audleigh, Aldersmead-road, Beckenham, the wife of S. Arthur Smith, of a son.

Thirkell.—On the 2nd January, at Grasmere, Barnmead-road, Beckenham, the wife of Howard Thirkell, of a daughter.

WARREN.—On the 11th Jan., at Clovelly, Crescent-road, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Walter Richard Warren, of a daughter.

WILSON.—On the 6th Jan., at Powerscourt, Chislehurst, the wife of Sydney John Wilson, of a son.

Marriages.

CRAWSHAW—MARTIN.—On the 8th Jan., at S. Mark's, Surbiton, by the Rev. George Duncan Barry, Sydney Relf, youngest son of the late George Crawshaw, of Beckenham, Kent, to Edith Mary, daughter of George Mitchell Martin, of Craigleith, Surbiton-hill, late of Newcastle-on-Tyne.

PRESTON—PEERS.—On the 29th December, at All Saints', Harrow Weald, by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Ripon, uncle of the bride, assisted by the Right Rev. the Bishop of Stepney and the Rev. C. J. Ridgway, Vicar of Christ Church, Lancaster-gate, the Rev. George Reginald Preston Preston, second son of R. T. Preston, of Hayes Court, to Katherine Dora Peers, second daughter of the Rev. W. H. Peers, Vicar of Harrow Weald.

NOSWORTHY—FOSTER.—On the 29th December, at St. Nicholas, Chislehurst, by the Rev. Canon Murray, Rector, assisted by the Rev. J. Cooke Yarborough, Vicar of Ramsey, and the Rev. J. G. Cornish, Rector of Lockinge (brothers-in-law of the bride), Stewart Henry Nosworthy, of Ging, Darjeeling, to Isabella, youngest daughter of Richard Foster, of Homewood, Chislehurst.

Deaths.

DEAR.—On the 7th Jan., suddenly, at the residence of her son-in-law, Charles Venables, Esq., 97, Lennard-road, Beckenham, Ann Margaret, widow of Thomas Dear, late of Bread-street, E.C., and Peckham, aged 74.

HAWKES.—On the 20th Jan., at Stoneleigh, Beckenham, Kent, Charles Samuel Hawkes, formerly of Birmingham, and Rio de Janeiro, aged 77.

NYE.—On Sunday, the 23rd Jan., Vincent Haynes, the fondly-loved fourth son of Edwin and Hannah Nye, Netherfield, Shortlands, Kent, aged 14½ years.

ROBINSON.—On the 23rd Jan., at Napierton, Bloomfield-road, Bromley Common, Kent, Susannah, the beloved wife of W. H. Robinson.

WEST.—On the 9th Jan., at Rosedene, Beckenham, Dorothy Rose Ada, beloved and only child of Basil Claughton and Nellie West, aged two years and 11 months.

WORTERS.—On the 10th Jan., at his residence, Thoresby, Shortlands, Kent, Charles Worters, aged 65 years. No flowers, by request.

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

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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, 10th February, 1898, at 5.30 p.m., to receive the Report, and adopt the Accounts for the past year.

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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.
Wednesday, July	6th.		

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THE

BROMLEY RECORD

AND

MONTHLY ADVERTISER.

No. 476. MARCH, 1898. Price One Penny.

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Special
LOCAL REGISTER
(Published on the 1st of each Month)

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„	Surrounding Villages, about ...	4,000

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GENUINE DOURO WINE ...	18/0	1/6
BURNAY, 1891	24/0	2/0
FINE OLD FRUITY	30/0	2/6
COCKBURN'S FINE OLD ...	36/0	3/0
FINE OLD CRUSTED WINES, from	42/0	3/6
And upwards.		
SHERRY.		
FULL PALE...	12/0	1/0
NATURAL	16/0	1/4
LIGHT SOUND WINE	24/0	2/0
DINNER SHERRY	30/0	2/6
CHOICE OLD, from	36/6	3/0
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CLARET.		
SOUND GOOD	12/0	1/0
VIN ORDINAIRE	15/0	1/3
MEDOC	18/0	1/6
ST. JULIEN	24/0	2/0
BURGUNDY.		
GENUINE	15/0	1/3
MACON	20/0	1/8
BEAUJOLAIS	24/0	2/0
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WINES FROM	36/0	3/0
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GOOD OLD (33 under proof) ...	24/0	2/0
SUPERIOR	30/0	2/6
FINE OLD	36/0	3/0
GLENLIVET BLEND	42/0	3/6
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J. DEWAR, PERTH	42/0	3/6
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PAMPHILON'S VOS (Unrivalled)	48/0	4/0
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GOOD OLD (33 under proof) ...	24/0	2/0
SUPERIOR	30/0	2/6
FINE OLD	36/0	3/0
G. ROE'S	42/0	3/6
DUNVILLE'S V.R.	42/0	3/6
JOHN JAMESON'S OLD BONDED	42/0	3/6
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UNSWEETENED or SWEETENED	24/0	2/0
FINEST OLD TOM	30/0	2/6
FINEST UNSWEETENED ...	30/0	2/6
BRANDY.		
BRITISH BRANDY	30/0	2/6
BLENDED BRANDY	42/0	3/6
PURE COGNAC	54/0	4/6
VERY CHOICE ****	69/0	5/9
HENNESSY'S. OUR OWN SHIP. PING and BOTTLING	66/0	5/6
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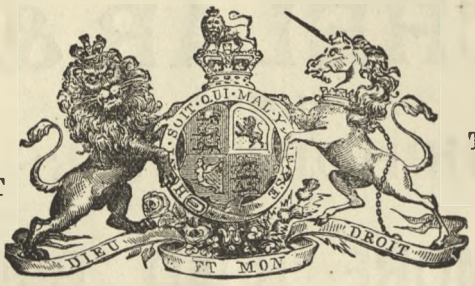

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Lifebuoy

Royal Disinfectant Soap

A DOCTOR'S OPINION.

TWYFORD, BERKS, *March 31st, 1896.*

DEAR SIR,

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.

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The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

MARCH, 1898.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st.—Bromley Urban District Council meeting at the Offices, East-street, at 7.30 p.m.—Entertainment at the Raglan-road Infants' Schools, Bromley Common.

3rd.—Performance at the Bromley Grand Hall, of the comedy "Oh! Susannah" by Mr. Henry J. Leslie's company, and on two following nights.

4th.—Bromley Board of Guardians at the Workhouse, Locksbottom, at noon; and Rural District Council at 2 p.m.—Plaistow Burial Board meeting at Plaistow Schools.

6th.—*2nd Sunday in Lent.*

7th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court-house, at 10.30 a.m.—Bromley School Board meeting at the Wharton-road Schools at 8 p.m.—St. Luke's Burial Board meeting at the St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common, at 8 p.m.—Concert at Camden House, Chislehurst.

8th.—Polling for County Councillors, in the event of a contest.

9th.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne and Lepper, at the Mart, City, E.C., at 2 p.m., of freehold residence "Dunolly," Shortlands, and of freehold country residence "Scott's Lodge," Knockholt.

10th.—Performance of "In the Ranks" at the Bromley Grand Hall, by a company under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dornton, and on two following nights.

11th.—Monthly sitting of the Bromley County Court, at the Sessions House, Market-square.

13th.—*3rd Sunday in Lent.*

14th.—Probable date for the holding of parish meetings for the election of members of Parish Councils.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court-house, at 10.30 a.m.

15th.—Bromley Urban District Council meeting at the offices, East-street, at 7.30 p.m.

16th.—Statutory meeting of the new Kent County Council, for the election of twelve aldermen.

17th.—Last day for sending in nominations (up to noon) for the Bromley Board of Guardians; also for the Bromley Urban District Council. —Evening sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne & Lepper, at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, of three cottages, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, Devonshire-square, Mason's Hill, the villa residence known as 34, Palace-grove, Bromley, and four plots of freehold building land, and a valuable building site at West Wickham.

18th.—Meetings of Bromley Board of Guardians (at noon) and of the Rural District Council (at 2 p.m.), at the Workhouse, Locksbottom.

19th.—Spring commences.

20th.—*4th Sunday in Lent.*

21st.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court-house at 10.30 a.m.—Bromley School Board meeting, at the Wharton-road Schools, at 8 p.m.

22nd.—Local Option meeting at the Bromley Drill Hall, under the auspices of the Bromley Temperance Society, at which Mr. E. H. Pickersgill, M.P., will be one of the speakers.

25th.—*Annunciation: Lady Day.*

27th.—*5th Sunday in Lent.*

28th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court-house at 10.30 a.m.

29th.—Bromley Urban District Council meeting at the offices, East-street, at 7.30 p.m.

31st.—Confirmation at St. John's Church, Bromley.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

This Authority held two meetings as usual during last month, on the 1st and 15th respectively, the principal subject under discussion being the proposed transfer of the electric lighting powers to a private company, which had been discussed at considerable length at previous meetings.

THE TRANSFER OF ELECTRIC LIGHTING POWERS.

A great deal of time was taken up at the meeting on February 1st in considering this matter. The Council were urged by Mr. H. Podger, Chairman of the original electric light syndicate of Bromley, not to part with their Provisional Order to a contracting company, and it was decided to reply that the question was under consideration. — In reply to the Council's request for specific information respecting the proposed local company, Messrs. Todd, Dennes, & Lamb, solicitors, wrote to the effect that, with the exception of a prospectus, all the necessary documents and particulars had been supplied either to the Council or the Board of Trade, and they saw no reason for further delaying the sealing of the transfer. Mr. Grinsted had given notice of a motion in favour of the seal being affixed to the agreement of transfer, and he moved this, it being seconded by Mr. G. Payne. In the course of a long discussion which ensued, Mr. McIntyre, Mr. Worley, Mr. Lawrence, and others spoke against the transfer being effected until the Company had furnished the particulars asked for. The Company, Mr. McIntyre pointed out, had not been brought out in the ordinary way, no prospectus having been issued. Mr. Lawrence complained that the electric lighting firm of Messrs. Edmundsons, Limited, had subscribed £5.000 of the £5.420 capital, and yet it was, he said, called a local company. The old electric lighting syndicate, he contended, had a prior right to the Order, rather than strangers to the parish. Mr. Dickins, Mr. Grinsted, Mr. Bond, and others contended that the Company met all the requirements of the Council as a local corporation; but Mr. Mallett pointed out that the Council had acted consistently throughout, having only agreed to transfer the powers to a body that was thoroughly representative of the ratepayers. Ultimately an

amendment proposed by Mr. McIntyre postponing the matter until the information asked for was supplied was seconded by Mr. Worley, and carried by seven votes to six. The amendment was, however, not carried as a substantive motion, the Council agreeing to further consider the question in Committee. This they did, but eventually adjourned, and considered information supplied by the Company's solicitors, in Committee, at their meeting on February 15th, when it was practically decided to present a report at the next Council meeting recommending the sealing of the transfer.

Allotments Required.

Petitions numerously signed by ratepayers living in Shortlands Valley have been presented to the Council, appealing to them to obtain land for allotment gardens, as their allotments on the Cator estate are required by the landlords. The Clerk has been instructed to communicate with various landowners in the district with a view to meeting the wishes of the memorialists.

The Water Commission.

At the meeting on February 15th, a report of the General Purposes Committee on the water question was presented. The Council's delegates had attended a meeting of representatives of Kent authorities, when the question of giving evidence before the Royal Commission was considered. The tenour of the evidence proposed to be given by Sir John Farnaby Lennard, Bart., Mr. G. J. Courthope, and Mr. R. Gordon Mullen was stated to be to the effect that the Kent authorities do not suggest a change, being satisfied with the supply from the Kent Water Company at the present time, but that if any change is to be made then the Kent authorities should be the Water Authority for that portion of Kent outside London. The Committee recommended that if evidence be given on behalf of Bromley it should follow on the same lines. Mr. Mallett, in moving the adoption of the report, pointed out that evidence could be given on behalf of that Council separately if they thought it desirable to do so. Mr. G. Payne seconded, and remarked that so far opinion seemed in favour either of the matter being left alone or of the Kent authority having a share of the water to itself. Several members objected to the expression that they were satisfied with the Kent Water Company's supply; Mr. Dickins stating that he would never be satisfied until there was a constant supply throughout the parish. Eventually the Council decided to refer the report back to the Committee, giving them power to authorise the Chairman or the Clerk to give evidence before the Royal Commission in the interests of the Council.

Sandford-road.

The Medical Officer of Health reported that the present condition of Sandford-road gave no cause for complaint, but during heavy rains its state was undoubtedly unsatisfactory from a sanitary point of view, and if other means proved insufficient he suggested that the road should be properly made up. Numerous complaints respecting this road have been before the Council, and with a view to remedying the nuisance it was agreed, upon Mr. Peill's proposition, to refer the matter to the Highways Committee again.

Refunding Overpaid Rates.

In reply to the Council's request for enlightenment on the question of refunding any portion of rates which had been overpaid—as Mr. J. Stannah had demanded—the Local Government Board wrote to the effect that while there was no enactment expressly authorising the return of such money, it appeared to the Board that it was competent for an Urban District Council in such cases to refund a proportion of the rate paid. Acting on this advice, the Council agreed to return half of the disputed rate to Mr. Stannah.

Miscellanea.

The captain of the Bromley Fire Brigade reported that the new engine had worked very satisfactorily at a fire at West Chislehurst—its first thorough trial.—Mr. R. Skinner, of 49, Tweedy-road, wrote disputing a claim of £55 5s. 9d., as his proportion of the cost of making up Florence-road, and the Clerk to the Bromley School Board wrote disputing an apportionment to that Board of £13 7s. for the making up of Haxted-road. Both matters were referred to Committees to deal with.—An appeal was made by Mr. T. Hallett Fry for more lamps in Ravensbourne-road, Shortlands, and this matter was referred to the Highways Committee.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

The usual fortnightly meetings of this Authority took place on February 7th and 21st, but the business transacted was of an unimportant character.

Caretaker's House.

The question of proceeding with the erection of a house for the caretaker of the Wharton-road Schools cropped up at both meetings, and it was decided to omit a bath-room from the plans so as to bring the cost within £300, and that the matter still stands over pending the receipt of the amended plans.

A Yearly Return.

Upon the suggestion of Mr. G. Weeks, jun.—one of the new members—it was agreed, at the meeting on February 7th, to have a statement prepared at the close of each school-year, giving full particulars of the teaching staff, the attendances, the Inspector's reports and grants earned, as well as the other receipts and also the expenditure for each school. It was pointed out by the proposer that such information would be of great value to the new members while it would also refresh the memories of those who were more conversant with the affairs of the Board.

Teachers Appointed.

A great deal of time was taken up at the meeting on February 21st in interviewing candidates for vacant posts in the girls' and infants' schools at Raglan-road. Miss Keeping, of Leyton, was appointed as an ex-pupil teacher for the junior department, as was also Miss Parish, of Bromley; Miss Brazier, of Birmingham, was appointed to the girls' school; and Miss Grove was appointed as a certificated assistant at the Raglan-road mixed school; while Miss M. Payne was engaged as a monitress. The question of dispensing with the services of two teachers in the boys' department at Raglan-road in consequence of the provision made in the new school premises was discussed, and ultimately it was referred back to the School Management Committee, in order that a communication on the subject from the head-master might be considered.

Sir Samuel E. Scott, Bart., of Sundridge Park, was last month returned unopposed as Member of Parliament for West Marylebone in the Conservative interest. He succeeds his step-father, Lord Farquhar, in the representation of the seat, and is twenty-four years of age.

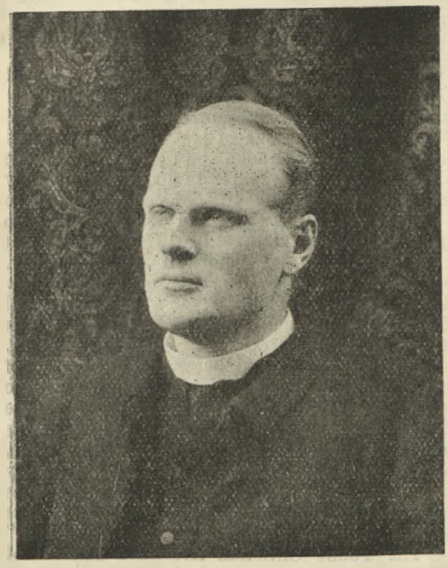
Lord and Lady Farquhar are, it is stated, making additions to their house in Grosvenor-square, so as to enable Sir Samuel and Lady Sophie Scott to live with them when they are in London, as Lady Sophie does not care for London so much as for the country.

RECORD PORTRAITS.

No. XXVI.—THE REV. W. A. CARROLL, M.A.

The ecclesiastical life of Bickley has experienced an important change during the past month, the resignation, owing to ill-health, of the Rev. Robert Wood, who for eight years has been the respected vicar of St. George's Church, having taken effect, while his successor, the Rev. W. A. Carroll, M.A., has taken up his residence. We have, therefore, much pleasure in making our readers acquainted with a few facts concerning the career of the new vicar up to the present, as well as with his face.

The Rev. William Alexander Carroll is by many years the junior of the late vicar, having been born at Putney some 35 years ago. He is the eldest son of the late Mr. H. Carroll, of the Admiralty, who died in 1866, when the subject of this sketch was three years of age. Mr. Carroll's grandfather on his father's side, was Sir William F. Carroll, of the



REV. W. A. CARROLL, M.A.

Navy, and afterwards Lieutenant-Governor of Greenwich Hospital until his death in 1862, while on his mother's side, his grandfather was Mr. Alexander Park, a master of the Court of Common Pleas.

At one time Mr. Carroll seemed destined for a naval career. He was educated at Haileybury, and at Christ Church, Oxford, where he had the Rev. Canon Scott Holland as his tutor, and he took his B.A. degree in the Honour School of Theology in 1885. Speaking of his University days, Mr. Carroll recalled with satisfaction the privilege he enjoyed of attending the lectures of Aubrey Moore and Canon Gore, as well as the friendship of the late Dr. Liddon, and of the present Bishop of Lincoln. He took but little part in athletics, though he rowed in the Torpid races in 1883. After taking his B.A. degree Mr. Carroll engaged for a year in mission-work in the East end of London, before he was ordained in 1886.

He was then appointed to a curacy at Holy Trinity Church, Dalston, having for his vicar the Rev. R. S. Hassard, now the vicar of St. James's, Norlands. Mr. Carroll remained here until 1891. One of the principal features in his work at Dalston was his connection with a large club for costermongers, among whom he worked most successfully. His geniality and kind-heartedness gained for him the love and confidence of the humblest of that class, and in the course of our interview, Mr. Carroll related how frequently his presence was sought—at all hours of the night—to ask him to become surety for some rough member of his parish who had got into trouble. In connection with his labours in this parish an experiment was tried in engaging a large colosseum, situate in one corner of the district, for mission services on Sunday nights. This enterprise proved very successful, the building, which accommodated nearly two thousand persons, being nearly always full, and, through the efforts of Mr. Carroll, the orchestra became very efficient and attractive.

Upon leaving Dalston Mr. Carroll, at the invitation of the late Archbishop Benson, undertook the secretaryship of the "White Cross" League and during two years' arduous service, rendered in this capacity he travelled over all parts of the country addressing meetings on behalf of the movement. As an instance of his activity in this work it may be mentioned that for six weeks Mr. Carroll had a different abode every night. He subsequently became a member of the executive committee of the League, and still occupies that position.

In 1893 the authorities of Christ Church, Oxford requested him to undertake the charge of their Mission at Poplar, and Mr. Carroll has laboured in this capacity with great success for the past five years. The active practical interest taken by him in the well-being of his poor parishioners quickly won their esteem and respect, and his departure, to take up his duties at St. George's, Bickley, occasioned much regret throughout the parish. Mr. Carroll identified himself at Poplar with the work of elementary education, being a manager of the local group of Board schools, for five years, while the work of the Charity Organisation Society also claimed his support, and he is now a member of the Central Committee. But for his removal to Bickley, Mr. Carroll would have sought election on the Board of Guardians for his parish, and he has had three years' experience as a member of the Bromley-by-Bow Vestry.

In connection with the excellent work of the Christ Church Mission, Mr. Carroll took particular interest in the welfare of the young. He introduced the French system of instruction—arranged by Bishop Dupanloup, of Orleans—into the Sunday School, the object being to provide much more definite and precise teaching than is obtained by the ordinary method, which Mr. Carroll regards as too loose to be thoroughly effective. Under the French mode of procedure, the children, who numbered about one thousand, were divided into three groups, and were catechised. Mr. Carroll found Dupanloup's system to answer splendidly; as the present Bishop of Bristol testified, stating, during one of his visits to the Mission, that he believed the scholars in the Mission schools would excel, in religious knowledge, any of those in the best West end Sunday Schools, with which he was acquainted.

Open-air services formed another prominent feature in Mr. Carroll's work at the Christ Church Mission, and from time to time good results were manifested; while every other year a series of Bethlehem tableaux were given and found very helpful in bringing the reality of the Saviour's earthly life home to the hearts and minds of many who witnessed them. Altogether, the work of the Mission under the charge of Mr. Carroll and other clergy, sent forth from Oxford during the past fourteen years, has had a marked influence on the district and its inhabitants, some of whom are of the lowest and the poorest type. In Temperance work Mr. Carroll took an active part, but while doing his utmost to improve the social condition of

the people by all such agencies, he always sought to impress upon his workers the vital importance of keeping to the front the spiritual aspect of the work.

Mr. Carroll's preferment to the living at Bickley, results from his intimate acquaintance with the patron, Mr. E. J. Wythes, of Bickley Hall, who takes a great interest in the work of the Christ Church Mission. The new Vicar's knowledge of this district is not entirely fresh, as he has relatives residing here, Mr. R. B. Berens, J.P., of Kevington, St. Mary Cray, being an uncle.

At the present time Mr. Carroll has temporary assistance in his duties at St. George's, but in April the Rev. E. Y. Orlebar, B.A., of New College, who was with Mr. Carroll at Poplar for a short time, will undertake the curacy at Bickley. Mr. Carroll, who is a bachelor, took his M.A. degree some four or five years ago.

DEATH OF "THE MAN IN GREEN."

We regret to announce the death of Mr. G. W. Quallett, whose nome de plume, "The Man in Green," will be familiar to many of our readers. Mr. Quallett breathed his last on Wednesday, 16th February, at his residence, at Bexley Heath. Numberless sporting men will keenly feel the loss of so highly esteemed a veteran of the chase. For the past three years he has hunted on wheels, owing to rheumatism, but his health was unimpaired until about three months ago, when the illness set in to which he succumbed. Mr. Quallett was a good rider and a good writer. As a rider, says the "South Eastern Gazette," he could hold his own with such men as Jim Mason, Ginger Stubbs, Mr. Surgeon Holt, and Mr. Oldacre. His early hunting days were spent in the shires; he also hunted often with Baron Rothschild's staghounds. For the last forty years he hunted entirely in West Kent, with Messrs. Robert and John Russell's Harriers, and with the West Kent Foxhounds, and narrated their runs with great spirit in the "Field," and other papers. He was never known to be late at a meet of the hounds, and the longest and hardest day's sport on a Saturday never kept him from attending church on a Sunday morning. His kind and courteous behaviour to all rendered him a great favourite with every member of the hunt, from master to servants. Though not a rich man, he had always a guinea ready for any charitable purpose, and his charity did not end here—Mr. Quallett has never been heard to speak ill of any neighbour. Deceased was 81 years of age.

The funeral took place on Saturday, February 19th, in Crayford Churchyard, in the presence of a large number of deceased's friends and admirers. The cortege, consisting of a Washington car and three coaches, arrived at the pretty churchyard shortly after three o'clock, and was met at the lych gate by the rector (the Rev. J. P. Alcock) and a number of deceased's sporting acquaintances. The first part of the service was read in the church, and the scene at the grave-side was of a most impressive nature. The coffin was of polished elm, and engraved on the breast-plate was the following inscription:—"George Watts Quallett, died February 16th, 1898, aged 81." The chief mourners were:—Mrs. H. T. Robins (niece), Mr. Foord (nephew), Mr. T. H. E. Foord, Mr. G. Foord, Mr. H. T. Robins and four sons, viz., Messrs. Herbert F. Robins, Arthur S. Robins, Harvey G. Robins, and Harold S. Robins; Miss Sainsbrey (nurse), Mr. C. Pompe, and Mr. E. T. Hamilton. The private carriages of Miss Lucas (Cold Blow) and Mrs. Stoneham, North End, near Erith, also followed. Amongst those present at the grave-side were:—Mr. John Russell (Chairman of the North Kent Agricultural Association), Mr. G. Russell (Bourne Cottage, Bexley), Mr. W. Jackson (secy. of the West Kent Hunt), Mr. G. Bollen (late huntsman), Mr. W. H. Slade, Mr. T. Ronaldson, Mr. W. May, Mr. J. Smithers, the Rev. F. C. Learoyd (curate of Christ Church, Erith), the Rev. A. Hunns (Bexley), Mr. Neville Cannon (Bexley), Mr. and Mrs. Relph, Mr. Bridgeworth, Mr. Wood (representing the Wax Chandlers' Society, of which Mr. Quallett was a senior Past Master), Mr. T. Ashton, &c. Wreaths, many of which were of a most beautiful description, were received from the following:—The Hon. Ralph Nevill, "In memory of a very old and dear friend"; the Wax Chandlers' Society, Ida and Herbert Foord, Mr. and Mrs. J. Causton (Bickley), John and Jessie Indermaine, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Fish, Adele (niece), Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Thrale (Croydon), "From all at 4, South-terrace, Bexley Heath," Alderman and Mrs. Bell, Katie and Lizzie Russell (Bourne Cottage, Bexley), &c.

DEATH OF A FORMER BROMLEY CLERGYMAN.

The Rev. Dr. Charles Hole, formerly incumbent of Christ Church, Bromley Park, and subsequently vicar of Christ Church, Worthing, has just died at Worthing, at the age of sixty-nine. Educated at the University of London and the London College of Divinity, he was ordained in 1869 to the curacy of St. Saviour's, Herne Hill, removing thence to St. Michael's, Stockwell, and subsequently to Curzon Chapel, Mayfair. In 1874 he went out to South Africa as rector of Holy Trinity, Cape Town, and as head-master of Holy Trinity College School, remaining at the Cape till 1885. The following year he went to Nova Scotia as rector of St. Paul's, Halifax, returning to England and becoming incumbent of Christ Church, Bromley Park, in 1889. After two years' service there he was presented to the vicarage of Christ Church, Worthing, and in 1893 was appointed a surrogate to the diocese. Dr. Hole, who received the LL.D. degree from the University of Richmond in 1879, was author of "Principles of the English Church, a New Apology for the Church of England, a series of Letters to a Friend," and "The Young Christian Armed, a Manual of Christian Evidence, Faith, and Practice"; was editor of "Practical Moral Lesson Books," in three volumes, "Our Bodies," "Our Minds," and "Our Social Relations," and joint editor of "The Grade Lesson in six volumes: the Useful Knowledge Reading Books," really amounting to twelve volumes, being a series for boys and another for girls, in six volumes each, together with the other works included in Stevens and Hole's School Series.

On Sunday morning, February 20th, at Christ Church, Bromley Park, in the presence of a large congregation, the Rev. T. George, incumbent, in the course of his sermon, made a touching allusion to the death of Dr. Hole, and spoke of him as a man of great attainments, and one who was very much loved by his congregation. Several members of Christ Church subscribed to a beautiful wreath, which was forwarded to Worthing, as a token of the affection in which Dr. Hole was held by the congregation of Christ Church.

Mr. J. Powell Williams, M.P., for South Birmingham, and Financial Secretary to the War Office, proposes to reside in Beckenham, having taken St. Martin's, Westgate-road.

Sir John Lubbock, the Earl of Derby, Sir G. Hayter Chubb, and Mr. J. S. Forbes are among the Commissioners appointed by the Queen for the Paris Exhibition of 1900.

MUSICAL JOTTINGS.

A curious fiasco occurred at the Bromley Grand Hall on the 9th February. A performance had been announced of the "song-cycle," "In a Persian Garden," which, considering the attractive character of the work, and the ability of the artistes, might have been expected to draw a good audience. Only a small number were present, however, and these after waiting some time were informed that, owing apparently to some misunderstanding, the artistes had not arrived, and the money paid for admission was therefore returned.

On the 21st February, at the same hall, Mr. T. H. Jarvis gave a ballad concert for which an interesting programme was provided, and there was a fairly good attendance.

The Bromley Musical Society will introduce an attractive novelty in their March orchestral concert, viz., Edward German's Overture to Richard III.; and the programme will also include Beethoven's Second Symphony, which beautiful wo k is not often heard in Bromley.

We understand that it is intended to give, at Bromley Parish Church, in connection with one of the special Wednesday evening services in March, a performance of Mendelssohn's unfinished oratorio, "Christus," with orchestral accompaniment.

A curious illustration of the high appreciation which Wagner's music has at length attained has just been given. An important feature of the coming opera season will be the performance of his "King des Nibelungen," and it is announced that all the tickets for this performance are already sold four months in advance!

The older German composers appear also to be fully maintaining their place in public esteem. The programme of the Crystal Palace Saturday concerts has just been issued, and of 41 works definitely promised no less than 29 are by German composers, 7 are of English origin, and only 5 belong to any other nationality. It seems probable that the concerts will more than equal those of recent years.

BROMLEY HOCKEYITES AT DINNER.

The members of the Bromley Hockey Club dined together at the Frascati Restaurant on Monday Feb. 21st, and entertained a few visitors. Mr. Stanley Chistopherson, of the Wimbledon Hockey Club, and hon. sec. of the All England Hockey Association, occupied the chair, and among other visitors there were repesentatives of the Molesey club in Mr. Herrick, and of the Staines club in Mr. Houseman. The brothers Westray, of the Wimbledon club, sent a telegram of good wishes and regrets at being prevented from attending the dinner. Bromley Hockey was represented by Messrs. H. Lovell (captain), M. Baker (hon. sec.), P. R. and A. E. Earnshaw, Wells, Bennett, R. H. Smith, Sandell, Darke, S. A. Smith, and several others. The Bromley Cricket Club was in evidence in the persons of Messrs. John Weeks and J. H. Lepper.

In proposing the toast of the evening, "Success to the Bromley Hockey Club," Mr. Christopherson naturally had something to say about the accidents which had deprived the first team of some of its most prominent players. Early in the season the captain suffered a mishap and had since been compelled to handle the umpire's whistle in place of a stick. Then the claims of business deprived the back line of Beach for several weeks, and the half-back line of E. F. Clark for the rest of the season. The final blow came when Hose broke down in health, and left a vacancy in the forward line which it had been impossible to adequately fill. Mr. Christopherson paid a well deserved tribute to Hose's brilliant play, and spoke of his compulsory retirement as a loss not only to Bromley, to Kent, and to the South, but to the English team as well, and he hinted in unmistakable language that if Hose could possibly see his way to turn out for his country in the match against Ireland, his place would be kept open for him. These compliments paid to Hose were received with hearty applause. Mr. Christopherson congratulated the club on holding down to the present "an unbeaten certificate" in spite of these accidents, a fact which he attributed to the reserve strength of the 2nd and 3rd teams, fed by the "nursery" at Holmby House, where, the Chairman humorously remarked, "Mr. Bond, I understand, trains future players from the age of 8 to 14 and practises them against the local ladies."

Mr. Howard Lovell responded to the toast for the 1st XI., and announced amid applause that next season, the three absentees, Hose, Clark, and the speaker, all hoped to turn out again to uphold the honour of the club.

Mr. M. Baker responded for the 2nd XI., and Mr. Bond for the 3rd. The latter then proposed "The Visitors," for whom Mr. Herrick, of Molesey, replied. The health of the Chairman was received with acclamation, and drew from the popular representative of the All England Hockey Association some excellent remarks as to the necessity for keeping up the credit and reputation of the game and keeping out that professionalism which is the curse of some branches of English sport.

The company would not be refused a speech from the brilliant centre forward, who has done so much to carry his club to its present position among hockey teams in the South. The loudest applause of the evening was reserved for Mr. P. R. Earnshaw, and although he modestly said he failed to understand why he was cheered, probably no one else in the room was in the same condition of doubt. Then, of course, Mr. F. Solbe had to be drawn, and this was cleverly done by Mr. M. Baker, who associated his name with the toast of "The ladies," to which the popular interuational forward suitably replied.

With "Auld Lang Syne" as a parting song, the company broke up after a most enjoyable evening. By the way, why not arrange this dinner at home next year? The numbers attending at the Frascati were not quite satisfactory, and probably a much larger party would gather at the White Hart or the Old (New) Bell in Bromley.

The Bromley Gas Company.—For the first time in its history, the Bromley Gas Consumers' Company had to change the locale of its half-yearly meeting, owing to the re-building of the "Bell" Hotel, and on Thursday, February 24th, the directors and shareholders met at the White Hart Hotel, to receive the half-yearly report and transact the usual routine business. Mr. Alexander Dickson presided, and there was a fairly large attendance of other directors and shareholders. An increased make of gas was reported, and the net result on the whole year's working was a balance carried forward of £383, after paying the usual dividends, which it was decided to do. Referring to the proposed electric lighting, the Chairman remarked that the Company had no reason to fear the advent of a competitor so long as they could supply a good gas at three shillings per thousand cubic feet, which was just one-half of the cost of the electric current at 6d. per Board of Trade unit. The reports and accounts were passed; and the retiring directors—Messrs. S. J. Wilde and F. H. Janson—were re-elected, as was also the retiring auditor, Mr. W. W. Baynes. Votes of thanks to the directors and officers concluded the business.

Bromley's Jubilee Commemoration Fund.—Mr. A. C. Norman, J.P., presided at a special meeting of the contributors to the Queen's Reign Commemoration Fund for Bromley, which was held on Thursday, February 24th, at the Bromley School of Science and Art. The money subscribed (£1,864) had, it was reported, been invested in New Zealand four per cent. stocks. For the current year thirty letters for admission to convalescent homes had been purchased as follows:—St. Andrew's Home, Folkestone, five letters; All Saints' Home, Eastbourne, eight; Herbert Home, Bournemouth, five; Seaford Home, Sussex, five; St. Mary's Home, Broadstairs (for children), two; and Homœopathic Home, Eastbourne, five. These absorbed thirty guineas, and the Committee had arranged to pay all expenses of board, &c., so that patients could go to the homes absolutely free, and this brought the cost up to £45, which, with £7 10s. which the Committee had decided to put away each year as a sinking fund, would about absorb the available income. It was agreed to appropriate ten of the letters to the use of patients in the Bromley Cottage Hospital, five to the Phillips Memorial Hospital, ten to be reserved for cases recommended by the Bromley Charitable Society, and five to be retained by the Secretary (Mr. J. Y. Hay) to be distributed to applicants who came direct. A number of rules were proposed and approved.

Bromley Cottage Hospital.—The twenty-ninth annual meeting of subscribers to the Bromley Cottage Hospital was held on Thursday, February 10th, at the Parish-room, West-street, Mr. W. McKewan, J.P., presiding. There were also present the vicar of Bromley (Rev. A. G. Hellicar), Messrs. J. Wheeler Bennett, D. Grinsted, A. Griffin, G. Weeks, sen., J. Y. Hay, T. Blatherwick, T. C. Dewey, M. H. Hodder, Drs. Iiott and Beeby, Mr. H H. Pain (honorary secretary), Mr. F. W. Foskett (assistant honorary secretary), and others. In the report, which was of a very satisfactory character, the Committee mentioned that a much desired improvement had been effected in the lowering of the steep approach to the hospital at a cost of £139 14s., through the generosity of Mr. Eley Soames and Mr. W. Willis. They also acknowledged the liberal assistance of other friends, and placed on record their high appreciation of Mr. H. H. Pain, who retired from the honorary secretaryship after nineteen years' valuable service. The assistant secretary (Mr. Foskett) had been appointed to fill Mr. Pain's place. There had been an increase in the number of patients treated, and the financial statement was such as necessitated no appeal being made, except for the ordinary income. The report and balance-sheet (which appear in our advertising columns) were adopted, and the officers re-elected. Votes of thanks to the retiring secretary (Mr. H. H. Pain) and other officers concluded the proceedings.

Florist Drowned at Farnborough.—On February 1st, Deputy-Coroner E. N. Wood and a jury held an inquiry at the Union Workhouse, Locksbottom, concerning the death of Mr. Edwin Jones, florist and nurseryman, of Farnborough, who was found drowned in a tank on his premises. After hearing a number of witnesses, the jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased met his death by accidentally falling into the tank, and expressed their sympathy with the relatives of the deceased who had lived in Farnborough for many years and was well-known and respected.

The Rainfall.—The rainfall for January, as measured in Widmore-road, Bromley, amounted to only 0·59 in. Rain fell on eleven days, the largest amount registered in one day being 0.28 in. on the 5th. For the corresponding month last year the fall was 1·76 inches.

The Phillips Memorial Hospital.—Mr. W. Murton, C.B., presided over the ninth annual meeting of the Phillips Memorial Homœopathic Hospital and Dispensary, at Bromley, on Thursday, February 17th. It appeared from the annual report that sufficient funds had been raised for the rebuilding scheme, which is to be in commemoration of the Jubilee, to justify a commencement of the new hospital buildings, which will be situate on the northern end of the strip of land retained by Mr. Coles Child at the White Hart Field. Since the last annual meeting the building fund had increased from £526 to £2,800, and altogether a total sum of £4,600 had been collected for the hospital during the last four years. The medical work had been carried on as usual, the number of patients treated in the hospital during the twelve months numbering 74, while 1,106 visits had been paid to patients at their homes. The officers were re-elected, and thanked for their services, and a resolution forbidding any experiments in vivisection ever taking place in the hospital buildings was carried unanimously.

CHISLEHURST.

Kent County Council and the Division of Chislehurst.—At a meeting of the Kent County Council last month the Parliamentary Committee presented the following report on the question of the division of the parish of Chislehurst into wards:—A further application has been received from the Chislehurst Parish Council for an order dividing the parish into wards, and your committee have caused a local inquiry to be held on the matter. The proposal was to divide the parish into two wards, the larger portion of the parish known as the "Upper Borough" to form one ward, and the smaller portion of the parish adjoining Foots Cray, and known as the "Lower Borough," to form the other ward. The application is based on the fact that these areas are distinct and separate, and that one parish meeting for the two is inconvenient. The proposal was opposed by the Parish Councillors resident in the "Lower Borough," and was only carried in the Parish Council by eight votes to six. In the face of this opposition your committee are not disposed to create wards of such unequal area, value, and population, and the application has, therefore, been refused. — The report was adopted.

Beckenham and the Electric Light.—The Beckenham Urban District Council decided at their meeting on Monday, February 7th, upon the unanimous recommendation of the Electric Lighting Committee, to undertake the supply of the electric light for their district at a cost of £36,000. It was also agreed to engage the services of an electrical engineer to work jointly with the Surveyor in the preparation of plans to be submitted to the Local Government Board.

New Beckenham Improvements.—Lieut.-Col. A. C. Smith, R.E., one of the Local Government Board's inspectors, held a public inquiry at the Council Offices, Beckenham, on Tuesday, February 15th, respecting the Council's application for sanction to borrow £1,000 for a contribution towards the cost of a three-way bridge over the South-Eastern Railway at New Beckenham; £400 towards the cost of a sub-way at the New Beckenham station; £670 for purposes of street improvement; £450 for the provision of fire hydrants; and £60 for the erection of a harness room. Very little interest was taken in the proceedings, and there was no opposition offered to the various proposals.

Presentations to Mr. H. C. Fischer.—Before relinquishing on February 15th last the responsible post of Controller of the Central Telegraph Office, which he has held since the business was taken over by the State in 1870, Mr. H. C. Fischer, C.M.G., of St. Helier's, Masons-hill, Bromley, was made the recipient of several very handsome gifts from the officers and staff. His personal staff and the controlling and supervising officers presented him with a set of silver candelabra, and to Mrs. Fischer they gave a beautiful diamond, ruby, and pearl bracelet. Personal friends in other branches of the Post Office presented a set of silver fruit dishes, the female staff gave a beautifully-fitted Gladstone bag, the male staff subscribed a smoker's cabinet with silver fittings, the Controller's head manager and his assistant gave a silver vesta box, while the officers of the late Submarine Telegraph Company, who had served under Mr. Fischer since 1889, presented their old chief with a cedar-lined silver cigar-box.—Mr. Edward May, who also resides in Bromley (the Deputy Controller), now advances to the position of Controller.

Funeral of Lord Sackville Cecil.—The remains of the late Lord Sackville Cecil, whose death was recorded in our last issue, were interred, after being cremated at Woking, on Thursday, February 3rd, in Hayes Churchyard. A communion service was first held at the church, and at the burial service which followed there was a large and distinguished gathering of mourners, including Lord and Lady Arthur Cecil and Master Reginald Cecil, Lord Lionel Cecil, the Right Hon. Arthur James Balfour, M.P., Miss Agnes Beresford Hope, Miss Marwood Tucker, Hon. Victoria Grosvenor, Lord Eustace Cecil, Sir R. Nicholson, Lord Stanley, Lord and Lady Galloway, Sir John Farnaby Lennard, Bart., and many others. At the grave-side the service was conducted by the Rev. G. Clowes. A very large number of beautiful floral tributes were sent by relatives and friends.

Killed Going to School.—A sad fatality occurred outside the Masons-hill Infants' School, Bromley, on Monday, February 7th, a little girl named Elsie Elizabeth Bird, aged six years, living with her aunt at 10, Hawkesworth-road, being knocked down and killed as she was crossing the road on her way to school by a pair-horse van driven by Albert Buist, of 101, Homesdale-road, Bromley Common. The child was conveyed to the Cottage Hospital where it was found that she was internally injured, and she died soon after admission. At the inquest evidence was given to the effect that the driver was not to blame, and a verdict of accidental death was returned. Attention was called to the dangerous position of the entrance to the school, it being on the main road, but it appears that up to the present the school managers have failed in their efforts to remove the entrance to the side of the school, where the road is private property.

Bromley Presbyterian Church.—On Sunday, January 30th, the morning service at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Bromley, was followed by the ceremony of the ordination and induction of six gentlemen as elders, their names being as follows:—Messrs. G. Bishop, J. W. Hose, J. Reid, G. Simpson, A. Young, and J. Young. These, with the minister (Rev. Dr. Moinet), will form a session for the oversight and management of the spiritual interests of the congregation. The annual meeting of the church was held on February 16th, when a very encouraging report was presented, and the following members were chosen as deacons.—Messrs. Caverhill, Ogilvie, Patterson, Pollock, Smail, and Stewart; and they were formally inducted at the close of the morning service on Sunday, February 27th.

Bromley Cricket Club.—On Wednesday, February 16th, a very enjoyable amateur dramatic performance took place at the Bromley Grand Hall, having been arranged on behalf of the funds of the Bromley Cricket Club. The programme consisted of the comedietta, "Assault and battery," the one-act play entitled "In honour bound," and a farce entitled "The little sentinel." These afforded a pleasing variety of style, and the various parts were very capably filled by Miss Ethel Carpenter, Miss Marion Carpenter, Mrs. Norman Bath, Mr. M. L. P. Crozier, Mr. R. H. Hummel, Mr. Aubrey Prust, Mr. H. Walther, and Mr. F. R. Canning. Musical selections played by an orchestra led and conducted by Mr. Norman Bath, were highly appreciated by the audience.

The Health of Beckenham.—The report of the Medical Officer of Health for Beckenham for the year ending December 31st last, was issued towards the end of last month. Dr. Carpenter estimates that the population has increased from 23,579 in the previous year to 24,200 at the middle of 1897, and the birth-rate for the twelve months was 22·0 per 1,000 as against 21·8 in 1896. The death-rate was 9·9 per thousand, against 9·7 in 1896; while the zymotic death-rate was 0·7 per 1.000. The Medical Officer expresses the hope that Beckenham will soon be served with a constant water supply, and suggests a bi-weekly collection of house refuse, instead of weekly, particularly during the summer months. A more scientific method of destroying the refuse is also recommended.

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church.—On Thursday, February 10th, a large and appreciative audience gathered in the Co-operative Hall, East-street, Bromley, on the occasion of a concert arranged on behalf of the debt fund of the St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church. The programme was of a very interesting character. The first item consisted of two of Moskowski's charming little "Spanish Dances," which were artistically played as a pianoforte duet by the Misses Cazeaux and G. Zimmermann. The only other pianoforte selection was given by Mrs. Reitmeyer, a brilliant performer, her piece being one of Liszt's extraordinary compositions, "Rhapsodies Hongroises," No. 12, which was deservedly applauded. Mr. B. H. Latter's pleasing baritone was heard to advantage in "Across the far blue hills," and as an encore for "Oh, oh! Hear the wild winds blow," he gave "A May morning" in good style. Two violin solos were very fairly played by Mr. A. Zimmermann; but one of the best items of the evening was a Goltermann piano and 'cello duo by Mrs. Reitmeyer and Mr. C. Zimmermann. The first vocalist of the evening by a very long way, was Miss Lizzie Neal, A.R.A.M., a lady with a fine, well produced contralto voice. She was encored for "Sleep, dearest sleep," and in the second part she sang "Angus Macdonald," and was again encored. Mr. H. Inglis was decidedly good in his songs; and the same should also be said of Miss Cazeaux's song. Miss G. Zimmermann gave a careful rendering of "Non e Ver," and was encored. The programme was fittingly brought to a conclusion with a very nicely played instrumental selection by the Misses M. and G. Zimmermann (piano), and Messrs. A. and C. Zimmermann, and another violin.

Miss Ethel Hurlbatt, of Bickley, has been appointed principal of Bedford College, London. Miss Hurlbatt is at present principal of Aberdare Hall, Cardiff.

Last month a branch of the City Bank, Limited, was opened at the Corner, High-street, Bromley, and a branch of the Union Bank will be opened shortly.

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DIARY OF FEBRUARY.

January.

29th.—Twenty-second annual meeting of the Bromley and District Association of the National Union of Teachers, at the Raglan-road Board Schools, Bromley, Mr. Churchill being elected president for the year.

30th.—Ordination and induction of six elders at the Trinity Presbyterian Church, Bromley.—Sacred musical service at St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common, the programme consisting chiefly of selections from "St. Paul."

February.

1st.—United demonstration, arranged by local temperance bodies, in favour of the Sunday closing of public houses, was held at the Bromley Drill Hall, a large and enthusiastic audience being present. — Professor B. J. Malden lectured on "Nansen's success" at the Bromley Grand Hall, under the auspices of the Bromley Philharmonic Association.

2nd.—The Rev. Mark Guy Pearse addressed a meeting of the Beckenham Abstainers' Union at the Public Hall.

3rd.—Funeral of the late Lord Sackville Cecil at Hayes, in the presence of a large and distinguished company of mourners.—Amateur dramatic performance at the Bromley Grand Hall, in aid of the funds of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

4th.—Presentation, at a smoking concert held at the Bromley Drill Hall, of a testimonial, consisting of a silver salver and a purse of £130, to Mr. Colin J. Campbell, on his retiring from the honorary secretaryship of the Bromley Conservative Club.—First meeting of the Plaistow Burial Board, after the annual vestry, Mr. T. Lamb being re-elected as chairman.—The Bromley Board of Guardians accepted the tender of Mr. T. W. Jones, of Beckenham, amounting to £9,054, for extensions to the Union Infirmary.

5th.—Annual championship race of clubs affiliated to the South of the Thames Junior Cross Country Association, at Oakley Park, Bromley Common, the winner being W. H. Cornelius, of the St. Mark's Club.

7th.—Meeting of the Society of Temperance Ironsides at the Co-operative Hall, Bromley, presided over by the Rev. T. George, of Christ Church, Bromley Park.—Beckenham Urban District Council decided to undertake the supply of electric light in their district at an estimated cost of £36,000.—Serious fire at West Chislehurst, premises occupied by Mr. Rice, cycle maker, and Mr. Uridge, grocer, being destroyed.—Lecture at the Beckenham Congregational Lecture Hall by the Rev. J. Morgan Gibbon on "Ralph Waldo Emerson, the American poet."

8th.—Recital by Albert Chevalier at the Village Hall, Chislehurst.—Annual supper given by Mr. W. H. Bosanquet, to the members of the Plaistow Working Men's Club.

9th.—Meeting under the auspices of the Bromley Association of the London City Mission, at the Bromley Congregational School-room, the Rev. T. Nicholson presiding.—Presentation to ex-Police-sergeant R. Dudman, of the Bromley Police Force, of a purse of about £40, subscribed by the townspeople.

10th.—Twenty-ninth annual meeting of the Bromley Cottage Hospital, at the Parish Room, West-street, presided over by Mr. W. McKewan, J.P. A very satisfactory report was read; and Mr. H. H. Pain, who retired from the honorary secretaryship after 19 years' service, was accorded a hearty vote of thanks, Mr. F. W. Foskett being appointed to fill the vacancy.—Distribution of prizes, by Lady Bruce, to the successful students at the Bromley School of Science and Art and Technical Instruction Classes. — Inquest held at St. Mark's Men's Club, Bromley, touching the death of Elsie E. Bird, who was run over and killed at Mason's Hill; a verdict of accidental death was returned.—Concert at the Bromley Co-operative Hall, in aid of the funds of S. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church.

11th.—Annual meeting of the Beckenham Horticultural Society at the Public Hall, presided over by the Rev. H. Arnott.

13th.—The new Vicar of Bickley (Rev. W. A. Carroll) preached his first sermon at St. George's Church, Bickley.

14th.—Fifth annual concert for Mr. Sam Houlding's benefit at the Grand Hall, Bromley.—Fourth annual concert, arranged by Mr. F. G. Brooker, at the Clock House Hall, Beckenham.

15th.—Meeting at the Beckenham Wesleyan School-room on behalf of the Wesleyan Home Missionary Society, Mr. C. Bell, of Bromley, presiding.—Local Government Board inquiry at Beckenham, respecting that Council's applications for the sanctioning of various loans.

16th.—Dramatic entertainment, by local amateurs, at the Grand Hall, Bromley, in aid of the Bromley Cricket Club.—Inquest at Beckenham on a Penge man named George Erby, who was found hanging from a tree at Elmers End; a verdict of suicide was returned.

17th.—Mr. W. Murton, C.B., presided over the ninth annual meeting of the Phillips Memorial Homœopathic Hospital, Bromley, when it was reported that sufficient money had been raised to erect the new hospital on a site secured on the White Hart Field.—Entertainments given, in the afternoon and evening, by the East London Juvenile Blind Choir, at the Bromley Grand Hall.—Subscription concert—the fifth of a series—at Camden House, Chislehurst.—Bishop Corfe, of Corea, addressed a meeting at the Churchhouse, Beckenham, on mission work in Corea.

18th.—Temperance meeting addressed by the Rev. Canon Barker, at the Farwig Wesleyan Mission, Bromley, Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., presiding.

21st.—Evening concert, under the auspices of the Ravensbourne Cricket Club, at the Parish-room, Shortlands.

23rd.—Lecture on the "English and Dutch in South Africa" by Mr. C. F. Woofenden, at the Bromley Conservative Club.

24th.—Half-yearly meeting of the Bromley Gas Consumers' Company at the "White Hart" Hotel, Bromley, Mr. A. Dickson presiding.—Annual meeting of the Bromley Literary Institute, presided over by Mr. A. S. Gedge.—Meeting of contributors to the local Queen's Reign Commemoration Fund, at the Bromley School of Science and Art.—Lecture on "A Country Walk" by the Rev. Theodore Wood at Quernmore School.—Conservative meeting at Chislehurst Village Hall, addressed by Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P.

25th.—Exhibition of the animatograph, in connection with the Bromley Camera Club, at the Parish Room, West-street.

28th.—Lecture entitled "Fishing on the Dogger" at the Beckenham Public Hall, by Mr. F. Wilson, in connection with the Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen.

Bromley Literary Institute.—The fifty-second annual meeting of this Institute took place on Thursday, February 24th, Mr. A. S. Gedge presiding. The report showed a more satisfactory financial position than for the past few years, an adverse balance of £24 4s. 4d from the previous year having been reduced to £7 1s. 3d. The increase in the subscription, which came into force at the beginning of 1898, was expected to greatly add to the revenue, but the members were asked to secure fresh subscribers. After the adoption of the report and accounts, the officers were re-elected, Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., being again chosen as the President. A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. W. L. Crossley (the honorary secretary) and Mr. J. Weeks for their assiduous services on behalf of the Institute, and to the Chairman for presiding, brought the meeting to a close.

Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P., at Chislehurst.—On Thursday, February 24th, a meeting convened by the Chislehurst Constitutional and Unionist Association was held at the Village Hall, and presided over by Mr. F. C. Dobbing, J.P. Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P. for the Sevenoaks Division, was the principal speaker, and referred at length to the work of the present Government. The last session of Parliament was marked, he said, by the passing of the Education Act and the Workmen's Compensation Act, and in the present session the three great measures to be dealt with were the Irish Local Government Bill, the proposal to increase the army, and the Bill for dealing with the local government of London. Concerning the troubles in India, he maintained that the Government were justified in reversing the decision of the late Government to withdraw from Chitral. Mr. J. Percival Hughes, barrister-at-law, also addressed the meeting.

Cross-Country Race at Bromley.—The various clubs affiliated to the South of the Thames Junior Cross-Country Association met at Oakley Park, Promley Common, on Saurday, February 5th, to decide the annual cross-country championship. The first man home proved to be W. H. Cornelius, of the St. Mark's Club, who covered the course, seven and a half miles, in 43min. 4sec., F. J. Steadman, of the Epsom Harriers, being a close second; and C. Winterbourne, of the Brighton and County Harriers, who won the race last year, third. From the club placings the Wandle Harriers won the event, their total being 89, while Reading Athletic Club Harriers were second with 96, and Epsom Harriers third with 126. The West Kent Harriers, of Beckenham, did well, one of their members (A. O. Bullock) being the fourth man home, but Bromley's representatives were altogether out of the running, their best man, T. J. Jarman, not taking part.

Temperance Gatherings at Bromley.—On the first of last month a united demonstration in support of the Sunday Closing of public-houses took place at the Drill Hall, under the auspices of the Bromley Temperance Council of the C.E.T.S., and the Bromley District Temperance Union. Mr. W. Joynson-Hicks presided over a large audience, and pointed out, in his opening address, that on the question of Sunday Closing there was no real divergence of opinion among the sections of the temperance army. A canvass in Bromley some years ago showed that a majority of seven to one were in favour of the principle. Stirring speeches on the question were delivered by Mr. R. Foulkes Griffiths, barrister, Mr. W. H. Greenwood, B.A., of Toronto (deputation from the National Temperance League), Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., and Mr. F. F. Belsey, and resolutions in favour of the movement were put to the meeting and carried.—The Society of Temperance Ironsides also held a meeting at the Bromley Co-operative Hall on February 7th, for the purpose of forming a local "circle." The Rev. T. George, of Christ Church, presided, and addresses were given by Mrs. Stewart (of Blackheath), treasurer of the Ironsides' National Council; and Dr. Sarah Anderson Brown, originator of the Industrial Farm Home Scheme for Inebriates in Essex. A number of members were enrolled at the close of the meeting.

Science and Art Classes.—The annual distribution of prizes to the successful students at the Bromley School of Science and Art and Technical Classes took place on February 10th at the School, Lady Bruce undertaking the presentations. Mr. W. R. Mallett (Deputy-Chairman of the Urban District Council) presided, and there was a large attendance. The yearly report showed very gratifying results, the splendid percentage of passes of previous years having been well maintained. In Art subjects there had been 201 individual students under instruction, 133 submitted themselves to examination, and 108 passed, giving a percentage of 81. In the Science subjects, 119 students had been under instruction, 50 were examined, and 23 were successful, giving a percentage of 46. In Ambulance and Nursing, 52 students passed in examinations, and were awarded certificates, and in Shorthand 52 students received certificates. After Mr. G. Loly B.A., had given an address on the importance of technical education, Lady Bruce distributed the prizes, and at the close was accorded a cordial vote of thanks for her kindness.

Presentation to Mr. Colin J. Campbell.—An interesting ceremony took place at a smoking concert arranged by the Bromley Conservative Club, which was held at the Drill Hall on Friday, February 4th, when Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P. for the Sevenoaks Division, on behalf of the club and party, presented a handsome testimonial to Mr. Colin J. Campbell, on his retiring from the honorary secretaryship of the club, after nearly twelve years of zealous service. There was a large gathering, and in making the presentation Mr. Forster alluded to the untiring energy, enthusiasm, and devotion with which Mr. Campbell had carried out his duties. The testimonial consisted of a solid silver salver, suitably inscribed, a purse of £130 and an illuminated address containing the names of the 225 subscribers. During the evening a musical programme was carried out.

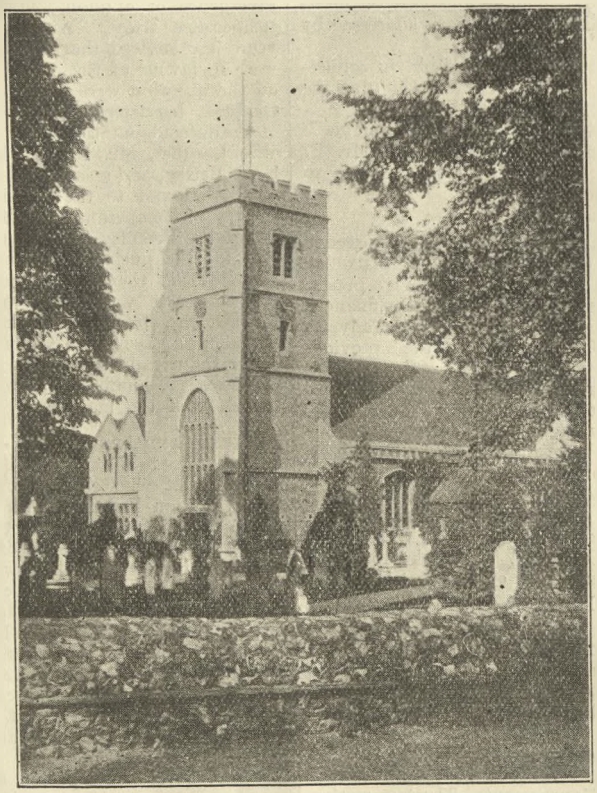
Mr. Alfred J. Baker, of Westgate, Beckenham, has been placed on the Commission of Peace for the County of Kent by the Lord Lieutenant. Mr. Baker is a Liberal in politics, and it is stated that the appointment is the fulfilment of a promise made when Lord Rosebery was Premier.

RAMBLES IN SURREY

BEDDINGTON.

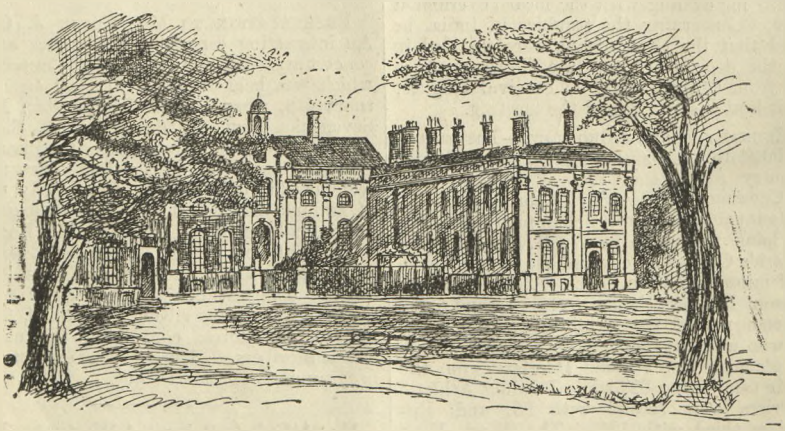
It may be asserted without fear of contradiction, that the whole of the valley of the River Wandle contains points of considerable interest to the numerous and increasing classes who love rambling amongst localities which are rich in traditions of the past, and associations, more or less intimate, with events and persons of importance. From its source, near the old parish church of Croydon, through Waddon, Beddington, Hackbridge, Carshalton, Mitcham, Garratt (once celebrated for its "Mayors"), to the point where it joins the River Thames at Wandsworth, there is scarcely a mile which does not carry back the mind to scenes of the past, or which does not present objects which are well worthy of note.

On the present occasion it is proposed to limit the scope of our ramble to the short length of the Wandle beginning at its source and ending at Beddington Park. Our last "Ramble in Surrey,"



BEDDINGTON CHURCH.

it will be remembered, related to the neighbourhood which has for nearly the whole of the present century been the summer residence of the Archbishops of Canterbury. By a curious coincidence our present peregrinations commence at a locality which has been even more closely identified with the



BEDDINGTON PARK.

Primates of All England, for Croydon Palace was for many centuries one of the chief, and perhaps, after Lambeth, the most important of the homes of the Archbishops of Canterbury.

With the remains of the ancient archiepiscopal palace at Croydon, however, we have already dealt in these columns, and it will be unnecessary to give any further particulars of it here. The western portal of the old church of Croydon is still overshadowed by an ancient elm-tree said to be more than six hundred years old. Tradition asserts that this tree was planted above the grave of a Templar, but the name of the Knight and every other particular of him has been lost in the lapse of time. It is on record, however, that a battle was fought on the north side of the town between the adherents of Henry III. and the forces who had combined under the leadership of the famous Simon de Montfort, to diminish the excessive power of the Crown, and one writer, upon somewhat insufficient grounds, has ventured the theory that the knight whose remains are said to have been buried where the elm now rears its enormous trunk and spreads its hoary branches, was one of the slain on that occasion.

The Wandle takes its rise in a garden at the south end of Croydon, and flows through the grounds of the old palace in the direction of Waddon Lane its course being formerly distinguishable from the road by the osiers bordering its banks. Near Waddon Court the marshy expanse of verdure is intersected by another lane, which crosses the stream on a low arch of brick-work, green and slimy with minute aquatic vegetation, much of which consists of thickly matted threads of a bright green colour, known in some localities as "crow-silk." Between this point and Waddon Mill the river flows through a broad marsh, and the walk from the cross lanes to the mill is continued upon a causeway, bordered by osiers, and at the broad sheet of water to which the river spreads out immediately above the mill, by a wooden bridge.

Continuing our ramble, we enter, close by the gates of the mill, a long narrow lane, bounded on the left by a hawthorn hedge, and on the right by a wooden railing, the bank on that side rising steeply from the river. At a short distance further on is the celebrated snuff mill at Beddington, and in this neighbourhood it is of interest to note how greatly the volume of the waters of the river are swollen by the springs of clear cold water which rise in the very bed of the stream.

A large number of beautiful trees overhanging the river at this place produce a series of reflections and varying shadows which offer a great variety of interesting and beautiful studies for artists and photographers. Further on the road towards Beddington Church leads the rambler past some quaint cottages of sixteenth or early seventeenth century date.

THE HALL, BEDDINGTON PARK

The church of Beddington, a handsome flint and stone structure, is approached by a path leading to a revolving gate, close by the churchyard. Recent extensive alterations and restorations have tended to give the sacred structure a somewhat modern appearance, but there is much both within and without the walls which speaks of bygone times. The church, or rather, the building which once stood upon the site of the present church, was mentioned in the Domesday Book, but every trace of it has now disappeared, and the existing church belongs to a much later date. It consists of a nave and aisles, chancel, and massive tower at the west end. There is also a south porch, and on the south of the chancel a chapel which contains monuments to the Carew family. The Carew Chapel was erected in or about the year 1520.

The most important objects in the church are the very fine monumental brasses, ranging from the early part of the 15th century to the middle of the 17th century. These are nine in number and principally in memory of members of the Carew family. Few, if any, more easily accessible groups of monumental brasses are to be found so near London, and a very profitable day's work may be found here by anyone with a taste for making rubbings of this interesting class of memorials. It should be added here, however, that some of the Beddington brasses are now partially covered by the choir stalls, and that in order to obtain access to the chancel where they are placed it is necessary to get permission from the rector

At the west end of the church is placed a painted table or reredos which was once used behind the altar in this church. It is of foreign (probably Italian) workmanship, and possesses many curious features. The church plate at Beddington, which is of various dates of manufacture, comprises a Tudor Communion cup bearing the London hall mark of the year 1551; a silver paten, 1707; a silver flagon, 1639; and several other articles of silver and silver-gilt plate of recent date.

The large building standing by the church, now known as the Female Orphan Asylum, was formerly, and for many years, the home of the Carews, a family of great influence and distinction in the kingdom. As early as the reign of Edward III. it appears that the Carews were possessed of the manor of Beddington, and they continued to possess it until the reign of Henry VIII., when upon the attainder of Sir Nicholas Carew, in 1539, his estates became Crown property.

Sir Francis Carew, who subsequently procured the reversal of his father's attainder, purchased Beddington again, and the descent, since that time, has been lineal to almost our own day, though the male branch has twice failed. In both these instances, however, the representative in the female line has taken the name and arms of Carew.

The chief part of Beddington Park, as the house of the Carews was, until quite recently called, dates only from the year 1709, but the hall is a very noble example of the domestic architecture of the age of Queen Elizabeth. It is entered from the fore courts by a handsome portal of stone, surmounted by a decorated turret in the Italian style of architecture.

The fine oaken roof is perhaps the most notable feature of the apartment. Its principal ribs spring from large carved gilded brackets, and from an equilateral pointed arch, which being underset with smaller ribs, assumes a trefoil character. Over each arm is a strong beam forming a brace with the rafters. The flooring is of marble, and the walls are wainscotted with oaken panels.

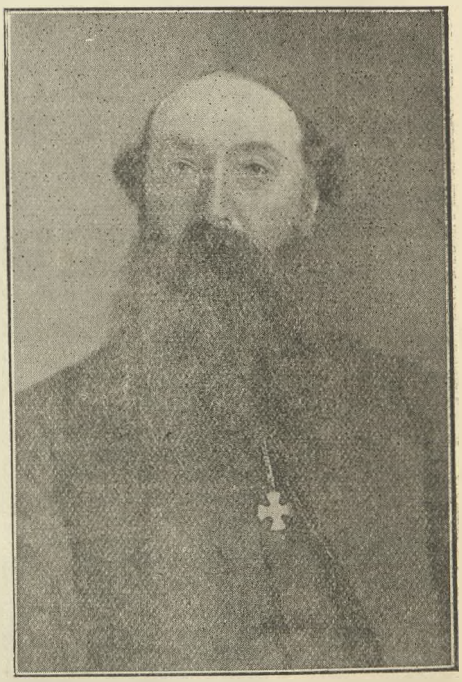
The accompanying illustration gives a good general idea of this fine apartment—all that now remains of the house which was twice honoured by the visits of Queen Elizabeth.

The entrance door to this hall was formerly furnished with a beautiful example of the locksmith's art. This lock, still preserved at Beddington, though not now in its original position on the door, is richly ornamented by decorative designs consisting of the arms of Henry VII. within a round-headed panel, flanked by his supporters, the dragon and greyhound. On each side of the arms are long strips of flamboyant tracery, divided by twisted and banded pillars. The whole front is enclosed by cabled fillets of unequal thickness. As in so many old locks, the key-hole is hidden behind the escutcheon which is movable by means of a secret spring. The lock is supposed to be of foreign workmanship, and of about the year 1508 or earlier.

Space has only permitted us to touch briefly upon some of the more prominent points of interest, but probably enough has been said to show that a ramble from Croydon to Beddington, although extending scarcely two miles, and well within the compass of the least ambitious walker, contains quite enough of instruction and amusement to occupy the chief part of an afternoon.

PRESENTATIONS TO BICKLEY CLERGY.

The retirement of the Rev. R. Wood from the vicarage of St. George's, Bickley, took effect last month, and the parishioners marked the occasion by testifying in a most practical way to their high appreciation of the rev. gentleman's labours, and also to those of his senior curate, the Rev. T. T. Norgate, who has been appointed to a curacy at Beckenham. Mr. Wood was presented by the congregation with a silver tray, suitably inscribed, and Mrs. Wood was the recipient of a jewelled pendant and bracelet, while Mr. Norgate was presented with a cheque for £101. The teachers and scholars of the National Schools for Bickley and Widmore also presented the retiring vicar with a handsome travelling clock, while Mr. Wood also received a brass inkstand from the congregation at the Widmore Mission Church.



Russell & Sons] *[Baker St., W.*

THE REV ROBT. WOOD *(Retiring Vicar of Bickley).*

Mr. Norgate, who has had charge of this Mission for five years, received a handsome case of theological books, together with an address, from the congregation; a study inkstand from the men's Bible Class; and a beautifully ornamented timepiece and an address from the lads' Bible Class.

The new vicar of Bickley (Rev. W. A. Carroll, M.A.) preached for the first time at St. George's Church on Sunday, February 13th, to large congregations.

"IVA KILDARE,"

BY MRS. L. B. WALFORD,

Author of "Mr. Smith," "Cousins," "Frederick," "A Mere Child," "The Baby's Grandmother," etc., etc.

CHAPTER XVII.

"EVERY MAN TO HIS TASTE."

Let us, however, return from this digression to the conclusion of the brothers' interview.

We left the two shaking hands over the declaration that no grudge was to be borne by either because of the rupture which was to sever their fortunes henceforth; and this spontaneous action, springing as it did from unsophisticated natures to whom every species of pretence was an abomination, and even the display of genuine emotion distasteful, went far to establish a better feeling at the close of the discussion than had seemed possible at its commencement.

Also, Jabez Druitt at last obtained a hearing.

"Do me the justice, Amos," he pleaded, "to believe that it is not a wretched, foolish, futile, ambition to pass myself off for anything I am not, to intrude into a sphere above me, which prompts me to lead the life I long for. If you could only see into my heart, you would never charge me with *that* again. I am not, as you rightly say, born to a certain position, and it is quite possible that I may not be accepted by the people I am going among."

Amos opened his mouth to speak, but thought better of it.

"I repeat, it is quite possible," said his brother quickly. "They, like you, may see in my buying Sir Philip Goffe's estate only a vulgar desire to push my way up, as so many others of our kind—yes, of our kind—are doing. Since you, my own brother, don't know me better after all these years, I suppose"—an involuntary sigh escaped—"strangers are pretty sure to be of your opinion."

"Well, well; of course I—I didn't mean *all* I said, Jay. Come to think of it, you have always been a bit cracked on the subject. I—I daresay you'll get along all right," said Amos, with a gulp.

"If I do not, I must make a shift not to mind it. If they will not admit me to their houses and their society, I must do without it. But the real things I seek to obtain from a free open-air life will not disappoint me, for they cannot. I want to see the sun rise day after day on pasture land and woodland, green meadows and winding streams. I want to see him shine in his strength on rustic village and hamlet, church spire and homely farmyard. I want to see him sink to rest at night over far distant horizons of undulating plains and forests. These sights I never see here"—slowly and emphatically. "I am shut up within walls—often these four walls—at any rate, walls of some sort—all through the best hours of the day; and that in spring and summer, as well as in autumn and winter. I am bending over papers and ledgers, my eyes nailed to the desk, when I might be bursting away over hillside and down, drinking in the music of rejoicing nature, breathing the odours of earth and sea. The day is done ere I set foot outside during many months of the year. When I go home it is pretty and pleasant; my garden blooms and the birds sing; but it is so small, and so measured round. Every square foot is of value. I want to go where there is space; where there is silence; where there is not always in the distance that great ceaseless hum. It irks me never to be out of hearing of hurrying steps and rattling wheels. I do not desire to go away from England—though the cry is that we are crowded everywhere in this little island; but that is a mis-statement; there are beautiful unworn counties still, especially in the south; and so to the south I go. Last month, after my mother was taken, I went to London, as you know, and saw an agent——"

"Ah, you heard of the place then?"

"And saw it. I went down with an order to survey the house and estate generally; while yet it appeared to be Sir Philip's desire, equally with my own, to keep the fact of its being for sale from being known. He was particularly anxious that the whole transaction should be completed before any word of it leaked out. Well, I went down as I say; and it appeared to me that if ever any place were to fulfil the dream of my youth, I had found the place."

"Humph! It's a monstrous big house, Jabez."

"It is. Rather big. But I can keep a good number of servants; and, after all, there are not so many rooms. They are large, but there are fewer than one would imagine from the outside. And I could hardly hope to find the true old-world flavour in a house of small dimensions. The large chimney-corners, for instance; the thick walls and deep-set windows; the high-arched roof——"

"All very fine, but I hate 'em. Nasty, cobwebby places. However, every man to his taste, and if it be yours to grovel among rats and spiders and dry rot, you have a right to indulge it, I suppose. Give me a decent bed, and a decent table, clean carpets and curtains. None of your high-falutin' tantrums in the furniture line. I suppose there is a lot of dingy oak and carving, and floors that you fall down upon, eh?"

"There is. The polished floors took my fancy as much as anything; but of course I shall put down some Turkey rugs."

"Cover 'em up from top to toe, if you take *my* advice. Oh, that doesn't suit you?" catching the other's smile. "Well, it's none of my business. Are you going to paint and paper?" demanded he next, for apart from office matters there did not exist a more inquisitive man than Mr. Amos Druitt, and one of his favourite recreations was to go over an empty house. Into the very scullery would he spy.

"Until I have been down and seen the place again, I hardly know to what extent it requires re-papering. Paint I certainly must." Then a sudden thought occurred to the speaker. "Come down to Somersetshire with me, Amos, and have a look at Old Cary Hall for yourself."

"*I?* Good Lord, no! What should I go for?" But Amos looked, in a sneaking, doubtful fashion, pleased. "What good should I be?" repeated he. "Only set you against your bargain, maybe; and you know my motto, 'It's no use crying over spilt milk.' When a thing is done——"

"Oh, I'm not afraid of repenting," said Jabez cheerfully. "I have known for so long exactly what I want, and have taken all the drawbacks to a plan of the kind so thoroughly into consideration, that it is not the smoky fireplaces and draughty staircases of Old Cary Hall I am afraid of. *That* will be all right. Come along with me on Tuesday, Amos?"

"On Tuesday? Are you going on Tuesday?"

"Only for a couple of nights. I told you I was leaving"—an involuntary hesitation—"was leaving off to-day, you remember, and you thought it a good time.

"Oh, it's a good time enough. Tuesday?" He stroked his chin and clawed his lips meditatively. "You would not be seeing anybody, or wanting to drag me into other houses?" He threw out a sharp, suspicious glance. "'Tis a fool's errand, but still—if I did make up my mind to pack up a toothbrush and go with you, just to see the sort of thing you have let yourself in for——"

"That's right; you come," said Jabez, with real gratification; for, after all, he was about to break the ties of half a lifetime, and beneath all their differences of disposition, character, and taste, there lurked a certain respect for his elder brother's judgment, and a desire to maintain a place in his goodwill, which made the concession welcome—nay, flattering.

He would not have cared, certainly would not have cared, to introduce Amos—Amos, with his ill-cut hair, ill-shaven face, hulking figure, and tobacco-stained hands—as his nearest relation, on taking up residence in his new abode; but for a mere flying visit of inspection he would be an adjunct not to be despised.

For one thing, Amos would undoubtedly nose out, in his own phraseology, every weak point in the purchase. Not a leaky pipe nor worn-out joint would escape him. He would, bulk and all, hoist himself on to the roof somehow, and pounce upon gutter or crevice that required new leading and soldering. Drains he would gloat over.

All these homely and most necessary details were not in Jabez's line. He recognised their importance, but was secretly conscious that he should, left to himself, be at the mercy of hirelings whose integrity he could not guarantee, however long might be their bills.

By the anticipatory gleam which now stole over the countenance of his brother he guessed what was passing in Amos's mind, and participated in the feeling.

"You see, you will be so useful to me," said he cheerfully. "You know such a lot about a house; everything in yours is so perfect—I mean"—stammering, for "perfect" was the last word he would have applied to the sumptuous villa with its florid decorations, from any point of view but that uppermost in his thoughts at the moment—"your—your ironwork, masonry, drainage——"

"See to them all myself, my boy. Never trust an outsider. You remember how I nosed out that leak in your sewer that none of you would believe in, till I proved it to you? And my man Brierly said there wasn't one in a thousand would have put his finger on the spot as I did! I guess if I *do* go with you, Jabez, your plumbers and fitters down there won't bless me. I'll make them stir their stumps."

"There will be a good deal to be done," said Jabez, confidentially. "I am quite prepared for that. I have put aside the price of Brookfield, and the cows and horses—everything, in short—to be laid out on the house alone. What fell in to me at my mother's death covered the purchase—more than covered it; there were a few hundreds over; so that I have the two hundred thousand odd I take out of the business, as capital from which to draw my income. It ought to bring me in from eight to nine thousand a year to begin with; and as I shall not, of course, live up to this—at any rate at first—the income will be on an increasing scale. I shall be able to do all that is necessary to Old Cary Hall, and the estate generally, without stint of means; and afterwards pursue the life I desire to lead, without any scruples as to its necessitating in itself outlay greater than I can afford."

"No doubt."

But though the other's tone was dry and slightly sarcastic, it was not belligerent, as hitherto. Two softening influences had been at work.

First, Mr. Druitt was more pleased than he would have owned to anyone with his brother's invitation; secondly, he longed to probe and point his finger at the vile drainage of Old Cary Hall.

He knew what it would be. Puffs of typhoid at every grating. A gutter stream at the back door.

His big, thick nose swelled in anticipation.

Accordingly he puffed and blew, put out his lips, rolled his chin, and creased his collar more badly than before, the while he cast about in his mind how to arrange matters for the three days' absence; and as by this time the dissolution of partnership had actually taken place, and the interview above recorded was merely one of several relating to the same subject, there was nothing left to bring forward and form a new bone of contention.

"All right for Tuesday, old fellow."

It was the elder's voice which called out from behind a huge mahogany bureau, as the younger presently put on his greatcoat, took up his hat and stick, and turned his back upon the familiar desk—for ever.

It was Saturday; he would not come up on Monday. But he said nothing about it to Amos, and Amos only showed that he knew by his "All right for Tuesday." It was the brothers' way.

CHAPTER XVIII.

SIR PHILIP'S MEDITATIONS.

"They tell me two of the most *extraordinary*-looking men have been down to see it," said Lady Tilbury, referring to Old Cary Hall, the sale of which was now known to all, and formed the chief topic of conversation in the neighbourhood.

Sir Philip, when confiding it to her sympathetic ear a month before, had begged for a week's grace before having the news bruited abroad; and this had been religiously observed. More, the two who felt themselves to be his friends—who were certainly his nephew's friends above all others—told each other that when the affair was public property it would be time enough to admit that they had possessed the secret as a secret.

But they had had to keep their own counsel longer than was to have been expected. Mr. Jabez Druitt had not only readily granted Sir Philip's request of the same nature, but with a delicacy of feeling for which he was given no credit then or thereafter by the cynical baronet, suffered a considerable time to elapse before taking any steps towards entering upon possession of his newly-acquired territory.

Sir Philip, with the Channel between him and all he had lost, with no further call upon his emotions, and with an easier mind than he had known for many a long day, speedily discovered that the throes he had endured in parting with his ancient acres had more of sentiment in them than anything else.

He had suffered no real loss—or so he told himself. Nothing had disappeared from his life—except debts.

He could go on living as he had done before; no, hang it! a great deal better than he had done before; and in truth it came to this at last, that he only wondered, wondered aloud and openly, how he had been so infatuated as to hang on so long to a mere foible—an obsolete, expensive prejudice.

He had desired his man of business to make no mention of Old Cary Hall or anything connected with it, once the requisite papers were signed, and the change of owners effected. He did not care to know what Mr. Druitt proposed to do with it; whether he meant to live in it, let it, or raze it to the ground. He never wished to hear Mr. Druitt's name.

But perhaps, even when thus peremptory, the writer scarcely intended his prohibition to be adhered to with rigid fidelity; and it is certain that by the end of a week he began to repent having issued it.

What the deuce was Jabez doing?

The name "Jabez" tickled Sir Philip's fancy, and he now never spoke nor thought of Mr. Druitt by any other cognomen. Jabez? He wondered

what Jabez was like? How Jabez would go down among the Somersetshire folk? What would be said of him for selling his patrimony to a—Jabez?

"Let them say what they like! Let them be as wild as they please!" quoth he, chuckling. "I got my price; and what the dickens is it to me who picks up my old shoes? I couldn't keep them on my feet; if Jabez can, Jabez is welcome. I daresay Jebez is a very decent fellow," proceeded Sir Philip complacently. "If that ass of a Thoroughgood had not pestered me with his praises, dinning his 'Mr. Druitt' here and 'Mr. Druitt' there into my ears till they were sick of the sound, I—'pon my word, I shouldn't have minded showing him a little civility. Might have dined him at my club—dined him with his own money," chuckling anew at the conceit, "and drunk good luck to our bargain in a bottle of fizz. I almost wish I had. Then I should at least have known what sort of a looking man I have sent down among the clodhoppers. Faith, they'll not make it a bed of roses for him if he's a bounder. His very name——" Sir Philip paused, pursed up his lips, and shook his head. "Won't do—Jabez. I'm sorry for you, Jabez; but if you are to have any peace of mind in Old Cary Hall, any comfortable seat under the mahogany of the good folk down there, you must get rid of that name somehow—Mr. Jabez Druitt."

Curiosity at length was too much for pride; the exile felt that he *must* know what the supplanter was about. Had he not himself said that the supplanter might be a decent fellow? Why, then, had he made such a fuss about holding him at arm's length? It was not as though Jabez had made any attempt to break through the guard: Jabez had done nothing of the kind; had not suggested a single meeting; had not even addressed him a letter.

"It was all that confounded sentimentality," mused Sir Philip at last. "I have always had too much of it, bother it! Now I have cut my own throat, for the fact is I'd give anything to know what Jabez is doing to the old place, and what people are saying about Jabez? What they are saying about *me*"—arching his eyebrows—"I think I can do without hearing." A pause. "I am catching it pretty hot, I expect." Another pause. "They don't know."

After a full minute's silent musing, Sir Philip repeated aloud, slowly, and with withering emphasis: "They—*don't—know*."

Long years of shifts and straits, humiliating experiences, paltry evasions, petty dishonesties (yes, it had come to that), went to make up the bitterness of that "They—*don't—know*."

There were scenes upon which the wanderer loathed to cast even the eye of solitude; which had flushed his face at the time, but had been got through with an inward oath or two, and got over the sooner because others of a similar sort loomed on ahead.

His whole life had consisted, as it were, in leaping from rock to rock.

When Mr. Minching paid his rent, and for a brief period thereafter, the unfortunate Sir Philip felt the rock beneath him (and to his credit be it added, he invariably paid his nephew's allowance ere the rock tottered, so that Reggie had no idea on what a thread it hung, nor what a slice it made in the sender's slender finances); but before another and smaller sum became due, six months later, the poor baronet would generally be in a bad way. Nor would the annual eighty to ninety pounds which came in then, so effectually relieve the exchequer as to make him ever feel flush again until September came round; since, although now and again an unexpected small sum did make its appearance—a farmer would pay his rent, without the rent's being all swallowed up in rebuilding or repairing—there was no dependence to be placed on such stray subsidies. They were stepping-stones—hardly rocks; he had but two veritable rocks to vibrate between.

Reggie, leading a jolly life among his comrades—Reggie, with his grievances, which were purely imaginary, and merely retained by him as a useful species of peraphernalia—had no idea of the real wretchedness of such a life.

He took it that his uncle was as light-hearted, easy-going and easily satisfied as himself. It was rough on Sir Philip, he reflected, not to be able to live at his own place; but lots of other proprietors were as badly off; and very likely the tide would turn one of these days.

It did not strike him that a tide which has been on the ebb for forty years and more is apt to wear out the patience of middle life, which sees old age drawing on. Sir Phillip was nearer sixty than fifty, and there is a vast difference between the hopefulness of fifty-five and twenty-five.

When the nephew heard (it dropped out casually, for he had no thought of inquiring) that his uncle had been seen of late at the gaming-table, and that the person who saw him fancied his face did not look like that of a winner, Reggie took the incident philosophically. He supposed there was nothing else to do at a foreign watering-place, and he hoped Sir Philip sometimes had luck, if not always. Sir Philip probably knew how much he was good for, and would not plunge beyond his depth. With a wonderful unanimity, all who knew Sir Phillip Goffe concurred in supposing he knew his own business—all, at any rate, who did not come into personal contact with him. He had at least this virtue, he kept his curtain drawn.

So that surprise was possibly the predominant feeling of Sir Philip's heir when, in the shadowy depths of the old hall, the former for one brief moment tore aside the veil, and laid bare in all its hideousness his vagrant, shabby existence.

Was it possible—was it *possible*—that this miserable tale of mean poverty could have for its central figure the relation of whom Reggie had always been so proud? *Could* it refer to the head of his house, the representative of his long race?

In the first confused agitation of endeavouring to grasp a *bouleversement* so complete, pity and grief struggled for the mastery in his breast, and he had regarded the speaker with a tenderness which emboldened Sir Philip greatly. Reggie, good boy, would not blame him for what was to follow.

But ere the whole truth was out in its black entirety the young soldier had so far recovered himself as to recall those hints of Monte Carlo which had meant nothing to him when given, but which stood out sharply in the gloom of the betrayed mansion. *It* had been the penalty—the sacrifice which had gone to appease the gods of the red-and-black table. His cheeks took a darker hue; his brow contracted.

Seeing this, Sir Philip had quickly played his trump card; not without result.

To be transferred to a crack cavalry regiment, to have his allowance made adequate thereto, and, above all, to have the enigma solved which had tortured his hour of darkness—solved on the instant—was certainly, yes, it was certainly a mitigation of affliction.

Reluctantly, he could not but own as much; and though Sir Philip, who had fallen from his pedestal, was not to be let down too easily, Sir Philip could perceive that the worst was past.

Matters had reached this stage when we found the two in gloomy confab, and though neither could be entirely open and unrestrained throughout their subsequent interview, the tension relaxed as time passed, and with the parting scene some renewal

of better feeling took place.

"Good-bye, my boy. God bless you."

"Good-bye, sir. You'll look me up as you said?"

Then the two shook hands, and, albeit there was nothing tender nor pathetic in such a farewell, each was glad afterwards to remember that Sir Philip had accompanied his nephew on board, and hung on his arm rather wistfully to the last.

But, the scene over, both were secretly relieved to have done with it—and with each other.

CHAPTER XIX.

"JABEZ MUST BE A COOL HAND."

Let us now return to Lady Tilbury and her two extraordinary men.

They were, of course, the two Mr. Druitts; but it was hardly fair of her ladyship to bracket them in one emphasis, since there was in reality nothing either extraordinary or unattractive in the appearance of Mr. Jabez Druitt.

True, he had not shaken off his office clothes yet, and to these Somersetshire eyes were unaccustomed; but had he been seen at the first, as he was afterwards, in the excellent country suits designed for him by the Bond Street tailor of whose existence Amos was unaware, it would have been at once perceived that his exterior was such as to merit approval rather than animadversion.

He had not the figure of a young man, but it was a good figure nevertheless. Mrs. Amos Druitt when defending her cook from peevishness on the part of a pampered master, was wont to cry out that Amos would do well to imitate his younger brother's plainer mode of life, and hold up Jabez as a proof that it was not sedentary habits which made a man stout. Jabez was a slim as a man in middle life need wish to be.

The younger Mr. Druitt had also "kept his hair," as the saying is, and it was nice, crisp, dark hair, with no more than a mere sprinkling of grey in it; while he had a perfectly smooth, healthy, fresh-coloured face, surmounted by the grey eyes which had been inherited from his mother, and were apt at times to look as soft and dreamy as her own.

"Where are your eyes?" had been a not infrequent demand on the part of Amos in days past, his own never being anywhere but in their right place—*i.e.*, fixed on the object in front. "Where are your eyes?" he would cry ironically, Jabez having failed to perceive the artfulness or underhandedness which to him was so palpable.

Jabez, not being on the look-out for these, often missed them; Amos, on the other hand, occasionally saw what did not exist. In a word, the elder brother's was the cleverer, bolder, and more self-reliant nature, but the younger's—nay, we will let the younger's speak for itself.

"Seems to me you'd have been lost without me, Jay."

The two had taken up their quarters for the night at the inn frequented by Mr. Minching and his party, and were comfortably discussing matters after what Amos was pleased to term a very decent dinner.

"It's some comfort to my mind that I have done you a turn by coming down here," proceeded he, hooking a chair towards him with his toe, and then resting both legs upon it. "Anyhow, you'll be properly drained and guttered. And if you have any reason to suspect them of scamp work, you send to me," concluded he, with a smile which the office would have known how to interpret.

"You are very good to say so. Indeed I appreciate your services thoroughly. You tackled them in splendid style," replied Jabez, adverting to the numerous masons, plumbers, and carpenters who had been given their orders that day. "And you explained everything so fully to me also, Amos, that I—ahem—I really think you will not need to be troubled to come again—at any rate, for some time. When everything is complete, I hope——"

"Oh, we'll take a week-end presently, the missus and I, and see how you get on. Mind you, I'm not budging one inch from my opinion; and my opinion is that for a man to alter his ways and habits at your time of life is sheer foolishness." ("Twould be the death of me," in parenthesis.) "But since you are set on doing it—had done it without saying 'by your leave' to anybody—well, Amos Druitt is not the man to sulk in a corner and cry: 'Lie on the bed you've made, if it's all stinging-nettles!'"

"You made a terrific raid upon those nettles in the back-yard to-day," laughed Jabez, who was in excellent spirits, pleased with all he had done and seen, and really grateful for his brother's very substantial aid.

"Good Lord! Did you ever see their like?" Amos joined in the laugh. "Nettles? I felt as if I had never set eyes upon nettles in my life before! A perfect nettle plantation. A jungle. And I say, don't forget to watch that fellow who contracted for the leadwork, Jay. Old lead is worth a lot. Let him see you on the watch; let him find you are up to it all."

"I expect what you said will be enough. They were all coming to *you* and listening to *you* at the end. I must not let out that there will be only me in the future," shaking his head.

"Aye, to be sure; if they find out you're the boss—but don't you be overcrowed. Don't let them think they can gammon you. Stick up to 'em; and if there's anything you are in a quandary about, drop me a line. I won't say I'll *come*, for business is business, and I shall have to stick closer than ever to it now you are gone, but I'll write. I'll send a stinger of a letter that will show them you've someone behind you who is a match for any one of the lot, or all put together. I've done what I can for you, Jay, and you must stand on your own feet now"; and Mr. Amos Druitt kicked aside the chair in front of him and rolled off to bed

Jabez remained where he was, and long after the house was quiet he still sat gazing into the fire, seeing in its glowing embers, as they sank one by one, visions of the life before him—visions destined to be fulfilled in a manner he little dreamt of, and that at no very distant period of time

"Nothing been heard of him! Not taken possession yet!" cried Sir Philip, having elicited as much in reply to the inquiries wrung out of him at last. "What a confoundedly strange thing! Why, I made sure Jabez would be into it before I was well out of it! I begged for a week's delay to let Reggie get clear off, and myself, too; but, hang it all! Jabez must be a cool hand. Pays his money, and doesn't trouble himself to pick up his toy!"

He felt in a manner affronted; as though a slight had been put upon the home of his ancestors. For a whole day and night he thought of nothing else; and then, just as he was wondering whether he should ever demean himself to inquire again, the post brought a second letter from Mr. Thoroughgood, containing enough to satisfy his curiosity in all conscience. When he read that since penning the previous epistle the lawyer had learnt that a whole army of workmen had entered into possession of Old Cary Hall, that the ancient structure itself was being overhauled from tower to basement, that a landscape gardener with his

myrmidons was at work on terraced lawn and gravel-path, that the stables were being newly roofed and glazed, and that the whole domain rang with the sounds of hammering and scraping—when he read this, poor Sir Philip, once more stung to the quick, in a frenzy of passion tore the letter in a hundred pieces, cursed alike Thoroughgood who had written it and himself who had asked for it, and just stopped short of cursing Mr. Jabez Druitt, who was the real offender, as he—took a fresh cigar out of his case.

Sir Philip was a gentleman; he looked at his cigar curiously. "I used to smoke such vile things," he murmured half-aloud; then after a few puffs, "Owe this cigar to Jabez," said he, quite complacently.

CHAPTER XX.

"DIDN'T SIR THOMAS TELL ME TO BE CAREFUL?"

"What do you say, Iva? Oh, that 'One of them was better than the other.' But then, we may be sure it is 'the other,'" said Lady Tilbury, giving her muff a little shake of conviction. "It always is, you know. And where did you see them, Iva? Passing through the village? Oh, turning out of the avenue. Well, Sophy Lossett told me they were extraordinary-looking men, and *she* saw them several times. Sophy always sees everybody. I cannot imagine how she does it."

"My dear Lady Tilbury"—it was the dean's wife who spoke—"there are people who simply spend their days in busying themselves with their neighbours' affairs. They have none of their own. If Miss Lossett would engage in some Christian work——"

"Oh, well, she's a good daughter to her old father"—Lady Tilbury was always on the lenient side—"and Sophy does visit the cottages. But, you see, that can't fill up all her time; and after all, old maids must have their gossip. For my part, I own I look to the Lossetts for the news of the countryside; when I see either of them coming up our way, I know I am in for a regular budget."

"I have no time for gossip"; but the austere accents relaxed as Mrs. Chancellor regarded the bright face in front of her, and recollected what Lady Tilbury had had "time for" once. "Of course, it is a great deal to you who you are to have for a neighbour," graciously conceded she. "Old Cary Hall being so very close at hand, and the two houses being in a manner isolated by their own extensive surroundings, I sincerely hope you will be able to admit Mr. Druitt to Tilbury Court. There is no Mrs. Druitt, you say?"

"Not a trace of her. So what the man can want with that huge house—but of course he may have relations. To tell the honest truth, I am expiring with curiosity to see the relations. I hope a whole gang of them will come down. It would be so very amusing."

"Amusing. My dear Lady Tilbury!"

"Amusing! Mother!"

For once the correct, conventional dean's wife and the impulsive Irish girl were in accord; Mrs. Chancellor from one point of view, and Iva Kildare from another, were almost equally horrified by the gay remark.

"Oh, yes; vastly amusing!" nodded Lady Tilbury, merrily. "The greatest fun in the world. Iva looks black at me because—of course I am as sorry as she that Sir Philip Goffe had to sell, and that poor dear Reggie" (Iva groaned within herself), "whom we were all so fond of, will never come in for the old place now. But then, he never could have lived in it," proceeded she, in clear accents; "it would just have been Sir Philip over again.' So, much as we miss Reggie" ("Oh, do take care!" another inward objurgation from Iva; the photograph scene had taken place within the very house where now her heedless parent ran on), "I daresay it is all for the best," summed up the speaker, comfortably beaming over her muff, as though totally unaware of the expressions on the different faces.

No one suspected for a moment that beneath that innocent babble there was a purpose. Least of all did Iva, on tenter-hooks lest her mother should say too much or too little—should be too affectionate towards the absentee, or too pointedly avoid his name—least of all did she give the speaker credit for the wisdom beneath the mask.

(To be continued.)

Births.

CARTWRIGHT.—On the 16th Feb., at Ravensbourne, Beckenham, the wife of T. F. M. Cartwright, of a daughter.

GARRARD.—On the 14th Feb., at Ridgelands, Barnmead-road, Beckenham, Kent, the wife of Alfred E. Garrard, of a daughter.

GEORGE.—On February 8th, at Park Wood, Shortlands, Kent, the wife of Herbert T. George, of a daughter.

MURRAY.—On the 8th Feb., at Alndyke, Beckenham, the wife of Percy Hope Murray, Esq., M.B., of a son.

OVENDEN.—On the 18th Feb., at Compton, Beckenham, Kent, the wife of Charles Ovenden, of a daughter.

PREST.—On the 21st Feb., at Ravensworth, Beckenham, the wife of S. F. Prest, of a son.

PROCTOR.—On the 13th Feb., at Carisbrooke, Barnmead road, Beckenham, the wife of Ernest C. Proctor, of a daughter.

SHARPE.—On the 7th February, at Denbigh House, South Hill Park, Bromley, the wife of C. C. Sharpe, of a daughter.

TRUSCOTT.—On the 16th Feb., at Greatwood, Chislehurst, the wife of George Wyatt Truscott, of a son.

YOUNG.—On the 30th January, at 21, Kelsey-park-road Beckenham, the wife of James Bingley Young, of a son.

Marriages.

ALLAN—MILNE.—On the 20th Feb., at the parish church of S. Nicholas, Chislehurst, by the rector, the Rev. Canon F. H. Murray, Charles George Allan, son of the late John Allan, of Chislehurst, to Henrietta Amy, daughter of the late Alexander George Milne, of Eltham.

BUSS—SMITH.—On the 9th Feb., at St. John's, Bromley, by the Rev. Peter Barker, M.A., vicar, George Buss, of Littlebourne, Kent, to Clare Evelyn, daughter of the late David S. Smith, of Woolton, Canterbury, and Mrs. Smith, Palace-grove, Bromley. No cards.

MORGAN—SATCHELL.—On Feb. 22nd, at the Congregational Church, Bromley, by the Rev. T. Nicholson, Walter George Morgan, of St. Leonards-on-Sea, to Elizabeth (Bessie), daughter of the late Thomas Satchell, of Bromley, Kent.

TATTERSALL—WALLER.—On the 23rd Dec., at St. Anne's, Stratfield, by the Rev, Canon Corlette, D.D., assisted by the Rev. H. J. Rose, Charles Edmund, youngest son of the late John Tattersall, Bickley, England, to Lucia Sarah, widow of the late P. S. Waller and younger daughter of the late J. Rayden Bingle, Sydney.

Deaths.

BEAUCHAMP—On the 5th Feb., at Rock Villa, Tylney-road, Widmore, Annabella, the dearly loved wife of Geo. Wm. Beauchamp.

COTES.—On the 12th Feb., at 5, Longfield, Bromley, Kent, Caroline, widow of the Rev. Peter Cotes, rector of Litchfield, Hants, and last surviving child of the Rev. Robert Symonds, of Hinton Wadrist, Berks, aged 95.

Barrett.—On the 15th February, at Sundridge Park Lodge, Plaistow, John Barrett, aged 80 years.

Clarke.—On the 1st February, at Stoneleigh, Bromley-road, Beckenham, Sarah, second daughter of the late George Somers Clarke, of Bedford-place, Russell-square, aged 73.

Ellis.—On the 7th February, at the Old Cottage, Widmore, Bromley, Thomas Flower Ellis, eldest and last surviving son of the late Thomas Flower Ellis, barrister-at-law, Recorder of Leeds, in his 76th year.

Franklin.—On the 28th January, at The Briars, Elm-road, Beckenham, Henry Walker Franklin, late of Finchley, aged 60.

Hole.—On the 14th Feb., at Worthing, the Rev. Charles Hole, LL.D., vicar of Christ Church, aged 69.

Hubbuck.—On the 10th Feb., at Elmstead Lodge, Chislehurst (the residence of his brother), William, the second son of the late William Augustus Hubbuck, of Lime-street, E.C.

Lovegrove.—On the 28th January, 1898, at Havelock House, Havre-des-Pas, Jersey, Henrietta Lovegrove, widow of Charles Lovegrove, of Sutton, Surrey, and formerly of Downe, Kent.

Mannering.—On the 28th January, at Rostrevor, Beckenham, Kent, Dorothy, the dearly-loved and only daughter of George Willsher and Annie Mannering, aged six years.

Pitt.—On the 2nd Feb., at Somerville, Bromley, Kent, Walter Pitt, aged 50 years, formerly of 23, Chelsham, road, Clapham, S.W.

Quallett.—On the 16th Feb., at Bexley-heath, George Watts Quallett ("The Man in Green"), aged 81 years. Friends will please accept this intimation.

Thirkell.—On 15th Feb., at Cliftonville, Beckenham, Dora Webb, the dearly-loved child of Sydney and Minnie Thirkell, in her 16th year.

Thompson.—On the 19th Feb., at Beckenham, after a short illness, Alfred Victor, dearly-loved son of W. and E. A. Thompson, of 42, Chiswell-street, E.C., aged 10 years.

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

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SEED! SEED!! SEED!!!	G. HIND,	Grove Park

BROMLEY COTTAGE HOSPITAL.

TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending Thirty-First December, 1897.

During the year the Committee have been able to effect a much desired improvement by lowering, at a cost of £139 14s., the steep hill by which the Hospital is approached.

They desire gratefully to acknowledge the renewed generosity of Mr. Eley Soames, who not only gave ten feet of his land to widen the road, but erected at his own expense the new fence required on the top of the bank.

They further acknowledge with gratitude the liberality of Mr. W. Willis, of South Hill House, who, in addition to allowing the corner of his garden to be cut off, thus greatly improving the approach to the road, made a liberal contribution to the Improvement Fund.

The interest which Mrs. Wheeler Bennett has shown in the Children's Ward is further evinced by her re-payment to the Building Fund of £39 13s. 3d., which had been expended in the furnishing of that ward, the special thanks of the Committee are due to her for her kindness.

The balance of the Building Fund in hand, with the addition of those sums and a donation of £25 from Miss Edith C. Walker, received through the Matron, left a balance of £144 13s. 9d. still to be appropriated.

The Committee, therefore, felt justified in completing their original plan by the erection of a bath-room, for which tenders were invited, and the contract taken by Mr. Graty at £154, this with the usual extras and the architect's commission, will occasion a deficiency of £30 or £40, which the Committee have every confidence will be speedily supplied.

The grateful thanks of the subscribers and of the patients continue to be due to the honorary medical officers, for the great skill and attention shown by them to the sufferers.

They have pleasure in reporting that Dr. John Phillips, F.R.C.P., of King's College Hospital, and of the British Lying-in Hospital, has consented to act as Honorary Consulting Physician.

These reports show how valuable and necessary such an institution as this is to the suffering poor; they will well repay perusal by those interested in Hospital work.

The Committee have to acknowledge, with warmest thanks, their appreciation of the services of their esteemed Matron, Miss Davis, and her assistants, in the care and nursing of the patients.

The nursing staff now consists of the Matron, two staff nurses, and four probationers.

At the instance of the Matron, a laundry has been established in the Hospital grounds, by means of which a considerable saving will be effected in laundry expenses.

The total number of patients treated during the year 1897 was 319, of whom 300 were new admissions, and 19 of those admitted during the previous year—this compares with a total of 286 for the year 1896, of whom 19 were admitted during the year 1895.

The number of beds is 24 and 8 cots in the "Jamie Wheeler Bennett" Children's Ward.

The patients remaining in the Hospital on 31st December numbered 17.

It is believed that this Hospital is now the largest purely Cottage Hospital in the Kingdom.

Mr. H. H. Pain, who for about nineteen years had been the honorary secretary having by letter expressed his intention of resigning his office on the completion and adoption of the report for this year, the Committee passed unanimously the following resolution:—"They desire to place on record their high appreciation of the services Mr. Pain has for many years past so efficiently rendered in his office as honorary secretary, and their regret that his other duties and occupations oblige him to relinquish that office. While expressing their warmest thanks to him, they feel assured that his interest in the Hospital, with which he has been so long connected, will not cease with the cessation of his official connection."

Mr. F. W. Foskett, who since his appointment in February last as assistant honorary secretary, has done most valuable service, has, in anticipation of Mr. Pain's retirement, been appointed by the Committee to the office of honorary secretary.

The sum received from the Hospital Sunday Fund was £69 14s. 3d., being £12 14s. 10d. less than in 1896, but the Committee are glad to report the receipt of £72 12 6d. as a special donation from the Prince of Wales' Hospital Fund.

They desire also to record the receipt of £100, a legacy, from the late Mrs. Mary Johnson, which amount has been invested.

The Committee gratefully acknowledge valuable assistance rendered by collections in congregations (apart from the Hospital Sunday Fund), by contributions from Friendly and other Societies, by gifts from week to week of game, poultry, and eggs, of fruit and flowers, books, pictures, &c.

The gifts of cast linen are especially esteemed, and most useful.

The large increase in the number of patients treated, with the consequent increase in the expenditure, renders it necessary that the income should be well maintained; the Committee appeal confidently to those residents, who are not already annual subscribers, that they will become so, and thus support the high character for usefulness to which the Bromley Cottage Hospital has attained.

Subscribers or other residents are invited to inspect the Hospital, which is situated in the South Hill Road, Masons-hill, five minutes' walk from the Bromley station of the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway.

During the year 1897, 319 patients have been under treatment: of these, 300 were fresh cases, and 19 remained in the Hospital from year 1896.

Of the 319 cases,

227 were discharged cured.
54 relieved or improved.
2 incurable.
13 died (4 soon after admission).
6 unsuitable for Hospital.
17 remained under treatment at the end of the year.

Total 319

12 were cases of emergency. 69 were cases of "accidents."

60 operations were performed.

The sexes are divided into the proportion of:

Males 136
Females ... ... 183—319

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1897.

Dr. INCOME.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
A. ORDINARY—			
Annual Subscriptions		593 8 6	
Donations	136 19 0		
Boxes	6 16 4		
		143 15 4	
Hospital Sunday Fund		69 14 3	
Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund		72 12 6	
Church Collections (apart from Hospital Sunday Fund)		60 6 1	
Entertainments		8 8 0	
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 4		
		53 0 0	
NURSING INSTITUTION—			
Probationers' Fees		91 11 0	
PATIENTS' PAYMENTS—			
In-patients		194 2 3	
Total ordinary income			1,286 17 11
B. EXTRAORDINARY—			
Legacy			100 0 0
Cash balance at 1st January, 1897			142 8 2
			£1,529 6 1

Cr. EXPENDITURE.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
A. MAINTENANCE—			
PROVISIONS—			
Meat	157 16 10		
Fish	18 7 11		
Milk	91 1 7		
Bread, flour, &c.	43 7 7		
Grocery	167 14 9		
Vegetables	6 5 4		
		484 14 0	
SURGERY AND DISPENSARY—			
Drugs, chemicals, disinfectants, &c.	69 16 1		
Instruments and appliances	70 0 7		
Wines and spirits	19 4 3		
		159 0 11	
DOMESTIC—			
Renewal of Furniture	20 15 5		
Washing	74 4 7		
Laundry fittings, &c.	17 8 5		
Water	10 16 8		
Fuel & lighting	142 14 0		
Drapery & uniforms	7 0 1		
Sundries	23 19 10		
		296 19 0	
ESTABLISHMENT CHARGES—			
Rates and taxes	7 4 2		
Insurance	3 19 0		
Garden	3 9 1		
Repairs (ordinary)	15 0 8		
		29 12 11	
SALARIES, WAGES, &c.—			
Matron and nurses	107 8 2		
Wages (servants)	101 13 6		
		209 1 8	
			1,179 8 6
B. ADMINISTRATION—			
(1) MANAGEMENT—			
Official printing, stationery and postage			77 9 1
Total ordinary expenditure			1,256 17 7
(2) FINANCE—			
Purchase of £100 Western Australia 3 per cent. Inscribed Stock			97 12 6
Cash balance at 31st December, 1897—			
In hand	15 14 10		
In bank	159 1 2		
			174 16 0
			£1,529 6 1

[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, £700 Canada 3 per cent. inscribed Stock, and £100 Western Australia 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.

GERARD VAN DE LINDE & SON,
Hon. Auditors, Chartered Accountants.

London, February, 1898.

NOTE.—Estimated Outstanding Liabilities: £125 11s. 6d. since paid.

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(CONTINUED).

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MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, March 9th, 1898, at two o'clock precisely, the above-named country property placed in a most picturesque and healthy situation. The accommodation of the house includes six bedrooms, bath room, &c., two staircases, entrance hall, three sitting rooms, and ample offices. Thoroughly matured and well timbered pleasure grounds, excellent water supply.

May be viewed and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Allen & Son, solicitors, 17, Carlisle Street, W.; at the Mart; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, BROMLEY.—Three Cottages, being Nos. 1, 2, and 3, Devonshire Square, Mason's Hill, with gardens in the rear. Let to good weekly tenants, at rentals producing £49 8s. 0d. per annum.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction at the Bell Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, March 17th, 1898, at 7 for 8 o'clock precisely, in one lot, the above-named Cottages, each containing 2 bedrooms, sitting room, living room, scullery, etc., etc. Let at weekly rentals respectively of 7s., 6s., and 6s., thus producing £49 8s. 0d. per annum. The cottages are close to the town and always readily let. Held for a long term at a low ground rent.

May be viewed and particulars, with conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. May, Sykes, and Co., Solicitors, Suffolk House, Laurence Pountney Hill, 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.—For Occupation or Investment.—The convenient and well arranged Villa Residence, with good garden, known as No. 34, Palace Grove. The accommodation includes five bedrooms, two dressing-rooms, &c., entrance hall, two good sitting-rooms, ample domestic offices, and cellarage. Lean-to greenhouse, and all necessary out-buildings. Side entrance. There is a capital garden, well planted with fruit trees and a nice lawn. The House is estimated to readily produce a rental of £55 per annum, and will be sold with possession. Gravel soil.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction at the Bell Hotel, Bromley, Kent on Thursday March 17th, 1898, at 7 for 8 o'clock precisely, the above described convenient Residence. Held for a term of 999 years from March, 1868, at a ground rent of £6, being thus practically equal to Freehold.

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For remainder of Auction Sales see following page.

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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, March	9th.	Wednesday, August	10th.
Wednesday, April	20th.	Wednesday, August	31st.
Wednesday, May	4th.	Wednesday, September	14th.
Wednesday, May	18th.	Wednesday, September	28th.
Wednesday, June	8th.	Wednesday, October	5th.
Wednesday, June	29th.	Wednesday, November	9th.
Wednesday, July	6th.	Wednesday, December	7th.
Wednesday, July	27th.		

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

KENT, SHORTLANDS.—The attractive detached double fronted Freehold Residence, known as "Dunolly," within three minutes' walk of the Railway Station, with frequent access to all parts of London in about 25 minutes. The house contains five good bedrooms, dressing room, bath room, &c., excellent hall, three well proportioned reception rooms and suitable offices; large and well matured garden with tennis lawn. The house is let on a repairing lease at a rental of £80 per annum, but possession could be obtained by arrangement.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, March 9th, 1898, at two o'clock precisely, the above-named very desirable residence, situate in the Shortlands Road, forming a capital investment, with option of possession.

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For remainder of Auction Sales see preceding page.

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THE

BROMLEY RECORD

AND

MONTHLY ADVERTISER.

No. 477. APRIL, 1898. Price One Penny.

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PROPERTIES WANTED. — Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper have an increasing demand for unfurnished and furnished Houses in the abovementioned districts, and will be glad to receive particulars of any such properties which will at once be placed before applicants whose requirements the same are likely to meet. The principal properties in this district change hands through the medium of Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper's extensive connection.

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

BROMLEY.—Capital semi-detached Residence, on high ground. Six bedrooms, bathroom (h. and c.), dressing room, three reception rooms. Rent £70. Freehold at £1350, or with adjoining house £2650. 14165

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

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APRIL, 1898.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st.—Confirmation service at Bromley Parish Church at 11 a.m.

2nd.—Assault-at-arms by the 2nd Volunteer Batt. Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment), Bromley Detachment, assisted by the gymnastic staff from the depot of the Royal West Kent Regiment and others, at the Bromley Drill Hall.

3rd.—*Palm Sunday.*

4th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board at the Wharton-road Schools at 8 p.m.—Meeting of the St. Luke's Burial Board at St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common, at 8.15 p.m.—Polling in election of Urban District Councillors at Bromley and Beckenham, also for Guardians at Beckenham, and for Parish Councillors at Knockholt and St. Paul's Cray.

6th.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper of valuable live and dead farming stock, at Dairy Farm, Gravel-road, Bromley Common, at 2 p.m.

7th.—*Maundy Thursday.*

8th.—*Good Friday.*

10th.—*Easter Sunday.*

11th.—*Easter Monday—Bank Holiday.*—Athletic sports at Quernmore School, Plaistow Lodge, at 2 p.m.—Performance of "Daughter of Madame Angot," by Mr. J. Milton Somerset's company at the Bromley Grand Hall, and on two following nights.

12th.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council, at the Council Offices, East-street, at 7.30 p.m.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

17th.—*Low Sunday. — First Sunday after Easter.*

18th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board, at the Wharton-road Schools at 8 p.m.—Variety entertainment at St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common.—"Maid of Athens" at the Grand Hall, Bromley, and on two following nights.

22nd.—Sitting of the Bromley County Court, at the Court-house, Bromley.

24th.—*Second Sunday after Easter.*

25th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

26th.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council at the Offices, East-street, Bromley, at 7.30 p.m.—Confirmation at Hayes Parish Church.

27th.—Lecture at the Bromley Grand Hall, by Professor Malden, on "Pictures from Dickens," under the auspices of the Bromley Philharmonic Association.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

The meetings of this Authority for the month of March were held on the 1st and 15th.

Electric Light Order Transferred.

At the first meeting, the Council were recommended in a special report of a committee of the whole of the members to seal the deed transferring their electric lighting powers to the private company. They had, it appeared, received the information required, including a copy of a letter from Edmundson's Electricity Corporation, Limited, intimating their willingness to transfer the shares held by them to any resident in Bromley at par before December 31st next.—This recommendation of the Committee was adopted, without discussion, upon the proposition of Mr. A. A. Worley, seconded by Mr. E. J. Peill, and the seal was then affixed to the transfer.—At the next meeting the Electric Lighting Company sent a cheque for £374 16s. 3d., in payment of purchase money and fees.

The Diagnosis of Diphtheria.

With a view of assisting the medical practitioners in the diagnosis of cases of diphtheria, the Council, on 1st ult., agreed to a recommendation of the Sanitary Committee to the effect that a bacteriological examination should be made, free of charge, in all cases of suspicious throat illness, and the Sanitary Inspector was authorised to take the necessary steps for having such examinations made by the Clinical Research Association.—Dr. Price pointed out that this was a most useful proceeding, and they would, he said, find that a very fair percentage of cases notified as diphtheria were not true diphtheria at all. The Joint Hospital Board had already put the rule in practice.

Early Closing of Sub-Post Offices.

The Council offered no objection to a proposal for the closing of the town sub-post offices in Bromley at five o'clock on Wednesdays, the local early closing day; and the Postmaster-General has since approved of the change.

Alleged Damage by Surface Water.

Some correspondence was read at the meeting on March 1st from Messrs. Baxter, Payne & Lepper, stating that considerable damage had been caused to the Treadwell Estate by a portion of the surface-water from Hawthorn-road, and the whole from Southlands-road, washing down the Clarence-road to their clients' land in the valley, destroying the estate road and the crops. They asked the Council to repair the injury without delay.—The Highways Committee were instructed to consider the matter, and at the next meeting they reported that the roads in question were private roads over which the Council had no jurisdiction.

Costly Drainage Works.

The Council decided, upon the recommendation of the Highways Committee, to take steps for

obtaining the Local Government Board's sanction to loans for drainage works, &c., amounting to £2,120 2s., made up as follows:—Homesdale-road culvert diversion, £835 15s. 2d.; Homesdale-road widening, £829 3s. 9d.; and Plaistow Lane surface drainage, £455 3s. 1d.

A Constant Water Supply.

The most important communication before the Council at the meeting on March 15th, was from the Kent Water Works Company, giving notice of their intention to provide a constant service of water, gradually, throughout Bromley. They proposed to make this provision in the different wards in the following order:—Town Ward, on and after September 5th next; Bickley Ward, December 5th next; Sundridge Ward, March 1st, 1899; Bromley Common Ward, May 1st, 1899; and Plaistow Ward, July 1st, 1899.—The proposal was favourably commented upon by that Council, and the hope was expressed that the Water Company would also endeavour to soften the water.—Mr. Dickins observed that the old Local Board and the District Council had been pegging away for a good many years to get this improvement, and it came as an agreeable surprise to most of them.—Mr. George Payne remarked that a reduction in price would also be very acceptable.

Water Testing.

The water supply also formed the subject of a second debate at the same meeting, on the proposition to have an analysis of it taken every quarter which was moved by Mr. E. J. Harris.—Mr. G. Payne seconded, and suggested that the first bacteriological analysis should be taken in that present quarter. This was embodied in the resolution.—Mr. Dickins suggested that, as the water came to Bromley from different sources, they should first get definite information on this point, with a view to joining with any other district which was supplied from the same source, in making tests. He moved an amendment referring the matter to the Sanitary Committee to take that course, and Dr. Price seconded. He pointed out that the water supply for this district was better and safer than at Maidstone, it being taken from deep wells, so that the risks of contamination were much less.—Mr. Harris mentioned that the cost of having a quarterly analysis would be about £12 12s. per annum. The amendment was lost by five votes to seven, and Mr. Harris's resolution was then carried.

A Question of Assessment.

It was suggested in a letter by Mr. E. S. Harris, that the property of the Kent Water Works Company in Bromley was under-valued, being only assessed at £1,370, rateable. He stated that the overseers had lately increased the assessable value of the parish by over £8,000, but he could find no supplementary valuation of the Water Company's new mains since 1891, and he asked the Council's intervention in the matter.—It was explained that the responsibility rested with the Union assessment Committee, and it was decided to send a copy of the letter to that body.

The Cost of the Main Roads.

The question of the cost of maintaining the main roads in Bromley was introduced by Mr. E. G. Peill, who quoted statistics to show that the Kent County Council spent much less on repairing work, owing to their practice of letting the work out by contract, and he moved a resolution instructing the Highways Committee to consider the desirability of letting by contract, for one year, a portion or the whole of the main roads for which the Council were responsible.—Mr. Lawrence seconded.—In the discussion which followed, several members pointed out that the county roads, referred to by Mr. Peill in support of his proposition, could not be fairly compared with the main roads in Bromley, as regards the traffic passing over them.—Mr. Peill stated that ten miles of roads under the system adopted by the County Council, cost £1,419 to maintain one year, while £3,164 was spent on the five miles of main roads in the Bromley district.—The Surveyor remarked that the average cost per mile of the 152 miles of main roads in Kent was given by the County Surveyor as £475.—It was agreed to adopt Mr. Peill's resolution, so that the question will engage the attention of the Highways Committee.

Miscellaneous.

Dr. A. F. G. Codd was re-appointed as Medical Officer of Health for Bromley; and Messrs R. Peill, D. Payne and D. Grinsted were again chosen as overseers.—Printing tenders were opened and referred to the Finance Committee; and Mr. J. Murray's tender for horse hire was accepted.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

This Board held its usual fortnightly meetings on March 7th and 21st.

Caretakers' Wages.

Upon the recommendation of the School Management Committee certain small additions were made to the wages of the caretakers at the Raglan-road, Wharton-road, and Aylesbury-road Schools.

The Age for Exemption.

The amended bye-laws relating to the compulsory attendance of children at school were submitted and approved, and ordered to be returned to the Education Department for their sanction. The Clerk pointed out that by the alterations the 6th standard would be the standard for total exemption from school attendance, instead of the 5th standard, and that the 5th standard would be the required standard for half-timers, instead of the 4th as formerly.

An Apportionment Disputed.

An apportionment charge of £13 7s. made upon the Board by the Bromley Urban District Council for the making up of Haxted-road was disputed, and the question of nominating an arbitrator, to whom the matter could be referred, is now under consideration by the School Management Committee.

The Half-Yearly Estimate.

At the meeting on 21st instant, the Finance Committee recommended for approval the Clerk's estimate of probable expenditure for the ensuing half-year. The amount required from the rates was £2,500 involving the levying of a rate of 3½d. in the £—making a rate of sevenpence for the school year ending Michaelmas next—the same as last year. The Board approved the estimate, and ordered the necessary precept to be issued. The estimated expenditure was given in the estimate as £3,945, being apportioned under the different heads as follows:—Administration, £275; maintenance, £2,420; loans and interest, £940; and miscellaneous, £310. From this total assets estimated at £1,445 had to be deducted, leaving the sum of £2,500 required.

Higher Grade School Proposal.

Concerning the important question of establishing a higher grade school in the town, the School Management Committee, who had had the matter under consideration for some time, reported on the 21st instant that they had no recommendation to make.—The Rev. R. Silvey, who first brought the question forward, expressed his disappointment at

the result, but thanked the Committee for the careful attention they had given to the subject. They had been, he thought, a little frightened by statistics from places where higher grade schools had been started at a greater expense than after-experience warranted. It would, he believed, have been possible for that Board to establish such a school without anything like the lavish expenditure which some Boards had incurred; but he thought the question would not altogether disappear from their view, and was sure if brought forward later it would again receive the Committee's careful consideration. — The Committee's report was then adopted without further comment.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Education Department wrote approving the plans for the erection of a caretaker's house at the Raglan-road Schools; and the Board decided to advertise for tenders for the work.—An entertainment was given by the scholars of the Raglan-road Infant School several times during the month with much success.

MUSIC OF THE MONTH.

BROMLEY MUSICAL SOCIETY.

At the concert given on the 5th March by this Society, several items of special interest were included in the programme. The opening number was E. German's new overture, "Richard III.," which has never before been heard in Bromley. This fine work is quite worthy to rank with the best productions of the composer, and was admirably played by the orchestra, and warmly appreciated. Beethoven's lovely symphony, No. 2 in D, was also given in excellent style, the exquisitely beautiful "larghetto" especially being worthy of the highest praise. In the second part the orchestra gave the "Ballet Music" from Faust, and Mendelssohn's "Ruy Blas" overture, playing throughout with a vigour and precision which more than sustained the reputation they have so well earned. Three 'cello solos were given by Mr. B. P. Parker with a beauty of tone, phrasing, and expression that delighted the audience, and will certainly ensure for him a very hearty welcome in any future appearance. Mrs. Kate Firminger sang "The Promise of Life" (Cowen) and "The Lost Chord," with orchestral accompaniment. She possesses a contralto voice of considerable power and sweetness, but her musical training would appear to have been not quite all that might be desired. Mr. Thomas Meux, who appeared for the first time at a Bromley concert, has an exceedingly fine baritone voice, under perfect control, and this, with his unmistakable dramatic power, entitles him to a place in the first rank of vocalists. He shows excellent judgment also in his selection of songs suited to his voice, and the aria, "Divine Volupti" (Massenet), and the songs "Laugh not, nor weep" (F. Clay) and "Clown Song" (Stanford) were greatly enjoyed.

It will be seen that Mr. F. Lewis Thomas had provided a programme not only abundant and varied, but also with an unusually large proportion of attractive novelties.

MR. NORMAN BATH'S CHAMBER CONCERT.

At the Co-operative Hall, on the 24th March, a concert, arranged by Mr. Norman Bath, was given, which, though not so popular in character as that above noted, was equally meritorious as regards careful selection of works to be performed and the artistic ability of the executants.

The programme consisted entirely of chamber music, the first item being a Trio in D minor, by Arensky, for pianoforte, violin, and 'cello. This work, which consists of four movements, and is an excellent example of the modern Russian school, was capitally rendered by Miss Victoria Bath, Mr. Norman Bath, and Mr. C. Crabbe. Mozart's quintette in A, op. 108, for clarionet, first and second violin, viola, and 'cello, was also given with very fine effect, to which the exceptionally brilliant playing of Mr. L. Beddome (clarionet), contributed in a very marked degree. It is indeed one of the characteristics of this piece that the clarionet occupies a place of quite unusual prominence; but the whole work fully exemplifies Mozart's wonderful power of arrangement for each instrument. Of Mr. N. Bath as first violin it is needless to say more than that he played in the style which is so familiar to Bromley audiences, and so highly appreciated. Mr. Crabbe gave an excellent rendering of the 'cello music; and Mr. D. Bath and Miss G. Kimpton rendered efficient service with second violin and viola respectively. In addition to these two important works, there was a duet by Eaton Faning for clarionet and violin; and Mr. Bath played as a violin solo, Nos. 4, 5, 6, and 7 of Swedish Dances, by Max Bruch. Miss Maud Elliott sang very sweetly, though with somewhat imperfect articulation. Liddle's setting of "Abide with Me," and an "Irish Lullaby" by Needham, both of which were well received.

It is not often that a concert of this character is given in Bromley, and it is to be hoped that Mr. Bath will be sufficiently encouraged by his success to repeat the experiment at no distant date.

"CHRISTUS" AT BROMLEY PARISH CHURCH.

At a special Lenten service at Bromley Parish Church on the 16th March, Mendelssohn's "Christus" was performed, with orchestral accompaniment, under the direction of Mr. F. Fertel, the organist and choirmaster. It is almost misleading to speak of "Christus" as an "unfinished work," for all that Mendelssohn has left us is some fragments of what was intended to be an oratorio in two parts, the first part dealing with the birth, the second with the death, of our Lord. Of the first part, however, only two numbers were composed, and Mr. Fertel wisely separated these from those belonging to the second part by introducing after "There shall a star arise," a prelude by Gounod. Much of the music, especially the last chorus "Daughter of Zion" is exceedingly beautiful, and it was most admirably rendered, Mr. Fertel conducting, and being assisted by Mr. R. W. Browne at the organ and Mr. Norman Bath as leader of the small but efficient orchestra. The service was greatly enjoyed by a large congregation.

NEW MUSIC.

We have received quite a batch of music for review from Mr. Joseph Williams, publisher, of 32, Great Portland-street. Amongst the list is a choral four part song, with piano accompaniment, entitled "The Marksman," one of six written by Edward Elgar, under the heading of "From the Bavarian Highlands." It is well written and full of melody, and suited to the capacities of average vocalists.

There are two of the "St. Cecilia" series of two part treble songs. "Affection's Garden," by Schumann, and the "The Hum of the Bees," a setting of one of Mendelssohn's songs without words—the Presto. This arrangement is a very good idea, and we almost wonder that more of it has not been done.

"The Worn out Shoes," a choral play for schools, written by A.O.'D., Bartholeyn's, and composed by Waddington Cooke, is very pretty, both in the

words and music, and will be found a useful addition to this class of composition. It is written for unison and solo only.

There are a number of songs including a very pretty cradle song, with English and German words, by Uso Siefert, "Dwell in Joy," by Goring Thomas, "Love's Echoes," French and English, by the same composer, "Two Castles," German and English, by F. H. Cowen, two of four action songs, by Lionel Elliott, "The Mermaid" and "The Fox and the Crow," "At the mid hour of night," by F. H. Cowen, "The fighting Temeraire," F. Pascal, "Summer's Hour," German and English, Cowen, and a unison school song, "Old John and Joan," from "The Dunmow Flitch," by Pascal.

"Babette," by Basil Althaus, will give our young violin players considerable pleasure, and "Vous dansez, Marquise," by Augusta de Kabath, is suited to juvenile pianists.

From Mr. Walter Whittingham, of 13, Little Marlborough-street, W., we have a most useful work on transposition (semitonal or elementary), by by E. L. Price, B.A., Oxon., author of Musical "Notation," &c. Accompanists are so often required to raise or lower the keys of pieces to suit soloists, and this work should consequently be of great service to a large section of the music loving public.

"The Vintage," a cantata for treble voices (three soloists, and three-part choruses), written by E. J. Eagleman, and composed by Ernest Fowles, is also to hand from the same publisher. It is descriptive of vintage scenes in the South of France, and the setting is very pretty and interesting.

MUSICAL JOTTINGS.

At St. Luke's Church on Sunday, 27th March, the monthly "Hour of Sacred Music" attracted a fair attendance in spite of the very inclement weather, and was greatly appreciated. The programme was shorter than usual, but the two vocalists, Miss Kernaghan (soprano) and Mr. Hilton St. Just (tenor) were both of a very high class.

A performance of Stainer's "Crucifixion" is announced in connection with the evening service at the Congregational Church on the first Sunday in April. It would seem that the influence of music as an aid to devotion is becoming increasingly recognised.

Mr. Percy D. Hodsoll, who has on several occasions given organ recitals at Bromley Parish Church, has been appointed organist and choirmaster of the Parish Church, Chislehurst.

The Bromley Musical Society has in rehearsal H. Hofmann's cantata, "Melusina," which will be performed at the April concert.

Prize-Day at Bromley Girls' High School.—The annual prize distribution and concert took place at the Bromley High School for Girls on Tuesday, March 21st, when there was a large assemblage of parents, pupils, and friends. Mr. H .W. Eve (one of the Council of the Girls' Public Day School Company), presided, and there were also on the platform Mrs. Lecky, Prince Kropotkin, Mr. A. R. Cluer, Rev. T. Nicholson, and Mr. Davrell Reed, all of whom took part in the proceedings, and Miss Heppel (the principal of the school).

The marriage arranged between Arthur, son of Sir Richard Webster, M.P., the Attorney-General, and Gwladys, second daughter of Sir Francis H. Evans, M.P., of Tubbendens, Orpington, will take place early in May at St. Margaret's, Westminster.

A RESPECTED BECKENHAMITE.

The name of Mary Elliott is a household word in Beckenham. "Mary," as she is affectionately called, and the name by which she is generally known, is a native of Beckenham and one of the oldest residents, being able to remember when it was but a village separated by miles of green fields from London. For many years she has rendered the most generous personal service to the poor people of Beckenham, and in recognition of this it is proposed to raise a monetary testimonial for her benefit. The Rev. T. Lloyd Phillips is the Chairman of the trustees of the fund, of whom the others are: The Rev. Henry Arnott, rector of Beckenham; the Rev. Henry F. Wolley, vicar of

D. Nottle] MARY ELLIOTT. [*Beckenham*

St. Mary's, Shortlands; Mr. Arthur Pearce, and Mr. William Levens. The following is an interesting extract from a letter written to the Rev. H. F. Wolley by Miss Marsh, whose writings some forty years ago made the name of Beckenham known throughout the country:—

"You know I am in my 80th year, and almost blind. But I must sit up just to say how gladly I join in the admirable plan of raising a subscription for dear Mary Elliott. What a most able curate would be to you, Mary Elliott was to me in regard to all those navvies who lodged in Beckenham (between two and three hundred) at the time when one thousand were employed in making the grounds for the Crystal Palace in 1852-3. Before that time we had noticed what a true Protestant Sister of Charity she was—often, after her busy day of work, sitting up all night with some sick and needy neighbour, and in other acts of self-denying loving kindness.

"My dear and honoured brother-in-law, the Rev. Frederick Chalmers, and my deeply-loved sister greatly valued her."

To frequenters of the Beckenham cricket ground during the summer months, Mary is a very familiar figure, as she has for many years presided over the ladies' tea tent.

Mr. George Creasey, who has been for nearly fifty years hon. secretary of the West Kent Sunday School Union, has resigned that position on account of ill-health and advancing years.

RECORD PORTRAITS.

No. XXVII.—DR. W. T. BEEBY.

We have much pleasure in presenting in this month's issue a portrait and biographical sketch of Dr. Walter Thomas Beeby, a highly-respected and well-known resident and medical practitioner of long standing in Bromley, who will, in a few months' time, be leaving the neighbourhood and giving up his practice in this town.

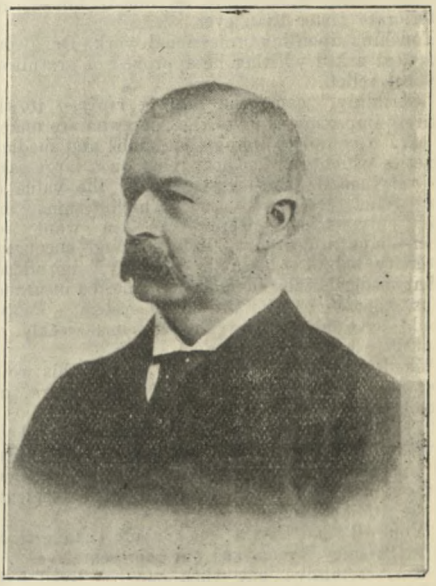
Dr. Beeby came to Bromley as far back as 1855 being by descent a Leicester man, his father having been a partner in a firm of merchants well-known in Calcutta during the years 1830-40. Mr. Beeby lived at Intali, near Calcutta, for some years, and died of cholera early in the forties, when the subject of our sketch—who was born in England—was an infant. On reaching the "years of discretion," the latter decided to enter the medical profession, and studied at Guy's Hospital, afterwards graduating at St. Andrew's University, Scotland.

Dr. Beeby joined the late Mr. James Ilott in partnership at Bromley in 1865, and has for a considerable time continued in practice with Dr. H. J. Ilott, the late Mr. Ilott's eldest son. In those days Bromley was a very small town, but the practice of its doctors extended for miles into the surrounding country, and being fond of riding, probably few of the inhabitants of Bromley passed more hours in the saddle than Dr. Beeby. He also, however, found some time for literary work, and being a student of archæology, wrote a History of Bromley Church, which is now out of print, but is quite the best authority on that ancient edifice. This contains many very interesting particulars concerning the rectory of Bromley, which, no doubt, owing to the existence in the parish of the episcopal palace, from early Saxon times, was, up to the time of the Reformation, a very wealthy and important living. This book was published in 1872, and the profits of it were devoted to the Improvement Fund of the Church, the restoration of which was then in contemplation, and was shortly afterwards carried out. He subsequently read a paper before the Kent Archæological Society on the manor of Bromley, in which he was assisted by the late Mr. Coles Child, and about the same time published an interesting article on the deneholes — subterranean caves, possibly used as granaries by the ancient inhabitants of the land — at Chislehurst and Bexley. Dr. Beeby spent many hours in exploring these caves and collecting from them the bones of rare and extinct animals which had fallen into them hundreds of years ago. These bones were taken to the British Museum and the Museum of Comparative Anatomy at the College of Surgeons, for identification. During the existence of a popular debating society in the town, known as the "Friends in Council," which has now been defunct for many years, records of whose transactions were recorded in this Journal as they occurred, Dr. Beeby read papers on various philosophical subjects, such as the relation of the instinct of the lower animals to the intellect of man, advocating the theory that up to a certain point they differed in quality and extent rather than in kind. He also made interesting experiments concerning the organs of special sense possessed by insects, and at a time when the Darwinian theories of evolution were largely condemned as unscientific and unorthodox, at one of the debates above referred to, predicted that before many years these theories, perhaps with modifications, would be accepted by the writers of all our text-books on natural history.

Dr. Beeby had the pleasure of the acquaintance of Professor Flinders Petrie—now the well-known Egyptologist—and on one occasion, accompanied by Mr. C. Brent and the late Rev. G. V. Reed, then rector of Hayes, they explored some of the interesting mounds at Keston.

Dr. Beeby has held a good many public appointments in Bromley. He has been a medical officer of the Bromley Cottage Hospital since it was founded, and may, indeed, be described as one of the founders of that most useful institution. In 1875, the committee of the Hospital presented him with a very handsome silver salver, in recognition of his valuable services. He has also been a director of the Cottage Improvement Company, Chairman of the Drill Hall Company, and a member of the committee of the Schools of Science and Art, and of the Boys' Technical Institute, having always strongly believed in the necessity of improving the technical education of the artisan classes of the nation. In addition to these public offices, Dr. Beeby has been one of the managers of the Bromley National Schools down to the present, and was also for some time honorary medical officer of health to the old Local Board, as well as a member of that body for some years.

About 1870, before the main drainage system was carried out, Bromley was visited by a severe epidemic of diphtheria. A large number of cases came under the notice of Dr. Beeby, and subsequently he read a paper on the subject at a branch meeting of the British Medical Association, illustrating many points connected with the disease by his observations of this outbreak, and enunciating the idea that in such epidemics the disease may almost be said to be evolved at the time, when certain organisms—now called bacteria—exist, before the general outbreak, in a scarcely harmful condition, hence the first cases of an epidemic are often mild and indistinct. Later, however, when propagated over and over again in a more and more congenial soil, the bacteria of the disease assume alarming and definitely characteristic symptoms, and, inversely, as the number of persons specially liable to the complaint become fewer and fewer the germs die out for lack of the suitable nidus, and the last cases of the epidemic are mild and indistinct.



DR. W. T. BEEBY.

Dr. Beeby married in 1879, Constance Emily, daughter of the late Rev. J. Finley, vicar of Aveley, Essex, and sometime chaplain to the Earl

of Gainsborough. On the occasion of his marriage the directors of the Drill Hall Company presented him with a small piece of plate, bearing a suitable inscription.

Dr. Beeby has of late years lived at St. Winnow's, London-road, a house he built for himself. Previously he resided at Park House, Beckenham-lane, and before that in the house in the High-street now occupied by Dr. Herbert Ilott.

"Having been a director of the Cottage Improvement Company, and in your time seen much of all classes in the neighbourhood, can you," asked the "Record" interviewer, "make any particular suggestions as to the housing of the poor?"

"We tried," answered Dr. Beeby, "when building the Improvement Cottages, to set the example of small dwellings with little gardens which a labourer might afford to rent without taking lodgers, but the idea, though the cottages were always let, was rather Utopian, inasmuch as in a neighbourhood like this land is too dear to make such a plan at all generally possible. At the same time I should like to see a little more power put into the hands of local authorities, so that they might force owners of cottage property to keep such cottages in decent repair, for if you put an untidy family into an untidy house they deteriorate faster than ever."

Touching upon his professional work, Dr. Beeby was next asked whether he approved of gratuitous medical relief.

"Certainly," came the prompt reply, "to the entirely impecunious or to the poor who are unable to earn a complete living, but clubs and medical societies which give medical relief on a large scale for very small sums—vastly below the value of the relief received, and which sums are paid only when people are in want of relief—have a degrading influence and encourage unthrifty habits. I think, decidedly," he added, "that medical clubs should, as a rule, be insurance clubs, that is on the provident system. People should save up and pay small sums weekly or monthly all the year round.

Asked if he would be glad to give up his work after having lived in Bromley so many years and having enjoyed so large a practice,

"I shall be glad of less work," Dr. Beeby replied, "but I do not propose to give up work altogether. On the contrary, it is my intention to practise in the winter months among the English residents at the Italian Riviera."

"You will find that a considerable change from life in Bromley," remarked our representative.

"Yes, certainly; but when one has lived half a lifetime in a place, the greater the change the less one feels the loss of old associations and old friends."

This short sketch would be incomplete without a reference to Mrs. Beeby, a lady who has a very wide circle of friends and acquaintances in this district. She, as well as Dr. Beeby, was a member of the Committee of the Boys' Institute and Schools of Science and Art, and during the years when Mr. Loe was treasurer of the Cottage Hospital, together with Mrs. Loe, she was a frequent visitor to the Hospital. Mrs. Beeby has taken a prominent part in various charitable works, more especially in all that have for their object the befriending of the most helpless members of humanity—neglected little children—and for the past eleven years she has been the active president of the Bromley branch of the Church of England Society for providing Homes for Waifs and Strays. In this connection the removal of Dr. and Mrs. Beeby from the neighbourhod will be very much felt, while they will also be much missed socially.

Our portrait of Dr. Beeby is from an excellent large photograph by Lavender (Bromley), copied for our use by Mrs. Beeby herself.

Public Services Recognised.—During the past month Mr. H. Herbert Pain, who recently retired from the post of honorary secretary of the Bromley Cottage Hospital, was presented with a handsome silver salver by the members of the Committee of the Hospital, as a token of their esteem, and appreciation for his nineteen years of service as honorary secretary.—Mr. H. J. Willis, of Chislehurst, who has just retired from the Parish and District Councils, after having been intimately connected with the administration of local affairs for more than forty years, is to be presented with a testimonial, and for this purpose a Committee has been formed to raise the necessary funds. It is proposed that the presentation should be made on Monday, 4th inst., the date of Mr. Willis's eightieth birthday.

A Bromley Lawsuit. — The Bromley Urban District Council were the defendants in an action brought by Mr. W. Heaysman, of Bromley which was heard by Mr. Justice Hawkins in the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court on Saturday, March 19th, the plaintiff seeking to recover for damages alleged to have been caused by the defendants in taking up and relaying certain drains on property owned by the plaintiff at Wharton-road. The case was heard at some length, and in the course of the hearing his lordship remarked that it appeared to be a trumpery cause of action, and eventually a stet processus was entered, it having been arranged that the defendants should pay to the plaintiff such damage as their Surveyor should find to have been sustained, and that if the plaintiff should not be satisfied with the amount he should be at liberty to take proceedings under section 308 of the Public Health Act, 1875, to have the amount settled by an arbitrator.

Will of Lord Sackville Cecil. — The will has been proved of the Hon. Sackville Arthur Cecil, commonly called Lord Sackville Cecil, a director of the Eastern Telegraph and other Companies, and son of the second Marquess of Salisbury and his second wife. The executors are his sister, Lady Margaret Elizabeth Cecil, and his nephew, Mr. A. J. Balfour, M.P., The testators personal estate has been valued at £233,391. He leaves to his brothers, Lord Arthur Cecil and Lord Lionel Cecil, all his share and interest in the property in Stamford-street, Princes-street, and Commercial-road, known as the Princes Meadow Estate, and of the property in Wharf-road, City-road, and Wenlock-road, known as the Wenlock Basin Estate, and he leaves to his said two brothers his share and interest in certain accumulations of income, forming a fund at the London and Westminster Bank, known as the "P.M. and W.B. Accounts." The testator also bequeaths to his two brothers £5,000 each, and upon trust for his sister Mary Arabella Arthur, Lady Galloway, £5,000. He leaves £10,000 upon trusts for his nephew Arthur William Cecil, and a similar sum for his nephew Reginald Edward Cecil (sons of Lord Arthur Cecil). The Oast House Estate and his other estate at Hayes are left upon trust for his nephew Arthur William Cecil when thirty years of age, or on failure of this trust, for his nephew Reginald Edward. Lord Sackville Cecil bequeaths the furniture and effects at Oast House upon trust for the person who should be entitled thereto under the devise of his real estate, also a sum of £20,000, of which he had appointment under the will of Edward Henry, Earl of Derby. The testator leaves the residue of his property upon trust for his sister, Lady Margaret Elizabeth Cecil.

Mr. N. Watney, of Valence, Westerham, has been appointed Sheriff of the County of Kent for the year 1898.

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DIARY OF MARCH.

Feb.

28th.—Annual meeting of the Bromley Camera Club at the School of Science and Art.

March.

1st.—Infants' entertainment at the Raglan-road Schools, Bromley Common.

2nd.—Lecture on missions to the Jews at the Christ Church Schools, Chislehurst, by Dr. D'Erf Wheeler.—Employees of the Bromley Co operative Society held their annual soiree at the Assembly Rooms, East-street.—Annual meeting of the Beckenham Conservative Club, Mr. A. H. Baker presiding.—Beckenham Abstainers' Union monthly meeting at the Public Hall, Beckenham.

3rd.—Annual meeting of the Bromley Convalescent Home Society, at the Bromley Co-operative Hall, Mr. T. J. Davis presiding.

4th.—Meeting of the Plaistow Burial Board, at which it was decided to allow parishioners to purchase by instalments the right of burial in third-class ground at the cemetery.

5th.—Orchestral concert by the Bromley Musical Society at the Drill Hall, Bromley.

6th.—Special services in celebration of the Rev. R. Stewart Fleming's sixth anniversary as pastor of the Elm-road Baptist Church, Beckenham.

8th.—Polling for election of Kent County Council.—Concert by members of the men's Bible Class at the Widmore Wesleyan Chapel.

9th.—Demonstration of local Christian Endeavour Societies at the Elm-road Baptist Church, Beckenham.

10th.—Meeting at the Beckenham Congregational Church to establish an auxiliary of the London Missionary Society, the Rev. T. Eynon Davies presiding.

11th.—Entertainment by children from Dr. Stephenson's Orphan Homes, at the Bromley Drill Hall; Mr. J. E. Vanner, of Chislehurst, presiding.

12th.—Opening of a new organ at St. John's Mission Church, Chislehurst.

13th.—Annual Church Parade of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment), in conjunction with the West Kent Yeomanry, at St. Peter's Church, Brockley.

14th.—Annual parish meetings for the election of Parish Councillors.—Concert at the Bromley Co-operative Hall, by the Co-operative Society's choir.

15th.—Meeting in support of Church work at St. Katherine's, Rotherhithe, at the Village Hall, Chislehurst.

16th.—Bromley Volunteers' smoking concert at the Drill Hall, Bromley.—Musical service at Bromley Parish Church. Mendelssohn's unfinished oratorio, "Christus," being performed.—Paper on "Disease and the Germ Theory," read by Mr. E. Baly, at the meeting of the Bromley Naturalists' Society.—Public meeting in connection with the Kent Missionary Loan Exhibition, at the Parish-room, Shortlands, presided over by the Rev. H. F. Wolley, M.A. (vicar of St. Mary's, Shortlands).

18th.—Annual Vestry meeting for the sanctioning of overseers' expenses, at the Overseers' Offices, Bromley.—Illustrated lecture on "The Coalfields in Kent," by Mr. J. Bavington Jones, of Dover, at the Bromley School of Science and Art, under the auspices of the Bromley Camera Club.

19th.—Trial of action, Heaysman v. Bromley Urban District Council, in Queen's Bench Division, before Mr. Justice Hawkins.

21st.—Distribution of prizes, by Mrs. Lecky, at the Bromley High School for Girls, Mr. H. W. Eve presiding.—Students' concert in connection with the Beckenham School of Music at the Public Hall, Beckenham.

22nd.—Demonstration in favour of Local Option at the Drill Hall, Bromley, presided over by the Rev. T. George, and addressed by Mr. E. H. Pickersgill, M.P., Mr. J. M. Skinner, and others.—Annual meeting at the Town Hall of the Bromley Auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, the vicar of Bromley (Rev. A. G. Hellicar) presiding.—Vestry meeting held at the Plaistow Schools, when it was decided to allow non-parishioners to bury in Plaistow cemetery on payment of treble the ordinary fees.—Annual meeting of the Beckenham Liberal Club, at the Public Hall, Beckenham, presided over by Mr. A. J. Baker, and addressed by Sir Patteson Nickalls.

23rd.—Ten miles' championship race in connection with the Bromley Conservative Club, won by T. J. Jarman (scratch).—Sale of work at the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Bromley Common.

24th.—Lecture on "A Universe in Motion," by Sir Robt. Ball, at Bromley Grand Hall.—Concert arranged by Mr. Norman Bath, at the Co-operative Hall, Bromley.—Induction of the new vicar of Bickley (Rev. W. A. Carroll) by the Archdeacon of Maidstone.—Annual meeting of the Beckenham Cottage Hospital, at the Urban Council Offices, the rector (Rev. H. Arnott) presiding.—Sixteenth annual meeting of the Beckenham Congregational Band of Hope, held at the Lecture Hall, Crescent-road, Rev. T. Eynon Davies presiding; address by the Rev. Canon Barker.

27th.—Monthly musical service at St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common.

28th.—Lime-light lecture, entitled "The Cry of the Bairns," by Mr. W. R. Nicoll, at the Bromley Common Baptist Church.

The Rainfall.—The rainfall for February, as measured at The High Field, Bickley, amounted to 0·95 in. Rain fell on 13 days, the largest amount registered in one day being ·14 in. twice—on the 4th and 20th. For the corresponding month last year the fall was 2·07 in.; in 1896, 0·33 in.; 1895, 0·22 in.; and in 1894, 1·53 in.

Mr. H. Cosmo Bonsor, M.P., has succeeded the late Sir George Russell as Chairman of the South-Eastern Railway Company.

Mr. Eustace Turner, the talented young organist of St. Barnabas, Beckenham, has achieved additional distinction at the Royal Academy, by gaining an open scholarship awarded for further advancement in musical study, which is tenable for three years.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

The Parish meetings for the election of the Parish Councils in the parishes within the Bromley Union were held without exception on Monday, March 14th. By legal enactment it was possible this year to hold the "Annual Assembly" of the parish and the parish meeting for the election on the same day. In most of the villages there was a fair attendance of parishioners, and in the majority of instances the retiring members, when willing to stand again, were re-elected. A poll was demanded in four parishes, but the demand was withdrawn in two of them, and will only be held in Knockholt and St. Paul's Cray. In these two parishes the poll will be held on the 4th inst. Only one lady was nominated in the whole fifteen parishes—Miss Ella Friend, in North Cray—and she was re-elected.

CHISLEHURST.

The parish meeting for the election of Councillors was held at the Village Hall under the presidency of Mr. A. F. Nussey. The voting resulted in the election of the following members:—*Sir Patteson Nickalls, *Rev. F. H. Murray, and Messrs. *J. Stockbridge, *R. Brown, W. Willett, E. Kinder, *W. Campbell Russell, *H. F. Tiarks, *J. Otway, *H. J. Clark, *N. Balme, *J. C. Pillman, *C. Dabner, *C. Balme, and *A. Tavers Hawes.—A poll was demanded on behalf of the defeated candidates, but the demand was afterwards withdrawn.

KESTON.

Mr. Henry Bonham-Carter presided at the annual parish meeting, when the following gentlemen were elected:—*Rev. C. H. Wright, and Messrs. *T. Haslett, *J. D. Jehu, *G. F. Duck, *W. C. Anderson, *J. Barham, and *T. Gascoigne.

HAYES.

The Hayes parish meeting was held on Monday, March 14th. Mr. C. S. de Zoete was voted to the chair, and the voting resulted as follows:—Messrs. *N. Boxall, H. G. Devas, *W. Harrod, *T. D. Mann, *A. Torrens, and C. Wood.

MOTTINGHAM.

The annual meeting of this parish was held under the presidency of Mr. C. D. Kingzett, and the following were elected:—Messrs. T. Bond, F. G. Boot, *S. P. Page, *G. W. Warman, A. Smith, J. Pollock, G. Barker, *C. G. Higgins, and *G. Hyde.

FARNBOROUGH.

Mr. H. F. Priter presided at the annual meeting of this parish. The following were selected as members of the Council for the ensuing year:—Messrs. *J. W. Stow, G. Shorter, *J. Goodchild, jun., *J. Weatherley, *T. H. Fox, *W. Fox, W. Fife, *T. Paul, and A. Webb. The vicar of the parish (the Rev. F. J. Kelly) lost his seat.

ST. MARY CRAY.

The annual statutory meeting of this parish was held under the presidency of Mr. A. Spicer, when the Council was elected as follows:—*L. F. Dolan, *H. Taylor, *H. Algar, *W. H. Haines, *E. H. Joynson, *F. Stanger, *W. Epsom, *W. Beer, and J. U. Wing.

WEST WICKHAM.

The parish meeting for the election of Councillors was held at West Wickham, Col. Sir John F. Lennard, Bart., presiding, and the following Councillors were elected:—Messrs. *A. Barnes, W. G. Bird, *J. C. Bowman, *H. S. Cowdell, *J. Durling, *R. A. Mcandrew, J.P., *A. W. Hemmings, *C. Oakley, and *W. H. Stokes.

KNOCKHOLT.

A poll is to be held in this parish. Mr. Sharp presided at the parish meeting, when the show of hands gave the following result: Messrs. *Smithers, A. Wells, *W. J. Hammond, Pitman, Wisdom, *Hemphrey, and Milnes. A poll was, however, demanded.

DOWNE.

The annual parish meeting was held, with Mr. H. Lubbock in the chair, and the following were elected:—Messrs. *F. Capon, *E. Jessup, *J. Lewis, *H. Lubbock, C. N. Murton, *A. H. Nicholls, and *J. A. Snow.

ORPINGTON.

Mr. H. B. Howard presided at the parish meeting. The following were elected as Councillors:—Messrs. *W. Mansfield, *G. W. Ruggles, *J. T. Greenslade, *J. Mansfield, *W. Vinson, sen., *J. C. D. Jenkins, *W. Jones, *J. Higgs, G. Ingarfill, *W. Vinson, jun., *J. Potter, *W. J. Mullins, *G. Eldridge, J. Winter, and W. H. Davies.

ST. PAUL'S CRAY.

The St. Paul's Cray parish meeting was held under the presidency of Mr. W. G. Nash. Here, too, a poll must be held. The voting at the show of hands was as follows:—Messrs. *A. E. Oxley, *E. Lindridge, T. H. Nash, T. Moffatt, *T. Dann, *G. May, *T. May, C. Simpson, E. W. Chapman, *W. Marjoram, J. Nicholls. A poll was demanded in the statutory manner, and will be held on April 4th.

CUDHAM.

Mr. Tothill presided at the Cudham parish meeting. The following gentlemen were elected:—Messrs. *W. F. Foster, *J. T. Drew, *W. Hallam, *C. Smither, H. Burkin, *W. Blundell, W. Endersby, W. Cowlard, and *Rev. N. Freer.

CHELSFIELD.

The parish meeting was held with Mr. A. Miller-Hallett presiding, and the Council was chosen as follows:—Messrs. *W. E. Bailey, *J. Dowler, *E. Norman, *J. Crafter, *W. Lughes, *G. Staples, J. Smith, and Twist.

FOOTS CRAY.

The statutory annual meeting was held under the presidency of Mr. E. J. Elgood, J.P., The following were elected:—Messrs. J. Crombie, *J. C. Pillman, *G. E. H. Beckwith, *J. Edward, *A. Sharp, *H. Booker, *H. Snelling, F. J. Francis, W. Watson, J. Cooper, *W. Ironmonger, *F. Shapley, and *T. Knight.

NORTH CRAY.

Captain Vansittart, J.P., presided at the annual parish meeting, when the Council was elected as follows:—Mr. *D. T. Corke, Miss E. Friend, Messrs. W. Haines, *A. J. Henson, *V. G. M. Holt, O. Vinson, *H. Windebank.

* Indicates retiring member.

The Postmaster-General has given authority for the closing of the Money Order Town Sub-Offices at Bromley on Wednesdays (early closing day) at five o'clock.

At the statutory meeting of the Kent County Council last month, Colonel Sir John F. Lennard, Bart., was re-elected Chairman of the Council, and Mr. G. Marsham was re-elected vice-chairman.

Mr. Percy Hambro, son of Mr. E. A. Hambro, of Hayes, won the Welter Handicap at the Army Point-to-Point Races, held near Buckingham, with Saltfish.

LOCAL ELECTIONS.

Bromley Urban Council. — The election of Urban District Councillors for Bromley, the polling in which is fixed for April 4th, has not excited much public interest, but there will be contests in three of the five wards. The exceptions are the Town Ward, where no opposition was offered to the re-election of Messrs. Douglas Payne, and G. H. Payne, and Plaistow Ward, where Mr. M. J. Dickins, the retiring representative, was allowed a "walk-over." Mr. H. C. Bond (school-master), who seeks re-election for the Sundridge Ward, is opposed by Mr. H. Nye (cabinet-maker); and at Bromley Common, Mr. E. Peill's (coal merchant) seat is challenged by Mr. W. H. Smith (carpenter): while at Bickley, Mr. S. H. Gilbert (carpenter), the old member, is opposed by Mr. F. Lord (carpenter) The polling stations will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday, 4th instant.

Board of Guardians.—The triennial election of representatives on the Board of Guardians for Bromley has passed without a contest, all the old members—Miss Akers, Mrs. Henry Hall, Messrs. C. W. Gedney, G. H. Payne, and F. W. Peill—being elected unopposed. At Beckenham the retiring members seeking re-election are Messrs. A. H Baker, L. P. Ford, J. J. Wilks, and F. Latham Brown, while Mr. Seymour Conway is nominated in succession to Mr. J. Waddington, who did not seek re-election. The nomination, however, of Mr. Tom Gascoigne, of Keston, necessitates a contest. In the Rural District Council elections for the country parishes, there was likelihood of a contest at Farnborough, Mr. H. F. Priter being nominated to oppose the Rev. F. J. Kelly, but the latter having withdrawn, a poll is unnecessary. At Knockholt Mr. W. Humphrey has also withdrawn in favour of Mr. A. W. Smithers, the retiring member; and the only parish in which there will be a contest is at Foots Cray, where Messrs. H. Booker, T. Knight, and H. J. Clark are nominated for two seats. The other representatives will be as follows:—Chislehurst: H. J. Hadrill, D. T. Corke and J. Stockbridge, Mr. H. J. Willis seeking a well-earned rest; Mottingham: S. P. Page and T. Bond; Cudham: Nigel J. Freer; Orpington: J. Higgs and W. Vinson, jun.; St. Mary Cray: H. Tyrer and H. Figgess; North Cray: W. Bowman; West Wickham: R. A. McAndrew; Downe: C. Harris; St. Paul's Cray: T. May; Chelsfield: T. Figgess; Hayes: A. Torrens; and Keston: W. H. Haslett.

Kent County Council.—There are six Divisions of the County within the Bromley district, each returning one member to the Kent County Council and in five of them the retiring members were re-elected without question. In the remaining Division Mr. H. J. Hadrill, of Chislehurst, sought to wrest the seat from Mr. H. Tyrer, of St. Paul's Cray, but without success. The members of the Council for this part of the county are now as follows:—Messrs. Coles Child, E. Packe, A. H. Baker, A. J. Baker, H. Lennard, and H. Tyrer. Sir John Lennard, the chairman of the Council, is an Alderman.

Mr. C. W. Grant Wilson, whose family resided in Bromley some years ago, has been admitted a partner in the firm of Drs. Beeby and Ilott, in the room of Dr. Beeby, who is retiring.

A marriage has been arranged between Augustus Stuart, youngest son of Mr. Augustus P. Elmslie, of 4, Chester-place, W., and Margaret Annie, second daughter of Mr. Joseph Causton, of South Barrow, Bickley, Kent, and niece of Mr. R. K. Causton, M.P. for West Southwark.

ACCIDENTS ON THE RAILWAY.

During the past few weeks several accidents occurred on the railway lines in this district.

The most disastrous was a collision at St. John's station (S.E.R.), where—at 9 a.m. on the morning of March 21st—a train from Tonbridge, which had taken in Chislehurst and Bromley passengers on its journey to town, was dashed into by a Hastings express, and three persons killed, while several were seriously injured. The guard's van of the Tonbridge train was "telescoped" into the next carriage, which was a third-class coach filled with passengers, and it was in this carriage that those who suffered most were travelling. Miss Ethel May, aged 16, of Catford; Miss Nellie Elizabeth Smith, aged 23, of King-street, Regent-street, W., and T. C. Howard, aged 30, of Merton, Surrey, were killed; and the injured included Mr. G. Wood, of High-street, Chislehurst, who sustained a broken leg, fractured nose, and other injuries; and Miss Grace Smith, engaged at Burlington House, Chislehurst, whose legs were injured. Several Bromley residents were in the Tonbridge train, but they escaped uninjured At the inquest held on the three victims at Deptford it appeared that the collision occurred through an error on the part of the signalman (W. G. Honey) at St. John's, who gave the signal for the Hastings express to pass, believing that the Tonbridge train had gone by, though in fact it was standing outside. The jury returned a verdict that the collision occurred through an error of judgment on Honey's part, and expressed an opinion that two signalmen should be employed at the signal-box in question.

Grove Park station was the scene of a distressing occurrence on February 25th, a lad named Edward Ratcliffe, of Waldo-road, Bromley, a bookstall clerk employed at Grove Park, being discovered by the side of the S.E.R. line with both his feet cut off He was removed to Guy's Hospital, where it was found necessary to amputate both legs up to the knee, and the lad is now progressing. It is supposed that he fell on to the line through opening a carriage door to alight before the train reached the station.

On March 10th a railway porter named Heat, employed at Beckenham Junction station, had a very narrow escape, being caught on the rails by the engine of a Norwood tram and hurled on to the six-foot way. He sustained two fearful wounds on his head, and was taken to the Beckenham Cottage Hospital, where for several days his life was despaired of, but he is now gradually recovering.

Employees' Dinner.—On Saturday evening, March 5th, the employees of Messrs. E. Strong and Sons, proprietors and publishers of the "Bromley Record," "Bromley Chronicle," "Beckenham Chronicle," "Chislehurst Chronicle," and "Bromley Telegraph," were entertained at dinner, at the Parish Room, West-street, Bromley. Nearly thirty of the staff sat down to an excellent repast, admirably served up by Mr. W. Maunder, of Market-square, and the proceedings were presided over by the head of the firm. Ample justice was done to the good things provided, and after the tables had been cleared a capital programme of vocal and instrumental music was carried out, interspersed with a few toasts.

Among those presented at the Levee, held at St. James's Palace, by the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, K.G., on behalf of Her Majesty, last month, was Col. F. W. Frigout, 2nd Vol. Batt. the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment), by Colonel E. Sattertuwaite.

KENTISH MONASTIC REMAINS.

AYLESFORD FRIARY.

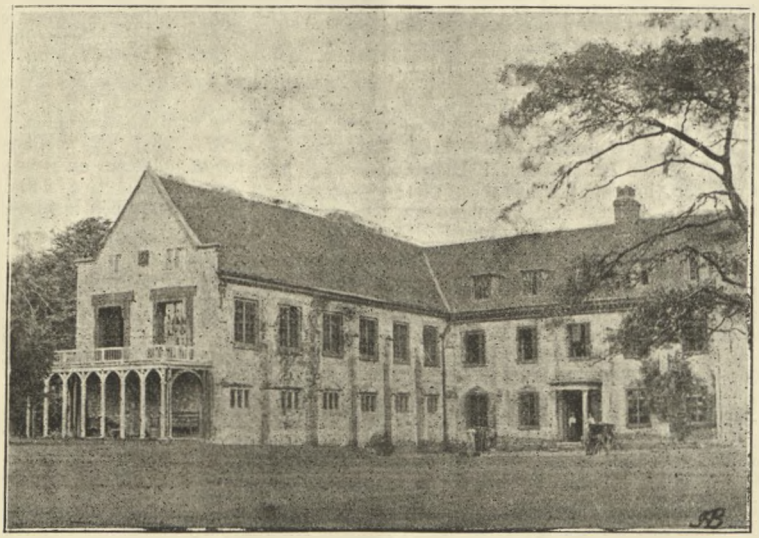
It has become so much the custom to regard Kent as a county remarkable for its fine old churches that there is some danger that due attention will not be paid to another class of religious edifices which once existed in considerable numbers in different parts of the county, but which, owing to certain changes and reforms in religious matters have been either swept almost entirely away or put to uses quite foreign to those to which they were formerly dedicated.

The monastic remains of Kent, to which we refer, comprise a somewhat larger and more important class of buildings and fragments of buildings than might be supposed by anyone who had not taken the trouble to look into the subject with some amount of care. We hear so much about the large Cistercian abbeys of Yorkshire and the North of England that it seems almost time that some attention should be devoted to the abbeys, priories, and so much of their history as can be gathered from written chronicles or from a careful and comparative study of their actual walls or foundations.

Aylesford Priory or Friary, the first of the series in alphabetical order to be noticed, was founded in the year 1240 as a house for Carmelite Friars. It is interesting as being one of the first two houses of the Carmelites established in England, and in the year 1245 it was the meeting-place of the first European chapter of this order.

The Carmelites, or White Friars, or, as they were sometimes called, "Brethren or Friars of the Blessed Virgin," laid claim to a very early origin, but as a matter of fact, the first certain account we have on the subject speaks of them at Mount Carmel in Palestine from whence they were driven by the hard usage of the Saracens about the year 1238. Tradition, rather than history, asserts that their rule was given them by Albert, Patriarch of Jerusalem, about the year 1205, and that this rule was confirmed by Pope Honorius III. in 1224.

The order was in 1240 introduced into England by the Lords John Vesey and Richard Grey, and from the first institutions at Aylesford and Alnwick, the order in time spread considerably, so that there were about forty Carmelite Friaries in England and Wales.



FRIARS, AYLESFORD.

cells in our more immediate neighbourhood, which are quite as interesting and, from the point of view of the student of local history, are of equal value in enabling us to understand the conditions of life prevailing in Kent in mediæval times.

The great monastic establishments, such as those of Christ Church and St. Augustine, Canterbury, will be to some extent familiar to the readers of these remarks, but there were scattered over the country a large number of somewhat small institutions, colleges, hospitals, and other religious foundations, endowed by the alms and benefactions of the pious, and each, in its day, the centre of religious life, of learning, or of charitable operations. Of ancient Kentish institutions, other than churches, which may be classed as "religious," in contradistinction to those which were "secular," we find there have been in number about seventy.

The subject of the monastic remains of Kent, therefore, it will be seen, is one of considerable scope and of great historical importance, and as very little information of a popular character is easily available, it is proposed to give in these pages from time to time some particulars of those buildings of this character which still exist, whether in ruin or in some state of preservation, and

Aylesford Friary was situated close to the north-east bank of the River Medway—Aylesford being a village a few miles north-west of Maidstone — and from the fact that the first European chapter of the order was held within its walls it is probable that it was an establishment of some importance. To what extent the Friary was endowed at this period, however, is unknown. In the year 1317 the building was enlarged, three acres of land being given to provide funds given for that purpose by Richard de Grey, Lord Grey of Codnor, the great-grandson of one of the founders of the Friary.

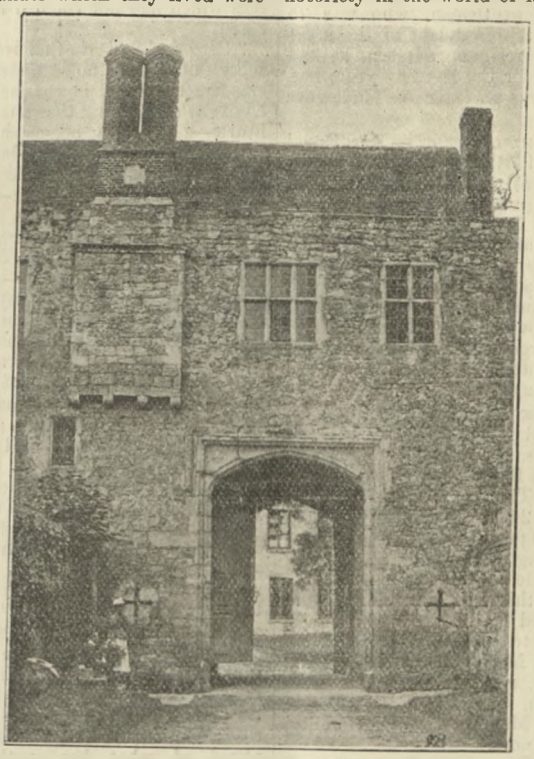
The establishment appears to have increased in size, and in the number of its inmates, making it necessary to have a more abundant supply of pure water than they had hitherto enjoyed, King Richard II., in the year 1393, granted to the Friars a spring of water at a place called Holy-Garden, in the adjoining parish of Burham, for the purpose of making an aqueduct for the use of their house.

From a variety of sources it is possible to gather sufficient information to construct a fairly accurate

picture of the usual every-day life of the Carmelite Friars at Aylesford about five hundred years ago.

Soon after midnight the brethren rose from their couch in their solitary cells (for each brother occupied a cell to himself) and proceeded to the Friary Church to take part in the office of Matins. Lauds followed, and at the hour of six o'clock a.m., Prime was celebrated. The canonical hours were kept by the Carmelites; in other words a service was celebrated every three hours night and day. Tierce was said at nine o'clock a.m.; Sext at noon; Nones at three o'clock p.m.; Vespers at six; and Complin at nine p.m. brought the course of regular daily prayers to a conclusion. Of course there were other offices, the Mass being naturally the most important.

The brethren all met in a common apartment—the refectory—for meals, and they also were permitted to be together when reading, but at all other times the rules under which they lived were very strict. Silence was obligatory from the end of Complin until Prime. No flesh was allowed as food except in case of sickness, and the chief business of every brother is briefly and tersely summed up in the rule, "All to remain in their cells meditating day and night."



FRIARS, AYLESFORD.

Generally the plan of a Carmelite Friary was so arranged that the church should be in the middle of the building, and the prior's cell near the entrance to the house, so that he might be the first to meet all comers.

There is reason to suppose that from the time of its foundation to that of its suppression, the history of the Friary at Aylesford was uneventful and peaceful. To what extent the Friars may have fallen into the abuses which brought about the suppression of monastic institutions in England we have no means of knowing.

About the year 1535, when the general suppression of monasteries occurred, the possession of Aylesford Friary was surrendered to the Crown, and some years afterwards, Henry granted in exchange to Sir Thomas Wyatt, among other premises, "the site and house of the Priory of the White Friars, near Aylesford, and all buildings, gardens, and lands within the site and precincts of it, and other lands in Aylesford belonging to it, to hold by knight s service, at the yearly rent of 10s. 3d."

The son of this Sir Thomas Wyatt was associated with a rebellion against Queen Mary, and was attainted, and his estates became forfeited to the Crown.

Queen Elizabeth gave the Priory to John Sedley, Esquire, of Southfleet, who, dying without issue, bequeathed it to his brother William, who was afterwards knighted and created a baronet by James I.

Sir Charles Sedley, the wit and dramatic author, whose literary reputation was equalled by his notoriety in the world of fashion and scandal, was the youngest and posthumous son of Sir John Sedley. Sir Charles Sedley was born at Aylesford in 1639, but it cannot be said that his association with the place reflects much glory upon it.

In the reign of Charles I., Aylesford Friary was sold by the Sedleys to Sir Peter Ricaut. This possessor had ten sons, the youngest of whom was a great traveller not only in Europe, but also in Asia and Africa. He was much employed in the reigns of Charles II., James II., and William III.

After passing through several hands the Friary came into the possession of Heneage Finch, a man of great reputation in the time of Queen Anne. He was created Earl of Aylesford in the reign of George I. The house has been much modernized, but there are many fragments still remaining of the monastic building which it has succeeded, and upon whose ancient site it now stands.

In conclusion we have to express our thanks to Mr. George Payne, F.S.A., for the kind loan of the photographs which form our illustrations.

FARNBOROUGH SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.—The triennial election of the School Board for Farnborough, took place last month when only the requisite number having been nominated in due form, a poll was unnecessary, and the candidates nominated were declared duly elected. The old members with one exception have been returned for the fourth time unopposed, viz., Messrs. T. Hamilton Fox, J.P., W. St. John Fox, Stow and Weatherley. A vacancy was caused by the resignation of the Rev. I. Ballard, who has served faithfully and well on the School Board since its establishment over 20 years ago. Mr. H. F. Priter was selected to fill the vacancy.

DEATH OF LATE RECTOR OF KESTON.—The death took place at Canterbury, on March 23rd, of the Rev. Thomas Scott Huxley, rector of Keston from 1877 to 1881, and the immediate predecessor in the living of the present rector, the Rev. C. H. Wright. The deceased gentleman, who was 76 years of age, was a direct descendant of the great Sir Walter Scott. Since resigning Keston, he had not held a benefice, and for the last few years had been in ill-health. He was an extensive landowner in Suffolk.

ROYALTY VISIT TO CHISLEHURST. — Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany has consented to be present at a summer fete which it has been arranged to hold in the grounds of Camden House, Chislehurst, on the 29th June, in aid of the Deptford Fund. The object of the fund is the improvement physically, morally, socially, and religiously of the population in the poorer parts of the borough of Deptford, and the Princess, who is the president, has contributed £100 towards the guarantee fund for the building of a large hall and institute. An influential local Committee has been formed to make the necessary arrangements.

BIBLE SOCIETY'S WORK.—The Bromley auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society held its annual meeting on Tuesday, March 22nd, at the Bromley Town Hall, the Rev. A. G. Hellicar (vicar of Bromley) presiding. The report showed receipts amounting to £188 2s. 2d., and the sum of £175 had been remitted to the parent society, the balance remaining in hand being £9 0s. 3d. There had been an increase over the previous year in all the sources of receipts, and this very gratifying feature was generally commented on. Mr. E. T. Dennes, of Bromley, was appointed as honorary secretary, in the place of Mr. W. McKewan, whose resignation was received with regret. Addresses were given by the Chairman, the Rev. E. H. Pearce (deputation), Rev. Dr. Moinet, Rev. C. Romilly, and Rev. T. H. Whitamore.

THE COALFIELDS OF KENT.—On Friday, March 18th, Mr. J. Bavington Jones, of Dover, told the story of the finding of coal in Kent, to a fairly large audience assembled at the Bromley School of Science and Art, at the invitation of the Bromley Camera Club. Mr. S. B. Webber presided. The work of exploration for coal in Kent was described and an interesting account given of the mines near Dover, where sinking operations are now in full swing. The lecture was illustrated by some admirable photographs and diagrams, shown by means of a lantern kindly lent by Mr. Edgar T. Godward, honorary secretary of the Camera Club.

The will dated 1st February, 1898, of Mr. George Watts Quallett, "The Man in the Green," of 13, Bruton-street, and of Lord Hill Cottage, Bexleyheath, who died on February 16th last, aged eighty-one years has been proved, the personal estate being valued at £5,780.

Mr. Alderman Alliston, of Beckenham, will be one of the Sheriffs for the City of London for the ensuing year.

"IVA KILDARE,"

BY MRS. L. B. WALFORD,

Author of "Mr. Smith," "Cousins," "Frederick," "A Mere Child," "The Baby's Grandmother," etc., etc.

But lest our readers should miss it also—as they certainly would had they sat by in the dean's drawing-room, and witnessed the nonchalance with which Lady Tilbury acquitted herself of her mission—we may just inform them that no word of the above but had been carefully studied and mentally rehearsed; indeed, that the present expedition had been expressly undertaken for the purpose of carrying it out.

Not owing Mrs. Chancellor a call, she had made an excuse for one. Something had reached her ears which had not reached Iva's, and this was the result.

"Poor darling! So that was at the bottom of the sulky fit—and no wonder!" the sympathetic creature had cried in community with herself. "It has been set a-going that she and Reggie are sweethearts—set a-going before she knew it herself, and before ever a word had been spoken! Musha! that was what I was afraid of. I saw it coming. And she won't speak of it—not even to me. It's just deep down in her own heart, where she hides it close, close, as I did once, pretending to myself that I no more cared for Jack Kildare than the post by the garden gate"—the tender ruminations flowing freely—"but oh, my poor Iva, *your* Jack is not for you!"—the widow would sigh and wipe her eyes, full of love and pity. "Sure he's a fine boy, and I would have welcomed him as a son—ah, what's that I'm saying? Didn't Sir Thomas tell me to be careful, and not have him so much about when the girls grew up? And didn't I wonder what was to be done when I saw as plain as eyes could see that he and Iva were growing towards each other? Wasn't I fretting myself about it, for, try as we might, it was just impossible to keep Reggie off, the darling? There was *that* about him—sure, now, I'm an old fool!" and suddenly Lady Tilbury drew herself together, and shook off the melting mood. "It's no use, I tell you, no use whatever," cried she, angrily apostrophising herself, "sitting there, whining and weeping! Is it Iva's mother you are, and can't do better for her than this? Much she'll have to thank you for, if in her bad hour you let them point the finger at her!" Lady Tilbury rose and rang the bell. Iva need not have been afraid of what her mother would say at the Deanery.

"Dear me! There could not have been anything *really* between those two!" exclaimed Esther Chancellor, as the carriage rolled away from the door. "Of course, they have known each other all their lives, and as he was just going out to India she must have given him her photograph to take with him, and he had not had time to put it elsewhere."

"I thought you said they both looked most dreadfully caught?" asserted her next sister, aggrieved by the collapse of the romance.

"So they did. He in particular. I never saw Reggie Goffe look disconcerted before. Never imagined he could look disconcerted. And it was more than that—it was the terrified glance he threw at Iva! He seemed perfectly aghast; and well he might. Iva's face was a caution! It *was* enough to provoke a girl of Iva's temper to have such a thing happen—even if there were nothing serious behind. Iva is proud, and she is awfully particular. I never knew a girl so particular. Lady Tilbury is not half so particular as Iva.

"Lady Tilbury is not particular at all."

"And she is so very open. So frank and jolly. I do like Lady Tilbury! Everybody does; even mamma. It was so much better of her to say out that they were fond of Reggie Goffe, and would miss him, than to pretend there was any love affair, when I daresay there was nothing of the kind. Some people like to make out that every man who comes near their daughters falls a victim; that *is* so ridiculous, and it takes nobody in, because directly a man is really in love with a girl it is patent to everybody he meets." And Miss Esther Chancellor, who bade fair to become just such another shining light in cathedral circles as her esteemed parent, primmed up her lips, and felt that she had disposed of the subject conclusively.

She did not see Lady Tilbury smile to herself as the carriage drove on.

Iva, however, had a sudden illumination, and a month previously this would have found vent almost before the wheels began to turn. Why not? She and her mother always told each other everything, discussed every turn of events, poured into each other's ears all the trivial by-play, the "He saids" and "she saids" which go for so much in women's talk; wherefore it would have been the most natural thing in the world to have plunged *in medias res* on the present occasion.

But Iva's lips were glued together.

She wished—she longed to speak; her heart was aching from very loneliness—the loneliness of a long, silent month—and still she could not. It seemed as though she never could.

All had been so strange—and so quick. One day the old, pleasant, familiar state of things—Reggie a little dangerous, a little apt to encroach, but on the whole just Reggie, as to whom caution might be spurned and superfluous hints scouted, the next, a lover claiming a lover's privilege on the brink of an eternal separation.

It seemed the flash of a dream, that unreal afternoon in the November gloaming.

First there had been the commonplace meeting in the garden, with spectators standing by, and only a little mutual consciousness on her part and his, not without its charm.

It did not ill become a delinquent to be serious, and keep his eyes averted. There had been the pleasure of punishing him, the pleasure of knowing that he felt his punishment and knew perfectly to what it was due, as he stalked along by Miss St. Leger's side.

Miss St. Leger, cheerfully conversing with so acceptable a beau, might fancy herself in luck; but Iva knew better. She could interpret every lingering movement, every absent-minded halt; and the nervous, artificial laugh, the perfunctory rejoinder, the troubled, oppressed, downcast demeanour, all so unlike the usual Reggie—oh, how Ethel St. Leger would have stared if she had known!

To tell the truth frankly, Iva had enjoyed that half-hour.

Then had come the shock, felt to her very heart's foundation.

Not on her account altogether, then was the altered countenance of her friend—there was this behind.

A rupture of every tie to be made, a whole new cast of life to be taken within the space of a few short hours? Who would not have looked thoughtful, overcast—who, at least, that was not brimming with the excitement of anticipation?

And that Reggie was not brimming was very evident. One swift glance he threw at Iva when the news was out, communicated in Sir Philip's thin, tremulous, high-pitched accents—and the glance pierced through her like a knife—but he had relapsed instantly into his former attitude, and scarcely responded at all to the fresh efforts of Miss St. Leger. Even Ethel had left off bombarding, and taken to playing with Jess, the spaniel, ere the house was reached.

And then—how often Iva saw what happened then! The apparently matter-of-course arrangement by which she fell behind, and marshalled her guests in front; her pretext of summoning her sisters, in hopes that Reggie would remain in the hall to meet them, and give her a chance, one chance, of saying a kind word; his resolute grasp upon the moment, and determination to wring from it more than this; the very snapping of the lock in the door of the little room, as it closed behind him and her—all, all were indelibly stamped upon her memory for ever.

In visions of the night she could hear the choking whisper, hear that she was beloved—yes, that was joy; but ah, how soon to be followed by the sinking of the heart when, all over, he turned to go; and yet again, the throb of that one passionate embrace which set its seal upon the whole burning scene, but seemed to steal the poison from it!

How, after this, could Iva speak of Reggie to her mother, or to anyone?

CHAPTER XXI.

"OF COURSE YOU WANT TO HUNT."

It was a sparkling, bright December morning, exactly three years after we last saw our *dramatis personæ*, and we may say in a word that although the period had not been barren of trivial events, episodes, and alterations, in the main its features were unchanged.

Sir Philip Goffe was flourishing, as we left him, on the proceeds of his departed patrimony; Reggie was still with his regiment in India, and had merely quitted one frontier station for another; Lady Tilbury and Iva had returned from autumn visits and a London season, and were settled down at Tilbury Court for the winter; and Mr. Druitt—let us take Mr. Druitt first by the hand.

Bright though the day was, it was a hunting day, and Mr. Druitt, attired in a sober hunting suit, but smart withal, was standing outside his open door, waiting for his horse to be brought round. When the new proprietor of the Goffe estate took up his residence in Somersetshire, it had been a question whether or no he would ride to hounds; and no one had pondered the question more anxiously than Mr. Druitt himself. He longed to do so. From his youth he had envied all who could; but now that the time had come when no bar offered itself to the accomplishment of his desire, he experienced a natural timidity on more grounds than one.

It was not only that he was no longer youthful and supple; there were other fears at work.

Suppose the Hunt regarded him as an intruder? Or, while tolerating the intruder for the sake of his subscription, jeered among themselves at his riding? He knew nothing about horses. Suppose he were badly mounted?

A dozen minor perplexities had nearly scared him off the idea, but, as luck would have it, Mr. Druitt was at home when the Master called, and the Master had been asked to call by Lady Tilbury.

Although Mrs. Puddington was still alive—still dragging out a fretful existence 'twixt sofa and medicine bottles—Lady Tilbury continued to hold her place in the coarse, blustering squire's regard, and he would take from her what he would not have stood from anybody else—an authoritative hint. Having been desired in very distinct terms to call on Mr. Druitt, he did so.

(To be continued.)

Births.

Attenborough.—On the 25th Feb., at Rockford, Barnmead-road, Beckenham, the wife of J. Arthur Attenborough, of a son.

Barnes.—On the 11th March, at 41, Clock-house-road, Beckenham, the wife of Reginald G. Barnes, of a son

Boosey.—On the 1st March, at Shortlands, the wife of C. T. Boosey, of a daughter.

Brown.—On the 13th March, at 10, Foxgrove-road, Beckenham, the wife of F. Latham Brown, of a son.

Housden.—On the 4th March, at Lyndale, Tweedy-road, Bromley, Kent, the wife of R. S. A. Housden, of a son.

Norman.—On the 24th Feb., at Bromley Common, Kent, the wife of Archibald Cameron Norman, of a son.

Whitby.—On the 5th March, at Clareville, Ethelbert-road, Bromley, the wife of Arthur G. Whitby, of a daughter.

Marriages.

McKewan—Marsh.—On the 18th Jan., at All Saints' Church, Geelong, Victoria, by the Rev. — Kelly, Arthur Charles, youngest son of William McKewan, of Bickley, Kent, to Ruth, second daughter of the late John H. Marsh, Ceylon Government Service, and Mrs. Marsh.

Sullivan—Wilmore.—On the 3rd March, at St. Matthew's, Denmark Hill, by the Rev. J. R. Porte, D.D., assisted by the Rev. H. A. Day, B.A., Basil Thomas Sullivan, youngest son of William Sullivan, to Lily, youngest daughter of the late William Wilmore, of Penge.

Deaths.

Alston.—On the 4th March, at 11, The Avenue, Beckenham, Hugh Jones Alston, younger son of the late Rev. Albert Alston, D.D., aged 34 years.

Criswick.—On the 8th March, at Beckenham, Robert, the beloved second son of James and Frances Criswick, aged 29 years.

Hayward.—On the 22nd of March, at Bromley, Kent, Mary Hayward, niece of the late Mrs. Hissey, of 34, Park-road, aged 62.

Howard.—On the 1st March, at Ewell, Bromley Common, Maria, widow of the late John Howard, formerly of Tenterden, Kent, in her 88th year.

Middlemiss.—On the 13th, at 1, Park Grove, Robert, younger son of the late William Middlemiss, aged 29. Deeply mourned.

White.—On March 14th, at 6, Camden-terrace, Chislehurst, Mercy Rebecca, youngest daughter of Mr. B. J. White, in her 17th year.

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 passed away April 12th, 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

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

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).

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.

Work Wanted.

DRESSMAKING wanted by Widow Lady.—Please Address, Mrs. Gilbert 79, Simpsons Road, Bromley.

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

NURSE (middle aged) highly respectable person, total abstainer, would like to meet with Employment, temporary or otherwise, to Invalid Lady or Gentleman; good references. Apply, Mrs. R., 67A, Beckenham Lane, Shortlands, Kent.

Wanted to Purchase.

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.

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.

KENT WATER WORKS.

PUBLIC NOTICE—CHANGE OF COLLECTORS.

MR. GEORGE J. GILL has been appointed to the COLLECTORSHIP OF THE BROMLEY DISTRICT, as from and after the 25th March, and will receive all payments and remittances for water rates at his Office, 5, Market Square, Bromley.

ALEXANDER DICKSON,
Secretary of the Company.

23rd March, 1898.

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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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

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.

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.

ESTABLISHED 1797.

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 Store 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

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 1898. Sales will also be held on special days when required:

Wednesday, April	20th.	Wednesday, August	10th.
Wednesday, May	4th.	Wednesday, August	31st.
Wednesday, May	18th.	Wednesday, September	14th.
Wednesday, June	8th.	Wednesday, September	28th.
Wednesday, June	29th.	Wednesday, October	5th.
Wednesday, July	6th.	Wednesday, November	9th.
Wednesday, July	27th.	Wednesday, December	7th.

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

KENT, BROMLEY COMMON.—Valuable Live and Dead Farming Stock and Miscellaneous Effects.

MESSRS. BAXTER, PAYNE, & LEPPER will Sell by Auction upon the premises, the Dairy Farm, Gravel-road, on Wednesday, April 6th, 1898, at 1 for 2 o'clock precisely, 30 milch cows in full profit and calf, 16 heifers, 6 calves, a well-bred shorthorn bull, 4 powerful and active cart horses, 3 cobs, 2 ponies, and a quantity of poultry; also, capital farm implements, including nearly new horse gear and intermediate motion, chaff cutters, hay-making machine, rakes, cloths, ropes, and pulleys, churns, feeding cribs, &c., together with a waggonette with cushions, nearly new tip cart, milk cart, two light spring vans, a four-horse grain waggon, and sundry effects.

May be viewed the day previous and morning of sale, and Catalogues obtained at the Inns of the district, and of Baxter, Payne, & Lepper, Auctioneers and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William-street, E.C.

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., &c.

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

THE

BROMLEY RECORD

AND

MONTHLY ADVERTISER.

No. 478. MAY, 1898. 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.

PROPERTIES WANTED. — Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper have an increasing demand for unfurnished and furnished Houses in the above-mentioned districts, and will be glad to receive particulars of any such properties which will at once be placed before applicants whose requirements the same are likely to meet. The principal properties in this district change hands through the medium of Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper's extensive connection.

BROMLEY.—Charming detached Residence. Six bedrooms, three reception rooms, bath room (h. and c.), dressing room; good domestic offices on ground floor. Capital garden. Rent, £75. 14345

CHISLEHURST.—Handsome detached Residence, standing in about two acres of charming grounds. Ten bedrooms, dressing room, two box rooms, four reception rooms. Commodious stabling. More land could be had if required. 14352

BROMLEY PARK.—Well built detached Residence in one of the best positions in the locality. Standing in almost an acre of ground. Nine bedrooms, bathroom (h. and c.), dressing room, four reception rooms, and usual domestic offices. Price, Freehold, £2,650. 14291

BICKLEY.—Pretty detached Residence, approached by carriage drive, and in good position close to station. Six bedrooms, etc. Stabling. Capital garden. Rent, £130 on agreement. £120 on lease. 14218

BROMLEY.—In a high position, within easy reach of the L.C. and D. Railway. Capital semi-detached Residence, with delightful garden. Stabling, greenhouses, etc. Ample accommodation. Rent, £80 per annum. 14164

SHORTLANDS.—In a high position. Detached Residence, standing in about one acre of ground. Ample accommodation, tennis lawn, small greenhouse, etc. Rent, £145 per annum. 14106

BROMLEY.—In centre of town. Commodious detached Residence, in good position. Seven bedrooms, bath room (h. and c.), three reception rooms, and usual offices. Rent, £100 per annum. Price, Freehold, £1900. 14016

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 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 TUESDAYS from 2.0 to 4 o'clock.

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 Tuesdays 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, 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, 32, Park 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 of Weaving. Carding, Spinning, and fancy Lace Making taught. For all Particulars apply Mrs. Falconer Sinclair, who will be pleased to show specimens, &c. The Croft, Crescent-road, Bromley, Kent (S.E. Station, Sundridge Park).

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

G. PAMPHILON & SON,

THE OLDEST ESTABLISHED

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS

IN

BROMLEY.

FULL DETAILED PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

PORT.	per doz.	per bot.
TARRAGONA PORT	12/0	1/0
GENUINE DOURO WINE ...	18/0	1/6
BURNAY, 1891	24/0	2/0
FINE OLD FRUITY	30/0	2/6
COCKBURN'S FINE OLD ...	36/0	3/0
FINE OLD CRUSTED WINES, from	42/0	3/6

And upwards.

SHERRY.		
FULL PALE...	12/0	1/0
NATURAL	16/0	1/4
LIGHT SOUND WINE	24/0	2/0
DINNER SHERRY	30/0	2/6
CHOICE OLD, from	36/6	3/0

And upwards.

CLARET.		
SOUND GOOD	12/0	1/0
VIN ORDINAIRE	15/0	1/3
MEDOC	18/0	1/6
ST. JULIEN	24/0	2/0

BURGUNDY.		
GENUINE	15/0	1/3
MACON	20/0	1/8
BEAUJOLAIS	24/0	2/0
BEAUNE	30/0	2/6

CHAMPAGNES.		
WINES FROM	36/0	3/0
LOUIS PAMPHILON, 1889 Ve.	60/0	5/0
LOUIS PAMPHILON, EXTRA QUALITY, 1892 Vintage ...	78/0	6/6

HALF-BOTTLES, 2/9 and 3/6.

SCOTCH WHISKY.	per doz.	per bot.
GOOD OLD (33 under proof) ...	24/0	2/0
SUPERIOR	30/0	2/6
FINE OLD	36/0	3/0
GLENLIVET BLEND	42/0	3/6
UAM VAR	42/0	3/6
J DEWAR, PERTH	42/0	3/6
J. WALKER, KILMARNOCK	42/0	3,6
PAMPHILON'S VOS (Unrivalled)	48/0	4/0

IRISH WHISKY.		
GOOD OLD (33 under proof) ...	24/0	2/0
SUPERIOR	30/0	2/6
FINE OLD	36/0	3/0
G. ROE'S	42/0	3/6
DUNVILLE'S V.R.	42/0	3/6
JOHN JAMESON'S OLD BONDED	42/0	3/6

BEST LONDON GIN.		
UNSWEETENED (40 under proof)	18/0	1/6
UNSWEETENED or SWEETENED	24/0	2/0
FINEST OLD TOM	30/0	2/6
FINEST UNSWEETENED ...	30/0	2/6

BRANDY.		
BRITISH BRANDY	30/0	2/6
BLENDED BRANDY	42/0	3/6
PURE COGNAC	54/0	4/6
VERY CHOICE ****	69/0	5/9
HENNESSY'S. OUR OWN SHIPPING and BOTTLING	66/0	5/6

RUM.		
BLENDED	30/0	2,6
OLD JAMAICA	36/0	3/0
VERY CHOICE	42/0	3/6

IMPERIAL QUART OF TARRAGONA PORT, 1/-

(BOTTLE INCLUDED).

PLEASE COMPARE QUALITY.

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BATCHELAR & SON

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UPHOLSTERERS,

6, WIDMORE ROAD, BROMLEY.

GOOD WEARING CARPETS.

MODERATE PRICES.

BATCHELAR AND SON are NOW SHOWING all the Newest Productions in CARPETS for the coming season and hold a very Large Stock of all the Best Makes in Axminster, Wilton and Brussels, so that New Carpets can be made and laid down in a few hours after selection. Batchelar and Son being in Telephonic Communication with the Manufacturers are enabled to give prompt attention to special orders for particular colourings, and have always a fine selection of these Goods, patterns of which can be forwarded immediately on receipt of letter or telegram. Batchelar and Son have a large staff of Experienced Planners and pay special attention to the making.

IMPERIAL AXMINSTER CARPETS

OR

BEST 5-FRAME BRUSSELS

WITH BORDERS.

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

Larger and Smaller Carpets in proportion.

BATCHELAR & SON,

LIMITED,

CARPET WAREHOUSEMEN,

BROMLEY.

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 resident Staff of Graduates. Every facility for Sports, under the supervision of Masters. Over 5 acres of cricket and football fields immediately adjoining the 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; and Gymnastic Classes in School Gymnasium.

Drilling and Physical Training by Sergeant Instructor Hardy.

For Prospectus and further information apply to

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

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MARKET SQUARE, BROMLEY,

AND AT

Sundridge Hall Farm, Coney Hall Farm, and Home Farm.

(Under Sanitary Supervision),

Established to supply the Surrounding Districts with Pure High-class Dairy Produce.

OVER 100 COWS KEPT.

Special Cows for Nursery and Invalids' Milk.

Families supplied with Pure New Milk Three Times Daily. Cream 3s. per Quart.
Fresh Butter Churned Every Morning. New Laid Eggs from our own Fowls.

SPECIAL TERMS TO SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS.

The favour of your recommendation is solicited.

G. A. TRENHOLM, *Manager*

ESTABLISHED 1797.

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Watch and Clock Maker, Jeweller, Silversmith, Electro Plater and Gilder,

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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.

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BUSINESS CARDS.

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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

APPOINTED BY SPECIAL ROYAL WARRANT

SOAP MAKERS TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

Strong arms
are not necessary to do the washing when

Sunlight Soap

is used; it does nearly all the work itself. Just rub a little on the clothes, roll them up and put them back in the water. Then when you take them out you will see that

Sunlight Soap does the work.

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.

The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

MAY, 1898.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st. *Third Sunday after Easter.*

2nd.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Audit of accounts of the Bromley Rural District Council and the Bromley Board of Guardians, at 9.45 a.m., at 96, High-street, Bromley, by Mr. W. G. Cox, assistant district auditor.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board at the Wharton-road Schools, Bromley, at 8 p.m.

3rd.—Shortlands Choral Society's final concert of the season at the Parish Room, Shortlands.

4th.—Yeomanry sports at Sundridge Park.—Performance of "Judah" at the Bromley Grand Hall by the Bromley Amateur Dramatic Society, in aid of the funds of the Bromley Cottage Hospital.—Sales by Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper, at the Mart, City, E.C., of "East Lodge," Bexley Heath, and "Ebury Villa," Farnborough, at 2 p.m.

5th.—Sale of freehold building land at Bromley Common, "The Cottage," Addison-road, and "Elm Villas," Farnborough, by Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper, at the Bell Hotel, Bromley, at 8 p.m.

8th. *Fourth Sunday after Easter.*

9th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Audit of accounts of the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board at 9.45 a.m., and the West Kent Main Sewerage Board, at 2 p.m., both at 96, High-street, Bromley, by Mr. W. G. Cox, the assistant district auditor.

10th.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council, at the Council Offices, East-street, Bromley.—Anniversary tea and public meeting at the Bromley Common Baptist Church, Gravel-road.—Annual session of the Wesleyan District Synod, at the Bromley Wesleyan Church, and on two following days.

15th. *Fifth Sunday after Easter.*

16th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board at the Wharton-road Schools, Bromley, at 8 p.m.

20th.—Bazaar in aid of Dr. Barnardo's Homes at the Drill Hall, Bromley.

22nd. *Sunday after Ascension.*

23rd.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

24th.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council, at the Council Offices, East-street, Bromley.

25th.—Sitting of the Bromley County Court, at the Court House, Bromley.

29th. *Whit-Sunday.*—Musical service at the St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common, at 3.30 p.m.

30th. *Whit-Monday—Bank Holiday.*

31st.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

Since the April issue of the "Record," four meetings of the above Authority have taken place, including the annual meeting, which was held, after the elections, on April 19th.

THE HEALTH OF BROMLEY.

There was not much business for transaction at the meeting held on March 29th, and the principal feature in the correspondence consisted of the Medical Officer's annual report which was presented in manuscript and ordered to be printed and circulated. From this document it appeared that the death-rate in Bromley for the past year had been very low, being equal to 10·2 per thousand, and it was pointed out that this was the lowest local death-rate since 1883. The death-rate for the past year for England and Wales was 17·4, and 13·2 for the outer ring of London. This gratifying announcement was commented upon with satisfaction by the members.

LARGE IRRECOVERABLE BALANCE.

From the Finance Committee's report it appeared that they had had before them the auditor's report referring to certain irrecoverable balances appearing in the balance-sheet for the year ending March 31st, 1897, consisting of £483 11s. 2d. on the Private Works account, and £721 4s. 3d. interest on private street improvements, and they recommended the transference of those amounts to the District Fund.—This recommendation was adopted without comment.

THE YEAR'S WORK.

The last meeting of the old Council took place on Thursday, April 14th, when Mr. W. R. Mallett (who presided) followed the usual custom of reviewing the work of the Council during the past twelve months. The local celebration of the Diamond Jubilee was first alluded to as being worthy of the occasion and a credit to the town, and Mr. Coles Child's gift of the greater part of the White Hart Field, to be used as a pleasure-ground for the town, was mentioned in this connection. Passing to the Council business, Mr. Mallett pointed out how successful the experiment of printing the minutes of the meetings had proved, and that their re-modelled bye-laws had received the approval of the Local Government Board. The provision of a fire station and proper appliances had been satisfactorily carried out, and the sanitary arrangements of the town improved. The Water Company's decision to provide a constant water supply would be a valuable aid to sanitation, and the Council had wisely re-joined the Kent authorities in opposing the London County Council in their effort to get control of the water supply. The lighting of the town had also been improved, and the widenings of the High-street, by the re-

building of the "Bell" and the "Star and Garter," were great improvements, as were also the widenings effected at Beckenham-lane, College-road, Plaistow-lane, Crown-lane, Chislehurst-road, and at the bottom of Glassmill-lane. Other roads had also been widened and taken over. Turning to their financial position, Mr. Mallett pointed out that while the sum of £8,819 had been added to the loan debt of £55,988, the sum of £2,310 had been repaid, so that the actual increase in the debt only amounted to £6,509, and this included some recoverable amounts. The expenditure had been £36,985, and this year it was estimated to amount to £32,518, showing a saving of £4,467, so that a rate for the year of 3s. 5d. in the £, as against 3s. 7d. in the last year, was anticipated. In conclusion, reference was made to the transfer of the Council's electric lighting powers to a private company, and the repayment to the Council of the costs incurred by them in the matter. On the whole, Mr. Mallett said they had had a hard year's work, but most of their schemes had been carried to a successful issue.

Votes of Thanks.

The customary vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman for his able services in that capacity; and Mr. Gilbert, who made his last appearance, having been defeated at the election, expressed his thanks to the members for the kindness they had extended to him during his three years' service.

Lighter Rates.

The Finance Committee's recommendation that a rate of 1s. 9d. in the £ for the half-year ending September next be made, and that the rate for the half-year ending March 31st, 1899, be fixed at 1s. 8d. in the £—being a reduction of 2d. in the £ for the year—was adopted. One or two members questioned the wisdom of making a rate for the second half-year, as they could not foresee what might be required.

The Water Question.

A copy of the evidence proposed to be given by the Clerk before the London Water Commission was submitted by the General Purposes Committee, and approved after some discussion, in which several members took exception to the statement that the water supply for the district had been abundant.

Annual Meeting.

There was a full attendance of members at the annual meeting of the Council which was held on April 19th, and Mr. D. Grinsted was voted to the chair pro. tem.

The Chairmanship.

The Chairmanship was the first business to deal with, and Mr. McIntyre, in answer to a question, declined to accept the position.—Mr. Worley then proposed that Mr. Mallett be elected to the chair, and referred to the very capable manner in which Mr. Mallett had presided over their meetings during the absence of Mr. T. Davis.—This resolution was seconded by Mr. D. Payne.—Mr. McIntyre expressed his appreciation of Mr. Mallett's services, but thought the late Chairman (Mr. Davis) was best fitted for the post, and accordingly proposed his election.—Mr. Mayne seconded this proposition.—Upon being put to the vote, Mr. Mallett was elected by a majority of seven; and he subsequently returned thanks for the honour bestowed upon him.

The Vice-Chair.

No one took exception to the proposal of Dr. Price that Mr. G. H. Payne should be elected as Vice-Chairman; and the resolution was carried unanimously.—Mr. G. H. Payne expressed his thanks for the compliment paid him.

Committees and Representatives.

The various Committees of the Council were then appointed, the principal alteration being the substitution of the names of Messrs. H. Nye and F. Lord for those of Mr. H. C. Bond and S. H. Gilbert (the defeated candidates). Messrs. G. Lawrence, G. Payne, and Dr. A. E. Price were re-appointed as representatives on the West Kent Main Sewerage Board; and Messrs. G. Lawrence and G. Payne were again chosen to represent the Council on the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board.

A Proposed Light Railway.

At the Council's meeting on April 27th, the proposal of the South London Tramways Company to acquire the necessary powers for constructing a light railway from London to Bromley and Farnborough, was brought forward by a letter from Mr. T. Ranson, of Mason's Hill, Bromley, strongly protesting against the scheme. He stated that it would be strenuously opposed by property-owners and residents in his neighbourhood, and asked the Council to support them.—Mr. Lawrence expressed his hope that the Council would favour the proposal, but Mr. G. H. Payne pointed out that as it was proposed to utilise parts of the public highways, the matter would need to be very carefully considered.—The Chairman observed that the Council had not yet had the question officially placed before them; and it was agreed to consider Mr. Ranson's letter when the application has been made by the promoters.

The L. C. and D. R. Bill.

It was reported by the Council's solicitors—Messrs. Willett and Latter—that, in accordance with the decision of the Council arrived at in committee, the L.C. and D.R Company had undertaken to withdraw from their Bill the paragraph relating to the proposed diversion of the footpath at Mason's Hill, and under these circumstances the Council's petition had been withdrawn.

A Disputed "White Hart" Gateway.

Mr. H. Nye, the new member for the Sundridge Ward, moved a resolution at this meeting to the effect that Mr. Grinsted in having opened a gateway from his premises to the White Hart Field had committed a trespass, and instructing the Surveyor to make such trespass void by placing iron hurdles along the front of Mr. Grinsted's fence. In a long speech Mr. Nye contended that Mr. Grinsted had no right to make such an entry, and urged the Council to assert its rights. Mr. F. Lord seconded; but in the discussion which followed it was stated that Mr. Grinsted had only revived a right exercised by his predecessor in title. The question was regarded as a purely legal one, and the majority of members who took part in the discussion, considered that Mr. Grinsted had acted within his rights. Upon being put to the meeting, the resolution was rejected by 9 votes to 2.

Legal Difficulties Settled.

From correspondence received from the Council's solicitors, it appeared that the action of Davis and Whitehead v. the Council and S. Hawkings (Surveyor), in which damages were claimed by reason of the drains of four of the plaintiffs' houses in Alma Grove being disconnected from the public sewer, had been settled, amended plans being agreed upon, and each party consenting to pay their own costs. The case had been partly heard in the Chancery Court, and adjourned, and on April 22nd the Court made an order, by consent, staying all further proceedings in the action.—At the same meeting a letter was also read from Mr. G. Whitehead, J.P., consenting to accept the sum of £100 in settlement of his claim for compensation for damage done to property owned by him at Highland-road in consequence of an alteration

being made in the level of the road by the Council. Mr. Whitehead expressed the opinion that both the ratepayers and himself had been put to much unnecessary expense, and that the Council should have accepted his original offer to take the sum of £75 in settlement.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Council, on April 27th, made a District Rate at 1s. 9d. in the £ for the current half-year. —Mr. Mayne proposed that the meetings should commence at 8 p.m. instead of at 7.30 p.m., but this was rejected by 6 votes to 5.—The General Purposes Committee were requested to take into consideration the Council's position under the Employers' Liability Act, which comes into force on July 1st next.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

During the month this Board met twice, on 4th and 18th ult.

PUPIL TEACHERS' SUCCESSES.

At the meeting on the 4th ult., the results of the Queen's Scholarship examination held in December last, so far as they related to the pupil teachers of the Bromley School Board, were submitted as follows:—Valley Boys' School, Garnet W. Harris, 2nd class, 350; Raglan-road Girls' School, Edith E. Brazier (pupil teacher under the Birmingham Board, since appointed under the Bromley Board), 1st class, 1,117; Ella H. Atkins, 2nd class, 854; Raglan-road Infants' School, Daisy A. Collins, 2nd class, 1,341; Louisa E. Palmer, 3rd class, 1,221; Aylesbury-road Boys' School, Frederick T. Santer, 1st class, 300; Wharton-road Infants' School, Florence W. Clayton, 3rd class, 1,414 (pupil teacher at Bromley National Schools, since appointed under the Bromley School Board). It was mentioned that that was the first time that the Board had had a teacher come out in the first division at that examination, as Mr. Santer had done, and it was suggested that the School Management Committee should consider the question of making a contribution towards such a teacher's college expenses.

THE CARETAKER'S HOUSE.

Two tenders for the erection of the Wharton-road School caretaker's house were received, the figures being as follows:—T. D. Graty, £491; and J. C. Arnaud & Son, £639. The estimated cost was about £300, and the prices in the tenders caused considerable surprise, the Board having revised the plans in order to bring the cost within £300. It was decided to refer the tenders to the architect, and at the next Board meeting Mr. Bell (the architect) attended, and upon the recommendation of the School Management Committee the Board resolved to invite tenders for the erection of the house according to fresh plans, from Messrs Arnaud, Crossley, Graty, Duthoit, D. Payne, Hutchings, Chapman, Lowe, and L. Evans.

HALF-YEARLY AUDIT.

The Clerk reported that the half-yearly audit of the Board's accounts took place on April 15th, and that all the items were passed and the audit completed the same day.

PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATES.

The Education Department wrote with reference to the revised regulations as to certificates of age, proficiency, and school attendance. It was expressly pointed out respecting the frequent contention that a child could be said to have reached a standard for the purposes of the bye-laws without having individually passed in the subjects of that or a higher standard, that in order to satisfy the bye-laws a child must not only have reached the prescribed standard, but must have received a certificate from one of H.M.'s Inspectors that it had reached the standard. Further facilities for the examination of children desiring certificates of proficiency were also provided.

REVISED BYE-LAWS.

The Education Department wrote approving of the Board revising bye-laws; and it was agreed to have proof copies type-written for the members, and to invite tenders from the local printers for printing fifty copies of the annual statement in book-form.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Quarterly fee grants amounting to £89 17s. 6d. in respect of the Raglan-road School, and £58 7s. 6d. in respect of the Valley School, were received.—Various repairs were ordered to be carried out at the Raglan-road Schools, and the application of the caretaker for increased remuneration was adjourned until September.

KENT CONGREGATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

Beckenham Congregational Church has seldom, if ever before, been the scene of so much concentrated activity, as was seen within its precincts during the three days ending April 27th, when the 106th annual assembly of the Kent Congregational Association took place there. Ministers from nearly every town in the county were present, and the public meetings were largely attended by members of the various Free Churches in the locality. On Monday evening, 25th ultimo, a Free Church Federation meeting was held in the chapel, under the auspices of the Bromley, Beckenham, and District Free Church Council, presided over by Mr. Percy Bunting (editor of the "Contemporary Review"). Stirring addresses were delivered by the Chairman and the Rev. J. G. Greenhough, M.A., on the aims of the Free Church movement, and the progress of Nonconformity throughout the country. At an early morning service on Tuesday, the Rev. T. Eynon Davies preached; and at eleven o'clock an interesting conference on village work was opened by a paper on the subject read by the Rev. T. R. Archer, of West Borough, Maidstone. Luncheon was presided over by the Rev. E. Bolton (of Northfleet), and in the evening the annual Association sermon was preached by the Rev. W. Justin Evans, of Lewisham High-road; and a Communion service followed, over which the Rev. T. Eynon Davies presided. Wednesday's proceedings commenced with an early morning sermon by the Rev. A. J. Palmer (of Folkestone); and after breakfast the annual business meeting took place, presided over by Mr. James Bills (of Gravesend). The following elections were made for the year:—Chairman of the Association, Rev. A. F. Joscelyne, B.A. (of Sydenham); Preacher, Rev. T. Eynon Davies (Beckenham); Vice-chairman, Mr. J. Fells, J.P. (Ramsgate); and Secretary, the Rev. S. Sabine Read (of Deptford). It was also agreed to hold next year's assembly at Ramsgate. A conference followed at noon, when a paper on "The New Evangelicalism" was read by the Rev. R. Fotheringham, M.A. (of Blackheath); and at the delegates' luncheon Mr. Albert Spicer, M.P., who presided, spoke of the need for church extension. The Rev. E. Bolton presided over the annual public meeting in the evening, and in the course of his address spoke of the duty of ministers in relation to general society. The Rev. J. Ossian Davies and other ministers also addressed the meeting. The arrangements for the gatherings were admirably carried out by Mr. R. Murray Hyslop, as honorary secretary, assisted by a strong local committee, of which the Rev. T. Eynon Davies was chairman.

MUSIC OF THE MONTH.

BROMLEY MUSICAL SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, 26th April, the fourth concert of the season was given by the above society at the Drill Hall.

The programme opened with Weber's beautiful overture to "Euryanthe," a work which makes very severe demands upon the executants, and which has, we believe, never before been performed in Bromley. The orchestra, however, led as usual by Mr. Norman Bath, were fully equal to the occasion, and neither in any of the instrumental works, nor in their accompaniments to the choir, did they leave any opening for criticism.

The chief interest of the evening undoubtedly centred in Hofmann's cantata, "Melusina." The plot is a tragic one, based on an old legend of a certain "Count Raymond," who marries a water nymph whom he only knows as a woman, but who is suspected and denounced by the people as a witch. Naturally, there is a very strong dramatic element in the piece, which makes the title role especially a very trying one. Both this part and that of the Count, however, were well sustained, Miss Amy Sargent and Mr. B. H. Latter being both gifted with a good share of dramatic feeling. Miss Amy Grossmith as Clotilda, had evidently carefully studied her part, which though a subordinate one, received at her hands a very adequate interpretation.

Mr. W. H. Inglis, to whom were allotted the two minor parts of "Sintram" and the "King of the Water Spirits," has an excellent voice, but might with advantage cultivate more fully the power of expression.

In the second part of the programme (which was largely instrumental) the first place was given to "Four Characteristic Dances," to which additional interest was imparted by the fact that the composer, Mr. R. N. Flux, is well known in Promley, being a young resident in this district. They are tuneful and attractive, but without any striking originality.

In the exquisitely written part song, "The Silent Land" (A. R. Gaul), the choir were heard at their very best; and their rendering of "The Bells of St. Michael's Tower" was also much enjoyed. Miss Sargent sang "Summer" (Chaminade) very sweetly; and with the performance by the orchestra of Raff's "Fest March" the concert and the eighteenth season of the society came to a close.

It may safely be said that at no previous time has the society acquitted itself better, and each concert of the season has afforded ample evidence of the power of Mr. F. L. Thomas as a conductor, and of the influence he exercises over those whom he so ably directs.

BECKENHAM CHORAL SOCIETY.

A most enjoyable and successful concert was given at the Beckenham Public Hall on Tuesday evening, 26th April, by the Beckenham Choral Society, under the direction of Mr. G. J. Hall, F.R.C.O. The "piece de resistance" was "Acis and Galatea," which was admirably performed; solos, choruses, and accompaniment (strings and piano) being alike excellent, though occasionally, as in the duet "Happy Lovers," there was some tendency for the strings to overpower the voice part.

Miss Teresa Blamy, who possesses considerable dramatic power, as well as a fine voice, gave the soprano solos very effectively; Mr. Edward Branscombe sang the tenor airs in his usual admirable style; and Mr. Arthur Walenn won great applause as "Polyphemus." Each of the artistes received enthusiastic recalls in some of the more popular numbers.

The choir gave evidence of most efficient and painstaking training, the gradations of light and shade throughout being rendered in a manner deserving the highest praise. This was specially noticeable in the beautiful chorus "Mourn all ye Muses," the pianissimo passages in which (sung without accompaniment), were exceedingly effective.

The second part of the programme was of portentous length, seeing that it was nearly ten o'clock before the first item in it was reached, but full of interest, and with the exception of one part song, the whole of it was gone through. Miss Maud Evans gave a violin solo "Souvenir de Sorrento" Papini) and her brilliant execution drew forth a perfect ovation. Miss Grace Evans played a "Romance" by Fischer as a 'cello solo, with exquisite taste and expression; Mr. Branscombe held the audience spell-bound with the weird old sea song "The Lowland Sea" (arranged by himself); Miss Blamy charmed them by her exquisite singing of "Marinella" (Rendegger), and her sympathetic rendering of Deacon's song. "Autumn Days"; and Mr. Walenn achieved a decided success with Cobb's new song "Morituri te Salutant." He also sang as a single number two songs "King Duncan's Daughters" and "A Kingdom for a Smile"; and Mr. Branscombe sang a Venetian Serenade by Smart.

In Dr. Stanford's beautiful Pastorale "Sweet Love for me," and in the part song "Allen-a-Dale," which was sung very vigorously, with orchestral accompaniment, the choir displayed the same perfect training that had characterised their singing in the choruses.

In spite of bad weather and counter attractions, there was a large audience, which showed the keenest enjoyment and appreciation of the whole performance.

JOTTINGS.

The music of "Acis and Galatea" is very beautiful, but is it so completely fascinating as to rob conductor and executants of all perception of the time it occupies? In February the work was performed at Bromley, and last month at Beckenham; and on each occasion it was bracketed with a programme of miscellaneous pieces quite impossible of performance within ordinary time limits. The result in both cases was that part of the programme had to be omitted, the concert was unduly prolonged, and the number of persons compelled to leave before the close, caused much annoyance to those who remained.

Another query: When a first-class concert is to be given at Bromley and another at Beckenham, would it not be easy to arrange that they should not both take place at the same time? On the 26th ultimo many persons must have had to choose between the Bromley Musical Society and the Beckenham Choral Society, who would gladly have been present at both functions had they occurred on different nights.

There is to be a concert at St. James's Hall on the 11th of May in aid of Westminster Hospital, which alike on account if its object and the unusually rich programme it offers, is worthy of attention.

During the summer more than 30 bands will be playing in the various open spaces in connection with the London County Council.

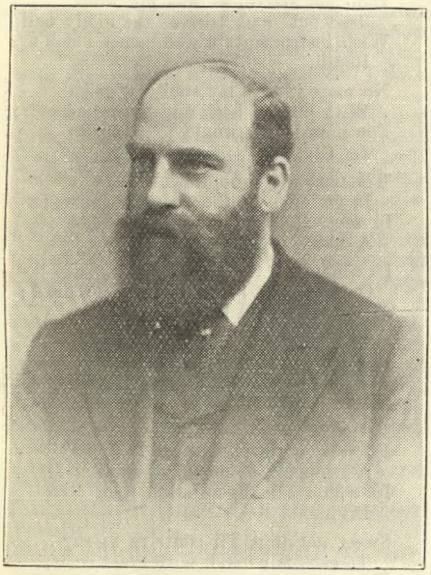
In the Parliamentary golf handicap on 23rd ult. Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., receiving 11 strokes, defeated Mr. W. Wilson, M.P.

BROMLEY AND BECKENHAM COUNCILS.

THE NEW CHAIRMEN.

MR. W. R. MALLETT, J.P., BROMLEY.

Mr. William Robert Mallett, of Tweedy-road, Bromley, was on April 19th elected Chairman of the Bromley Urban Council for the ensuing year, having filled the office of vice-chairman for the past twelve months, and having been acting Chairman, owing to the absence of Mr. T. Davis, for the last few months. Mr. Mallett was first elected a member of the Bromley Urban District



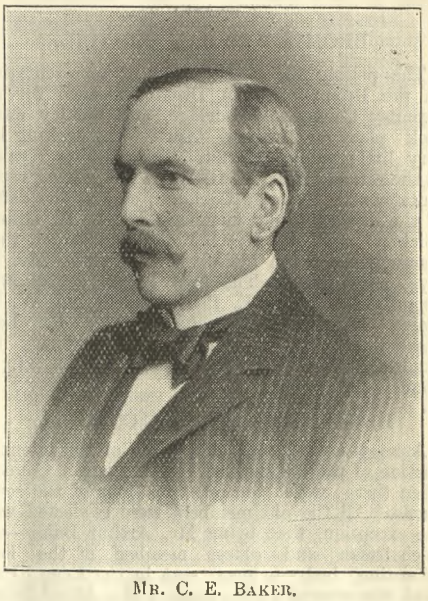
MR. W. R. MALLETT.
Stereoscopic Co. [*116 & 118, Regent St., W.*

Council in December 1894, when the old Local Board was superseded by the new authority. His rise to the most honourable office within the reach of district councillors has therefore been unusually rapid, but it has been thoroughly earned by the painstaking and useful work he has done during his four years' service, more especially in connection with the Highways Committee of which he has for the last year been Chairman.

William Robert Mallett was born in London in 1844, and is the son of Mr. W. L. Mallett, for many years an inhabitant of Bromley, who came to reside in this parish in 1850. He was educated at Bromley Academy, and in his final year gained the mathematical prize at the examination of the College of Preceptors. In 1864 he entered the office of Mr. F. W. Stent, architect and surveyor, Westminster, as pupil, and later on that of Messrs. Wadmore and Baker in the City of London as assistant; he remained with them in this position some twenty-five years, during which time many important works were carried out. On the retirement of Mr. Baker in 1890 Mr. Mallett was invited to join the firm, and then entered into partnership with Mr. Wadmore and his son, the firm now being Wadmore, Wadmore and Mallett. He is a member of the Council of the Society of Architects, and Fellow of the Surveyors Institution. We wish Mr. Mallett a pleasant and successful year of office, and hope he may long devote his useful services to the benefit of the parish.

MR. C. E. BAKER, J.P., BECKENHAM.

Mr. Charles E. Baker, the new Chairman of the Beckenham Urban District Council, comes of a legal family, his grandfather, Sir Robert Baker, having been a Bencher and Treasurer of the Inner Temple when Harcourt Buildings were erected, and his father having been a member of that Inn for fifty years. Mr. Baker himself was educated at Haileybury, and on leaving school was articled to Mr. Nathaniel Bridges (of Bridges, Sawtell, Heywood & Co.), and for the last twenty years he has practised as a solicitor and Parliamentary agent at Great George-street, Westminster. Mr. Baker's prosperity began in 1889 when he was unanimously appointed Parliamentary agent to the Non-County Boroughs Association,



MR. C. E. BAKER.
Lambert, Weston & Son.] [*Dover & Folkestone.*

which has a membership of 110 boroughs. In the same year he sought election on the Beckenham Local Board, in place of Dr. Leonard Williams, and was returned at the head of the poll. In 1889 also he founded the Local Boards Association, which rapidly became a most successful organisation, and now has some 430 Urban Councils as members.

With the Rural District Councils Association, which he founded in 1894, he is not only the friend and counsellor of some 700 Local Authorities, but as their Parliamentary agent he is concerned on one side or the other in nearly every Bill that is promoted in Parliament.

It may be surmised that in his position of adviser to these Local Authorities, Mr. Baker's knowledge and experience of local government matters became very extensive, and so recently as February last he gave evidence before a Departmental Committee as the representative of Urban Councils in reference to a proposed further transfer of powers to County Councils.

In 1894 he took into partnership Mr. Arthur Lees, who is also a member of the Beckenham Council, and the firm have progressed so rapidly that they have now one of the leading Parliamentary businesses in Westminster.

Mr. Baker's connection with Shortlands dates from 1883, but he came to reside there in February, 1887. He has been Chairman of all the Standing

Committees, and for the last three years has been Vice-Chairman of the Council.

By the retirement of Mr. Arthur Baker, he and Mr. Lencon become the senior members of the Council.

He married in 1879 a daughter of Mr. William Duncan, of Danevale, Kirkcudbrightshire, and grand-daughter of Mr. Adam Black, M.P. for Edinburgh, and has a family of two sons and one daughter.

By virtue of his election to the Chairmanship of the Beckenham Urban Council, Mr. Baker becomes ex-officio a Justice of the Peace.

Mr. Baker resides at Park Hill Lodge, Park-road, Shortlands.

LOCAL ELECTIONS

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

The polling for the election of representatives on the Bromley Urban District Council for the Bromley Common, Sundridge, and Bickley wards took place on Monday, April 4th, evoking but very little public interest. The contests resulted in the return of Mr. E. G. Peill, the retiring representative for Bromley Common, and in the defeat of the other two old members, Mr. S. H. Gilbert (Bickley), and Mr. H. C. Bond (Sundridge), their places being taken by Mr. F. Lord and Mr. H. Nye, respectively. The figures were as follows: Bromley Common—*E. Peill (elected) 196, W. H. Smith 133, majority 63; Bickley—F. Lord (elected) 113, *S. H. Gilbert 109, majority 4; Sundridge Ward—H. Nye (elected) 188, *H. C. Bond 93, majority 95.

BECKENHAM URBAN COUNCIL.

April 4th was also the date of the triennial election of the Beckenham Urban District Council, when there were contests in four of the seven wards. All the old members were re-elected with one exception, that being Mr. Arthur Baker—the ex-chairman and oldest member of the local governing body—whose seat in the Eden Park ward was secured by his brother Mr. Alfred Baker. The successful candidates were as follows:—Eden Park Ward—*A. Moss, J. Crease, and A. J. Baker; Kent House Ward—*W. E. Ashworth, C. Blake, and *T. C. Cole; Langley Park Ward—*J. A. Rippengal and *J. J. Wilks; Manor House Ward—*E. R. St. C. Corbin, *R. M. H. Randell and *A. J. Lees.

(*) The asterisk denotes the retiring members.

GUARDIANS AND RURAL COUNCIL.

The election of representatives for Beckenham on the Bromley Board of Guardians also took place on April 4th, and resulted in the return of all the retiring members who sought re-election; Mr. Waddington's seat being taken by Mr. Seymour Conway. The figures were:—Mr. A. H. Baker 872, Mr. L. P. Ford 604, Mr. J. J. Wilks 597, Mr. F. Latham Brown 568, and Mr. S. Conway 559 (elected); Mr. T. Gascoigne (not elected) securing 396 votes.

On the same day the polling for the election of two members of the Bromley Rural District Council for the parish of Foots Cray took place, and resulted in the return of Mr. T. Knight (210) and Mr. H. J. Clark (133): Mr. H. Booker being at the bottom of the poll with 74 votes. Messrs. Clark and Booker were the old members.

Lady Scott was among the party entertained by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and the Countess Cadogan, at Dublin, for the Punchestown races.

"AIRS APPARENT."

No. 1. (after C. S. C.).

My heart is sad: I know not why;
'Tis not that Fortune is perverse.
I almost feel inclined to sigh
Or—worse.

For me the jaded pastimes pall
In which my fellow-men engage;
The game of polo now is all
The rage.

No more I swipe the nimble sphere,
Or heave it with unerring hand—
Proceedings which I thought last year
Were grand.

I do not strive, as was my wont,
To "put" and "drive" the giddy ball
With instruments whose names I don't
Recall.

No more it joys my soul to "go"
With bended back and burnished nub;
For now I fain would join the Po-
Lo Club.

'Tis true this apoplectic breast
Is guileless of the arduous course;
In fact, I never yet possessed
A horse.

I cannot ply the valiant rein,
Or guide the foaming charger's head;
And so I sing in lyric strain
Instead.

But since I cannot boldly dash
Where horse with horseman madly whirls
(Those last two lines are grand), I'll mash
The girls.

I'll wear a tie of flawless fold,
A "topper" of unsullied shine,
In which I look, as I am told,
Divine.

Sweet nothings I'll contrive to say
To each fair maid, with great eclat,
Who also goes there to display
Her hat.

It will be nice! yet as I sing
My bosom feels a little bored;
I cannot help but think the thing
A fraud.

C. B.

Bromley Town Cricket Club.—This old-established cricket club held its annual meeting at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, on April 6th, when in consequence of the club's ground being required for building purposes, it was decided during the coming season to adopt the lines of a rambling club. The financial position had been slightly improved, but the adverse balance from the last season had not been reduced. Mr. E. J. Gedney was elected as captain, and Mr. T. Knight as vice-captain, for the ensuing season.

Shooting Competition.—The annual shooting competition of the Bromley Detachment, 2nd V.B. The Queen's Own (Royal West Kent) Regiment, for the St. Blaize Cup (presented by Mr. Coles Child, J.P.) was held on the 23rd ultimo, at Milton. Corporal R. Fawsitt secured the coveted trophy with a total of 44 points, Private J. Robertson being second with 46.

Mr. Albert Spicer, M.P., and the Rev. T. Eynon Davies are announced to take part in the Liberation Society's triennial conference meetings to be held in the first week of May.

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DIARY OF APRIL.

1st.—Confirmation services at Bromley Parish Church and St. John's Bromley, by Bishop Walsh.—Annual Meeting in connection with the Jackson Allotments at St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common.

2nd.—Gymnastic performance by the Bromley Detachment of the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) at the Bromley Drill Hall.—Performance of Sir J. Stainer's oratorio "The Crucifixion," at the Congregational Church, Bromley.

4th.—Polling for the election of members of the Urban District Councils of Bromley and Beckenham.—Presentation at the Village Hall, Chislehurst, of a testimonial and a cheque for £85 10s. 0d. to Mr. H. J. Willis, on the occasion of his retirement from public service, and in celebration of his 80th birthday.

5th.—Performance of Sir J. Stainer's "Crucifixion." at the church of the Annunciation, Chislehurst, by the choir.

6th.—Annual meeting of the Bromley Town Cricket Club at the Bell Hotel, Bromley.

9th.—Distribution of prizes at Quernmore School, Bromley.

11th (*Easter Monday*).—Athletic sports and entertainment at Quernmore School, Plaistow Lodge.—Easter vestry meeting at the Church of the Annunciation, Chislehurst.

12th.—Vestry meeting for the Bromley Parish at the Parish Room, West-street, Rev. A. G. Hellicar presiding.

13th.—Easter, vestry meetings at St. John's Bromley; St. Luke's, Bromley Common; and St. George's, Bickley.—Annual meeting of the Chislehurst Auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, at Camden House, Mr. E. H. Joynson presiding.

14th.—Annual vestries at the Parish Church and Christ Church, Beckenham, and at Christ Church, Chislehurst.—Serious fire at laundry premises, at Perry-street, Chislehurst.

15th.—Fancy dress ball in connection with the Kent House Amateur Musical and Dramatic Society, at the High School Hall, Clock House, Beckenham.

16th.—Presentation to the Rev. W. Hodgson, vicar of St. Mary's, Plaistow, of an illuminated address and a cheque for £195, on the completion of the twenty-fifth year of his ministry at St. Mary's.

18th.—Benefit concert at St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common, on behalf of the widow and family of the late Mr. C. Stanford, formerly a L.C.D.R. guard.—Mr. C. E. Baker was elected chairman of the new Beckenham Urban District Council.—Annual meeting of the Chislehurst Parish Council, when Mr. N. Balme was elected chairman.—Dramatic entertainment at St. James' Parish Room, Elmer's End, Beckenham.

19th.—Annual meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council, when Mr. W. R. Mallett (late vice-chairman) was appointed to the chair, and Mr. G. H. Payne elected as vice-chairman.—Concerts in celebration of Primrose Day, at the Bromley Conservative Club, and at the "Crown" Hotel, Chislehurst.—Grand ball at the Public Hall, Beckenham, given by Mr. Alderman F. P. Alliston, J.P.

20th.—Annual tea and public meeting in connection with the Bromley and Plaistow branch of the National Deposit Friendly Society, at the Parish Room, West-street, Dr. H. J. Ilott presiding.—First annual dinner of the Beckenham Swifts' Football Club at the Promenade Restaurant, Beckenham-road.

22nd.—Monthly sitting of the Bromley County Court, before His Honour Judge Emden.

23rd.—Shooting competition for the St. Blaize Cup, in connection with the Bromley Detachment of the 2nd Vol. Batt. Queen's Own (Royal West Kent) Regiment, at Milton, Corpl. R. Fawsitt being the winner.

24th.—Monthly musical service at St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common.—Dedication Festival services at the Parish Church, Beckenham.

25th.—Free Church Federation meeting at the Congregational Church, Beckenham, presided over by Mr. Percy Bunting (editor of "The Contemporary Review") and attended by delegates of the Kent Congregational Association.—Opening meeting of the Beckenham Swimming Club at the Y.M.C.A. Rooms, Mr. J. J. Wilks presiding.

26th.—Annual assembly of the Kent Congregational Association at Beckenham, and on the following day.—Spring concert of the Beckenham Choral Society at the Public Hall, Beckenham.—Bromley Musical Society's concert at the Bromley Drill Hall.

27th.—Lecture entitled "Pictures from Dickins" by Professor Malden, at the Bromley Grand Hall, under the auspices of the Bromley Philharmonic Association.— Concert in aid of the Bromley Baptist Church choir funds, at the Schoolroom, Sherman-road, Bromley.—Annual dinner of the Chislehurst Gardeners' Association, at the "Crown" Hotel, Chislehurst.--Grand performance of "Liberty Hall," at the Village Hall, Chislehurst, by local amateurs.

THE RAINFALL.—The rainfall for March, registered at The High Field, Bickley, amounted to 1·49 in. Rain fell on 15 days, the largest amount registered in one day being ·46, on the 3rd. For the corresponding month last year the fall was 4·54 in.; in 1896, 3·18 in.; and in 1895, 1.36 in. For the first three months of this year only 3·03 in has fallen, the smallest amount registered in the same period for the last 21 years. For the first three months of last year the rain amounted to 7·87 in.

VOLUNTEERS' EASTER TRAINING.—During the Easter holidays the Bromley Detachment of the 2nd Vol. Batt. the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent) Regiment were engaged with many other volunteers in a course of training at Gravesend. Each day various drills were gone through, and on Easter Sunday morning the troops attended divine service at Holy Trinity Church. About sixty members of the Bromley Detachment took part in the operations, and everything passed off very satisfactorily.

RAMBLES IN SURREY

BANSTEAD.

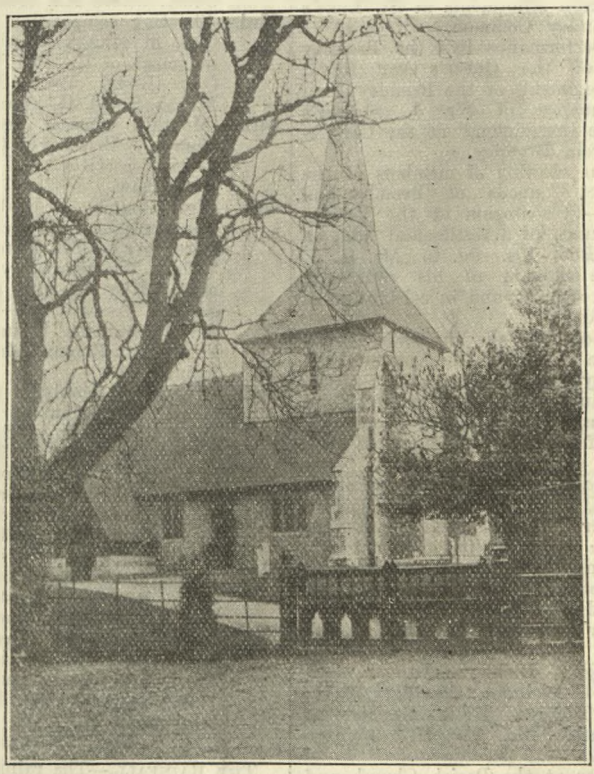
One of the pleasantest ways of reaching Banstead for those to whose pedestrian powers the exertion would not be too great is by walking from Croydon. The road lies by Waddon Railway Station, and thence a little to the south of the rapidly growing neighbourhood of Wallington. As one walks along it soon becomes evident that the surface of the ground gradually rises, for this is the chalk plateau which inclines upwards to the summit of the North Downs. The proximity of the chalky subsoil is revealed by such evidences as flourishing beeches—trees which show a marked preference for the tenacious clay which is frequently found capping the chalk rock. That short springy grass, so useful for the pasturage of sheep is also much in evidence, and its abundance largely accounts for the fact that the mutton of the Banstead Downs has long been noted for its excellent quality.

Those who may prefer to travel to Banstead by railway, via Sutton (when it is necessary to change from one train to another on the Epsom branch), will notice the steep gradient of the line as the train approaches Banstead Station. The sections of chalk which are passed on this route are of considerable interest. In some parts the walls of the sections exposed are too much weathered to allow much of the character of the rock to be seen; but in others the cubical fractures seen are of value as showing evidences of disturbance, and probably of ice-pressure so common in this district. It is clear that at one time, probably during the glacial period, the temperature of the locality now known as Surrey, must have fallen to a very low degree, and that probably for a very long period.

The village is situated a little over a mile from the railway station, but the shingled spire of the church, one of the chief features of the village, stands out as a guide to the pedestrian approaching either from the Croydon-road or from the railway station.

The village of Banstead has preserved much of its rustic simplicity, for although there are a good number of modern buildings, the older features have not been destroyed or seriously interfered with.

The village can boast of a very respectable antiquity. It, or rather the manor, was mentioned in the Domesday Book as being held at that time of the Bishop of Bayeux, by Richard of Tunbridge. The same account mentions the existence of the church here, and among other details it states that there was a mill at Banstead.



BANSTEAD CHURCH.

The mention of a mill at this early date has given rise to much speculation, for it is generally understood that windmills were not introduced into this country at such an early date, whilst the absence of any stream or river in or near the village precludes the idea that it was a mill driven by water-power. The explanation of the matter is probably this:—Although there is no water-power in the parish sufficient for the purpose of a water mill—indeed it is doubtful if there is any running water at all in the neighbourhood—yet the manor of Banstead extends as far in a southern direction as Leigh and Horley, below Reigate, and here, where water-power is to be found, the mill was probably situated. The fact must be borne in mind that at the time of the Domesday Survey our present parish boundaries were practically unknown.

In or before the reign of Henry I. the manor of Banstead appears to have passed from Richard of Tunbridge into the hands of Tirel de Maniers, ancestor of the ducal family of Manners. This Lord gave the church at Banstead to the Priory of St. Mary Overy. Subsequently the manor was held by the celebrated Hubert de Burgh, and it is said that he retired to Banstead, and erected a castellated mansion at the east end of the churchyard. According to one authority there was a pit in an adjacent field which was supposed to mark the site of the cellar belonging to the mansion. The manor subsequently became vested in the crown, and various grants from this estate were made from time to time to different queens consort. Henry VIII. in the beginning of his reign settled it for life on the Princess Katharine of Arragon, then his brother's widow, and afterwards his own wife.

It was by a grant from this possessor that the manor of Banstead became associated with the Carews of Beddington, in which family it long remained. Besides the chief manor of Banstead there were the following:—the manor of Burgh, or West Burrow, the manor of Little Bergh, the manor of Tadworth or North Tadworth, and the manor of South Tadworth or Tadworth Court.

The church at Banstead, dedicated to All Saints, is a handsome structure with nave, north and south aisles, high chancel, north and south chancels, and at the west end a finely proportioned square tower with a shingled spire.

The tower and spire of Banstead Church form the most pleasing as they are also the most prominent features of the building, for the traces of modern restoration are painfully evident. Within the church there are numerous monuments to members of the Lambert family—a family which has been seated in the neighbourhood for many years. The following epitaph and rhyming panegyric is a sample:—

"Here lyeth interred ye bocy of Ruth Brett, the late wife of George Brett, citizen and goldsmith of London; and daughter of Mr. Edward Lambert of this parish. She departed this lyfe the sixth day of November, A.D., 1647.

Behold the Mirrour of her Sex and Kind,
Nature adorn'd her Frame, Virtue her Mind;
Yet could they not retain her wasting breath,
Nor free her from the fatall stroke of Death;
Her time is spent, the splendid Sunn is sett,
In whose bright Spirit all the Graces met;
What good so'ere in womankind was found,
In this good Woman richly did abound:
Faith, Hope, and Charity her actions blest
Each in her Soule was a most welcome guest.
Life wrought her Death, but Death to her brought Life,
Such was the fate of this rare virtuous Wife."

There are also several memorial tablets to members of the Parry, Wilmot, or Willimott, and Frye families.

In addition to the parish church Banstead once possessed two other small churches, one at Burrough or Berg, and another at St. Leonards. Salmon, the historian and topographer of the county, writing in 1736, says that the church at Berg was standing at that time, but that it had been converted into a barn. Other accounts inform us that in 1804 there were persons living at Banstead who could remember the days when the church at Bergh was used for divine service. There is reason to believe that Bergh may have been a distinct parish from 1301 to 1414.

WELL HOUSE AND OLD VILLAGE WELL, BANSTEAD.

Among residents of Banstead in recent years perhaps one of the most eminent—certainly one of the most popular—was Mr. Hablot Knight Browne, better known as "Phiz," the prolific and versatile artist whose sketches have done so much to popularize the writings of Dickens, Lever, and Ainsworth. Mr. Browne was a great lover of horses and horsemanship, and whilst residing in the neighbourhood was a regular follower of the fox-hounds.

Banstead possesses several brick cottages and houses of late 17th or early 18th century date. One rather interesting example is known as Well House, so named apparently from its proximity to the well which once was the common source of the water supply of the villagers. The well, which is nearly three hundred feet deep, still remains in the middle of a triangular space of

ground between three roads, and is covered by a wooden shed or cage surmounted by a weather-cock or ornamental iron-work.

The village streets are winding, and in summer pleasantly relieved by foliage, particularly of elm trees.

The wide expanse of uncultivated land known as Banstead Downs commands some very fine views in various directions, and is quite an ideal place for a "constitutional." A very large pile of buildings on its eastern side, which will attract the attention of all visitors to the neighbourhood, is the famous Banstead Asylum, one of the County of London Lunatic Asylums, an institution which provides accommodation for nearly two thousand unfortunate inmates.

Another large group of modern buildings close by Belmont Railway Station are the South Metropolitan District Schools, a home for waifs and strays, and rather celebrated as a training school for domestic servant girls.

Presentation to Mr. H. J. Willis.—An interesting ceremony took place in the early part of last month at Chislehurst, when Mr. H. J. Willis, one of the oldest inhabitants, was made the recipient of a handsome testimonial in commemoration of his eightieth birthday and in recognition, also, of his long and valuable service to the parish. The presentation, which took the form of a cheque for £85 10s. 0d., and an album containing a suitable address and the names of 186 subscribers, was made on the evening of April 4th, at the Village Hall, by the Rev. Canon Murray, in the presence of a large number of friends. In the address reference was made to the active part taken in public affairs by Mr. Willis, as a member of the Rural District Council and the Parish Council, also as a Guardian, overseer, and churchwarden, etc., and Canon Murray spoke of Mr. Willis's extreme usefulness in many other capacities.—Mr. Willis expressed his deep sense of gratitude at the kindness of his fellow parishioners, and gave some amusing reminiscences of his connection with the Parish Church half a century ago.—Mr. R. Gordon Mullen (Clerk to the Guardians and Rural District Council) spoke of the efficiency and regularity with which Mr. Willis had discharged his duties on both of those authorities.—A dinner in celebration of the event was held the same evening at the "Crown" Hotel, Chislehurst, under the presidency of Mr. R. G. Mullen, with Mr. D. T. Corke in the vice-chair.

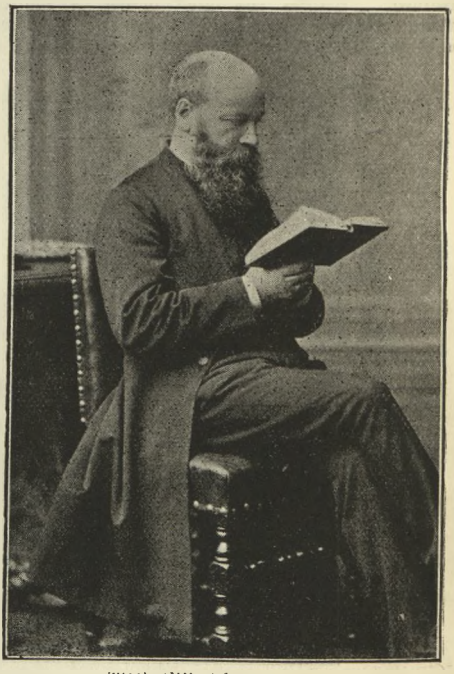
County Temperance Congress.—The Kent County Temperance Association held its sixth annual congress on April 17th to 20th, at Ramsgate and Margate, and was attended by delegates from all parts of the county, amongst them being Mr. W. Green, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Coombes, Miss Barton, and Mr. J. Walker (of Bromley), Mr. J. M. Skinner (of Beckenham), and Miss Lucy Taylor (of Sidcup). The Archbishop of Canterbury took part in the special Sunday services at the various churches, and all the meetings were largely attended.

Fatality to a Little Girl.—On Wednesday, April 6th, a sad mishap befell a little girl named Gladys Maud Shewbridge, aged four years, living with her parents at 2, Block Cottages, Tylney-road, Bromley. She was playing round a bonfire in some gravel-pits at Nightingale-lane, when her clothes caught alight, and though she was promptly rescued, and the flames extinguished, she succumbed to the shock the following day. At the inquest a verdict of accidental death was returned.

PRESENTATION TO REV. W. HODGSON.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AT PLAISTOW.

One of the most pleasing social functions in Bromley during the past month took place at the St Mary's Institute, Plaistow-lane, on Saturday, April 16th, when the congregation of St. Mary's gave practical token of their high appreciation of the ministry of the Rev. W. Hodgson, M.A., as vicar of the parish during the past twenty-five years by presenting him with a cheque for £195 and an album containing an address and the names of over three hundred subscribers. There was a large and representative gathering to witness the ceremony, over which Major Satterthwaite (the vicar's churchwarden) presided. The Chairman referred to the very ready response which had been given to the proposal to recognise the admirable manner in which their vicar had fulfilled the duties of his



THE REV. W. HODGSON

Lavender. [*Bromley.*

office, and mentioned that the movement owed its origin to Mr. S. Baddeley, one of their oldest friends. The address accompanying the testimonial read as follows:—"To the Rev. William Hodgson, M.A., We, the undersigned, past and present members of the congregation of St. Mary's, Plaistow, Kent, beg you to accept this album and a purse of £195 in token of our affectionate regard and appreciation of the way you have discharged the duties of your sacred office; of your promotion of every good work for the welfare of the poor, and the care you have taken in conducting the religious education of the children of the schools during the 25 years of your incumbency. Your unfailing courtesy and the gentleness of your administration have won the hearts of all, and we pray God to give you many years of usefulness in your work amongst us. Signed on behalf of the subscribers, C. Satterthwaite and C. J. Maxwell, Churchwardens. March 6th, 1898."

Mr. Baddeley addressed the gathering, remarking that he had been largely responsible for Mr. Hodgson's appointment to that living some twenty-

five years ago, and he left it to those present to say whether their choice had not been fully justified. As an attendant of the church for many years he spoke highly of the ministrations of their respected and beloved vicar.

Mr. W. Thursfield and Mr. Murray Richardson also testified to their warm appreciation of Mr. Hodgson's work in the parish; and the Rev. Canon Murray, who followed, said he had been watching the great work going on in the parish and thought it only right, as well as a pleasure to him, to bear witness to his appreciation of all that had been done by his friend, their vicar.

Major Satterthwaite, in presenting the testimonial to the vicar, said the words of the address exactly embodied his sentiments. In his capacity of churchwarden he had known Mr. Hodgson under all circumstances, and his speech had always shown him to be a truly kind and Christian gentleman. (Applause.) He mentioned that the illuminated address and the purse were both the work of Mrs. Satterthwaite (his wife).

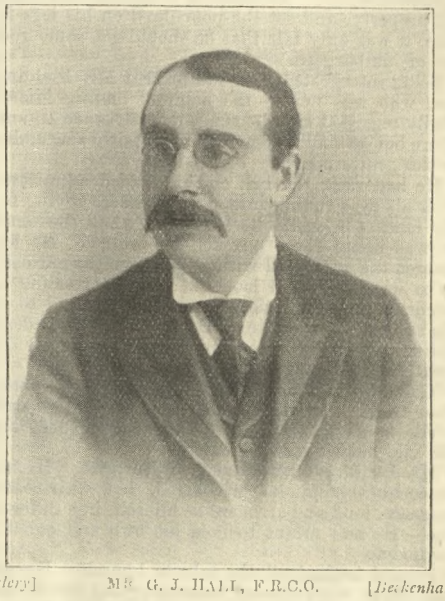
The Rev. W. Hodgson received a very cordial greeting upon rising to reply. He expressed his great gratitude for the kindness of his parishioners, stating that he accepted their splendid gift as a token of genuine goodwill and affection which he appreciated and reciprocated with all his heart. (Applause.) The album, containing photographs of the church, was, he said, a memorial of work done during the best twenty-five years of his life; and he remarked how his aim had always been to obtain and retain the assistance of his congregation in the work of the church, and in this he thought he had been successful. In the future he would always have at heart the real welfare of the church and parish, and was sure that he could never go among better and kinder friends than he had met there. (Applause.)

Cordial votes of thanks were passed to the promoters of the testimonial, and to Mrs. Satterthwaite for the excellent art-work she had produced in the album; the beautiful photographs for which had kindly been taken by Mr. S. B. Webber.

The Rev. W. Hodgson, who was born at Cambridge in 1839, is a son of the late Rev. William Hodgson, D.D., who was at that time master of St. Peter's College. For two years the subject of this sketch was educated at a private school at Stevenage, and afterwards for seven years at the Charterhouse, London, going from there to St. Peter's, Cambridge. Mr. Hodgson took his B.A. degree in 1860, and his M.A. degree four years later. He was ordained by the late Dr. Tait, then Bishop of London, in 1862, and licensed to the curacy of St. Phillip's, Stepney, where he remained for four years, serving under two vicars — the Rev. A. Bloomfield, youngest son of the late Bishop of London, and afterwards Bishop of Colchester, and the Rev. J. R. Green, the noted historian. Mr. Hodgson was appointed as curate-in-charge at Trysull, in Staffordshire, in 1867, and laboured there for three years, afterwards accepting the living of the neighbouring parish of Swindon, Staffordshire, where he spent four years, coming to Plaistow in 1873. In 1865 he married Katharine Grace, eldest daughter of the Rev. G. Hall, M.A., J.P., a minor canon Ely and vicar of Stuntney, and he has three sons and four daughters living. Mr. Hodgson's ministry at Plaistow has gained for him a warm place in the hearts of all classes of his parishioners, and the services are invariably well attended. A prominent feature is made of the music, and in this connection the name of Mr. F. Lewis Thomas, the organist and choirmaster of the church, must be mentioned, who has done more than anyone else to place the church in its present pre-eminent position in this respect. The church has also been much enlarged and decorated since Mr. Hodgson took charge.

MR. GEORGE J. HALL, F.R.C.O.

We have much pleasure this week in presenting to our readers a portrait of Mr. George J. Hall, the organist and choirmaster of the Beckenham Parish Church, and conductor of the Choral Society. Born in 1857, Mr. Hall was educated at a Grammar School at Brixton and at the Choir School of Eton College, where for some time he was a solo boy. He received his musical training under Dr. L. G. Hayne, the then organist of Eton College, and composer of several tunes to well known hymns in Hymns A. and M., Dr. Warwick Jordan, and



[Falcey] MR. G. J. HALL, F.R.C.O. [Beckenham
Conductor, Beckenham Choral Society.

Dr. Walmisley Little, one of the Council of the College of Organists, of which by virtue of his being a Fellow, Mr. Hall holds the highest diploma. This instruction embraced organ, harmony, and counterpoint, Mr. Henry Parker, of the Guildhall School of Music, giving the young musician his pianoforte tuition. Mr. Hall came to Beckenham in 1880 as organist at the old parish church a typical village place of worship, with two galleries at one end, the organ being in the top gallery, whilst the choir were at the other end in the chancel. This was in the time of the Rev. William Cator. Music at the new church has had an increased amount of attention during late years, and Mr. Hall has worked the choir up to a very high standard of efficiency, as those who attend the services can testify.

Mr. Hall has rendered invaluable service to the Beckenham Choral Society as conductor, and in this connection he speaks most highly of Miss Arnott, the talented accompanist, and also acknowledges the help which the Society has received from the Rector, Mr. Lendon, Mr. Alfred Baker, and other influential supporters, not forgetting Mr. Edwin Layman, the present secretary, and Mr. Walter Smith, who held that position for some years. Mr. Hall has the good fortune of having a loyal choir under his direction, and they in turn are equally fortunate in possessing so able a leader.

The will of Mr. James Neeve Turney, late of 17, Hayne-road, Beckenham, has been proved at £7,704 7s. 6d.; and the personalty of Mrs. Caroline Cotes, late of Longfield, Bromley, amounts to £1,073 6s. 9d.

"IVA KILDARE,"

By Mrs. L. B. Walford,

Author of "Mr. Smith," "Cousins," "Frederick," "A Mere Child," "The Baby's Grandmother," etc., etc.

Then he was glad he had done so. Finally he was d—d glad he had done so. Druitt was a capital fellow. Hang it all, he couldn't help being a *cotton-draper!* And having bought Goffe's rotten old property, and set the poor devil on his legs for once, it was only fair that he should get some good out of his bargain.

Being interpreted, this meant that Mr. Puddington, who was not in the habit of finding himself kindly regarded and deferentially hearkened to anywhere but on the hunting-field, had fairly succumbed to the gentle courtesy of his host.

He had rung the bell and demanded admittance with his eyes roving hither and thither, spying out the land, the while he wondered what the deuce he was doing there on such an errand? He had entered the great hall with as much vulgar curiosity as to what it would look like, and as resolute an intention of saying whatever he had a mind to on the subject, as ever Amos Druitt had. He had sat down and stared about him, grunting under his breath and tapping with his boot heels.

'Gad! he had no idea it was so fine a house! Poor Goffe! It was devilish hard on him to have a vile money-grubber—— The door opened, and the vile money-grubber entered.

Mr. Puddington was taken by surprise. He had expected a pompous, whiskered, bow-waistcoated magnate, loud and arrogant as himself, in a different line. He had meant to hold his own and out-talk anybody.

Instead he had all the talk to himself. He was listened to with pleased attention; his advice was sought; presently he was confided in. He had never been in such a position before.

And with it all there was no servility on Mr. Druitt's part. Puddington was accustomed to the cringing of a certain class of inferiors, especially on his own ground when talking of "My hunt" and "My hounds," but he was sharp enough to perceive that the deference with which he was now regarded had no end to gain.

"I hardly think I shall hunt, but I shall be most happy to subscribe, Mr. Puddington."

"Not hunt?"

"I do not *think* I shall hunt."

"Not hunt? Good Lord! What is life without hunting? Come, Come, Mr. Druitt! not hunt, eh? Why not—if I may ask as much? You own to riding, and to liking the look of a field in full cry. Why not join us, and take off ten years of your age? Grow younger every day you hear the music of the hounds?"

Whereupon had ensued rather an extraordinary dialogue. People who knew the harsh-voiced, domineering Master of the Vale would have opened their eyes had they heard him in persuasive accents, softened as they only were at Tilbury Court and a very few other favoured houses, laying before Mr. Jabez Druitt the inestimable advantages to body and mind accruing from the sport he loved.

At first Mr. Druitt had merely listened; but he had listened with respect. This was sufficient: the speaker had warmed with his theme. In the end he had penetrated the every root and fibre of the humble mind, laid bare as it had never been before, on such a subject.

"*I'll* take care they don't laugh at ye!" Puddington had cried with an oath at last. "Why, sir—Mr. Druitt—you have it *in* you, man! Excuse my rough speech"—a strange apology from those lips—"but it cheers my old bones to meet with an outsider—hum—ha—I mean a non-hunting-man—(you see, that's how we get to look upon the world, we Masters)—to meet, I say, with a new man who, instead of thinking he knows everything, or pretending he cares nothing—'pon my soul, I don't know which is worst—they are both lies, that's what they are—to meet, I say, with anyone who owns up as you do. *Of course* you want to hunt; and"—a hailstorm of expletives—"you shall do it!"

Under such auspices Mr. Druitt's hunting had begun.

Every horse in his stud had been chosen for him and every detail of his stables arranged by his indefatigable sponsor in the field; no point had been too trivial for Puddington to pounce upon and set in order. The minutest perplexity was hearkened to with unabated interest and patience.

And his delicacy was marvellous; he never allowed himself so much as a smile, though at another time he would have roared with laughter at some of Mr. Druitt's interrogations.

He never repeated them; never let another into the secret. He was as a tender father with a young child.

Then the pride and pleasure he took in his child's progress! His delight when a fence had been neatly cleared! His triumph when at length the happy day arrived that our friend (favoured by luck, it is true, but having done his own part well, nevertheless) was in at the death. Puddington's voice was heard all over the field, bellowing the news.

And he looked in at Tilbury Court as he went by, on purpose to tell Lady Tilbury.

Lady Tilbury had driven to the meet; and Druitt was Lady Tilbury's *protege;* she ought to hear how Druitt had distinguished himself.

So that by the time we find the master of Old Cary Hall standing on his front-door steps awaiting his horse, and tapping his smart boot-tops with an equally smart hunting-crop as he sniffed the morning air, he was no longer a doubtful, anxious, heart-fluttering follower of the chase, but sat well and confidently in his seat; and by rigorously adhering to rule, by abstaining from every species of bravado, and by studying in secret and practising openly the line laid down by his mentor, he not only kept the favour of the loutish squire, but became his favourite boast.

"D'ye see Druitt? Didn't know a horse from a pig when I took him in hand. Not a better man now goes with the Vale—in a quiet way. You can't expect the riding of a jock from a cotton-broker turned squire. Dash it all! when I heard we were going to have one of that cattle for a member of my hunt, I was nearly sick; but Lady Tilbury asked me to call—deuced fine woman, Lady Tilbury—and I wouldn't refuse *her*. So I had the first of the new man, and you see the use I made of it. Look at him now! Goes as pluckily as if he had been born to it; and yet sticks to rules—that was what I was more afraid of than anything—that once he got excited he would forget—hum—ha—they do, you know—they forget everything, greenhorns do, once their blood gets up. But I have never had to swear at Druitt once—no, I haven't"—and being well away on his favourite theme, we need not follow the speaker further.

It will be seen, however, why Mr. Druitt looked so cheerily about him on the morning in question, and why, instead of running out hastily and mounting shamefacedly when told all was in readiness, he sunned himself on the doorstep, and hummed a tune as he cast his eye over the glittering landscape, in glad anticipation of what the day might bring forth.

"If Amos could see me now!" he said to himself.

CHAPTER XXII.

"DELIGHTFUL—BUT NOT PERFECT, SOPHIA."

But he had nearly forgotten Amos—as Amos.

It came upon him with the force of a shock at times to find how entirely he had severed himself from his old life and early connections.

Had there been any of them alive, with the solitary exception of his half-brother, matters would doubtless have been different; but as it was the outside he could bring himself to feel on the occasion of a perfunctory visit to the suburban villa, wherein nephews and nieces were now growing up into men and women, was anxiety lest he should betray by word or look how little he was in sympathy with all he found there.

And they cared no more for him than he for them. The young men would express aloud their surprise at finding him in the house on the night of his arrival, and argue the point before his face, if their father—with a show of annoyance—possibly real—would maintain that the proposed visit had been duly announced in the family circle.

The girls would fulfil their engagements—often scarcely to be called engagements—as though the presence of a relation who was not a contemporary could have no possible reference to them.

Mrs. Amos would be more civil; she was always impressed by the appearance of her brother-in-law, and she was not the daughter of a business man for nothing. Whom had Jabez to leave his money to, other than her children?

Apart from this, she liked company and novelty in any shape; and an excuse for a dinner-party and an opportunity for wearing her new evening dress and top-knot was not to be despised.

"Humph! *He* won't care for a big feed; and as for meeting old friends, it isn't the few old friends Jay had when here that you want to ask. Don't gammon me!" Paterfamilias would growl, well knowing the proclivities of his spouse. "It's just an excuse!"—but he knew that he would have to give in to the excuse.

And in his heart, perhaps, he was not sorry; for now that the first inquisitiveness about his brother's purchase, its merits and demerits, had subsided, he found talk with Jabez difficult. Business transactions were no longer worth communicating; even when shared by the latter they had elicited but a dubious flickering interest, so that it was quite certain a recital would fall flat now; while domestic arrangements were almost worse. Jay never cared twopence for domestic arrangements; taken to task for this on one occasion, he had roundly declared they were women's work, not men's.

So then it grew to be an understood thing that when the bachelor uncle paid his annual visit, Mrs. Amos Druitt might send out her cards, without more than a "I suppose you must" from her husband. Even this gradually gave place to "You'll want to dine some folks when Jabez comes next; wait till then to invite So-and-so," and thus one evening of the three was provided for.

But, in spite of the brevity of his stay, no one cared to prolong it, and the guest himself experienced the strangest sensation when the last morning came. He had a sort of terror lest anything should happen to prevent his departure. He felt as though he might even at the last be caught and caged and bound down to his old office life again. He would glance at the clock a dozen times within the hour, nervously impatient of its slow, steady tick.

And he would rise from his chair at the thrice welcome sound of the carriage at the door, with an instantaneous response that would have betrayed him to anyone who had given the matter a thought.

Happily, no one did. Mrs. Amos would take advantage of the horses being out at such an early hour to drive into the town herself and do her shopping; She would be all in a bustle about her commissions from cook and housemaid, and would beg her brother-in-law to step in first while she stood at the carriage door, directing and presiding over the stowage of his portmanteau and hat-box, and he would do as he was bid, like a prisoner in the hands of his gaoler, fearful lest the slightest fluctuation in his obedience should delay the moment of release by a hair's breadth.

Once in the train—once speeding back to the little rural station now so familiar and so dear—oh, what a relief! what bliss!

His black mare would be in waiting, brought by William in the dog-cart. Perhaps Lady Tilbury's station brougham, with the luggage-basket on the top. Or Mr. Puddington's huge brake, ready to convey a jolly bachelor party to Puddington Hall—all on tiptoe for a burst over the countryside next day, and a carouse in the evening to follow. Even General Lossett's grey hat bobbing out of the booking-office would be a pleasant sight.

Mr. Druitt did not care very much one way or the other for the Lossetts, father and daughter; but they were part and parcel of his present delightful, congenial existence, and they were—oh, so different from the fathers and daughters he met in his sister-in-law's drawing-room! With *them* it was, they were agreeable enough when detached from one another; with the Lossett couple, neither ever showed to so much advantage as in each other's company. Their manners were irreproachable.

So that the General was secure of a lift home if seen by our traveller on alighting at his own platform; in return for which he would stand treat for a dish of gossip to be administered *en route*.

Living as close as he did to Old Cary Hall, he generally knew what Mr. Druitt was about, when he was hunting, when he was shooting, when he was entertaining company, when he was being entertained by others. Most certainly of all did he know when to be at the station on the day Mr. Druitt returned from his yearly absence in the north. He had found out that he was absolutely sure of a welcome then.

Mr. Druitt had been in residence about a twelvemonth when the following conversation took place, which may serve as a sample of many others about the same period.

"Papa says we can't be thankful enough for having such a neighbour, Lady Tilbury."

"A neighbour at all is something, Sophia. 'Even an enemy would be welcome,' as somebody says somewhere."

"Of course it is not quite the same to you. Reggie Goffe was so intimate with you all. You must miss his coming and going."

"He would have gone to India at any rate. The sale only hastened his departure by a few months."

"And he could never have lived at the Hall" (time-honoured remark!). "The house required all that Mr. Druitt has spent on it to make it habitable. It *is* delightful now, is it not, Lady Tilbury?"

"Delightful—but not perfect, Sophia."

"Do you not think it is perfect? Really? And Mr. Druitt has spent thousands on it! Papa was reckoning up, and he says it could not have been done under thousands. And yet Mr. Druitt has altered nothing he could help. We were there yesterday"—with renewed animation—"and he was showing us round; we had never been *quite* round the interior before, and really it is *wonderful*. Everything in the most perfect order; the empty rooms all folded up and covered with holland, but perfectly clean, and ready at any time to be taken into use. The windows stood open—all in good

working order; the pictures and prints have been cleaned; the very brass glittered. And you know what terrible draughts of wind used to blow down those great open staircases? Well, Mr. Druitt has had it so arranged with screens—high folding screens and heavy curtains—that you do not feel a breath! There are double doors, too, for several of the rooms—doors that no draught could penetrate. The billiard-room—papa was in ecstacies over the billiard-room; but he had often seen *it* before; he plays with Mr. Druitt pretty often; it is such a treat to poor papa, who had almost lost his billiard play altogether for want of practice; but *I* had never seen the room, and I must say it is the nicest I ever was in. And the library——"

"I do hope he has not altered the library. That at least might have been left as it was." Iva's voice; a pained, distressed voice. Miss Lossett's eye was upon her in an instant.

"Iva would rather it had all been left as it was?" She laughed a little meaning laugh. "But, my dear Iva, you wait till you have seen for yourself. It is Mr. Druitt's pride that he has not touched a single thing that could possibly have remained untouched. He has not banished a single piece of furniture, however old-fashioned and cumbersome——"

"I should hope not, indeed!"

"And all he has done to the library is to have the books cleaned and catalogued. A librarian is regularly installed there. He was working away as we passed through."

"What else?"

(*To be continued.*)

Births.

Carlyon.—On the 7th March, at Trevarno, Cambridge-road, Bromley, the wife of W. J. Carlyon, of a daughter.

Frohawk.—On the 8th April, at 34, Widmore-road, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Frederick William Frohawk, of a daughter.

Greer.—On the 6th April, at 11, Mackenzie-road, Beckenham, Kent, the wife of Charles James Greer, of a daughter.

Grubb.—On April 11th, at 51, West-street, Bromley, the wife of John T. Grubb, of a daughter.

Moodie.—On the 15th April, at Woodberry, Shortlands, Kent, the wife of Herbert J. Moodie, of a son.

Podmore.—On the 10th inst., at Beechcroft, Bickley, Kent, the wife of John Herbert Podmore, of a son.

Rogers.—On the 1st April, at Redcliffe, Durham-avenue, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Herbert M. Rogers, of a daughter.

Soames.—On the 16th April, at Walpole Lodge, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Alfred Soames, of a daughter.

Tytler.—On the 31st March, at 54, Barnmead-road, Beckenham, the wife of James Tytler, of a son.

Marriages.

Buckland—Satchell.—On the 20th April, at the Parish Church, Bromley, Kent, by the Rev. F. Haslam, Henry Buckland, of Handsworth, Staffordshire, to Jane Saunders Satchell, second daughter of the late T. Satchell, of Bromley.

Dunn—Howard.—On the 19th April, at the parish church, Chislehurst, George Bickham Dunn, second son of the late George Dunn, Esq., of Stevenage, to Ella Catherine, eldest surviving daughter of the late John William Howard, Esq., of Sandgate.

Keer—Hinchliff.—On the 12th inst., at St. Jude's, Peckham, S.E., by the Rev. Lawson Sant Wright, Manning Foord Keer, of High-street, Bromley, Kent, to Julie, eldest daughter of Edward Hinchliff, of Queen's-road, Peckham.

Deaths.

Doble.—On the 28th March, at Muskegon, Beckenham, Amy, wife of Reginald Anderson Doble, aged 82 years.

Gooding.—On the 1st April, at Witley, Surrey, Harry Gooding, of 20, West-street, Bromley, Kent, aged 62 years.

Jennings.—On the 10th April, at Shortlands, Kent, Fredk. W. Jennings, late Chief Clerk of the Lord Chamberlain's Office, St. James's Palace, aged 80.

Martin.—On the 1st April, at Rusthall, Highland-road, Bromley, Kent, Florence Maud, wife of James Alexander Martin, aged 38.

Maylor.—On the 9th April, at Beckenham, Mary Sarah, wife of William Maylor, M.Inst C.E., aged 53.

McCaul.—On the 9th April, at Chislehurst, Jessie Sarah, daughter of Gilbert J. McCaul, in her 17th year.

Walker.—On the 18th April, at Willscott, Beckenham, Kent, Grace, widow of George William Walker, formerly of Lewisham and Rochester, in her 76th year.

Winter.—On the 7th April, at Shenley, Beckenham, Fanny, widow of Thomas Le Mesurier Winter, and daughter of the late Stanley Percival, of Bridgefoot House, Herts, 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. Hunt (the land being sold) to Sell by Auction at The Valley Nursery, Beckenham Lane, on Saturday, May 14, 1898, at 12 for 1 o'clock precisely, the above Greenhouses, Plants, &c.

May be viewed the day previous and morning of sale, and catalogues obtained of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Land Agents, Surveyors, and Auctioneers, Bromley, and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

By order of the Executor of the late J. J. Rodgers, Esq.

KENT, BROMLEY.—Seventeen exceptionally fine Freehold Building Plots on the Shawfield Park Estate, situate at the corner of the Chislehurst Road, Widmore, possessing very fine sites for the erection of bijou residences, of which for many years a great scarcity has existed in the neighbourhood. The land is placed within a few minutes' walk of four railway stations, with access to all parts of London under half an hour. Immediate possession.

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For remainder of Auction Sales see back page.

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May be viewed and particulars with plan and conditions of Sale obtained of R. Creese Harrison, Esq., Architect, 103, Cannon-street, E.C.; of Messrs. Wilson, Bristows, & Carpmael, Solicitors, 1, Copthall Buildings, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William-street, E.C.

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MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, May 4th, 1898, at 2 o'clock precisely, in 5 lots, the above described country cottage and surrounding fruit plantations, with valuable frontages to good roads and admirably adapted for building purposes.

May be viewed prior to sale and the residence by order, and particulars with plan and conditions of sale obtained of Percy K. Langdale, Esq., Solicitor, 50, Holborn Viaduct, 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 page.

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AND

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The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

JUNE, 1898.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

4th.—Annual dinner of the Chislehurst Golf Club, at Camden House.

5th.—*Trinity Sunday.*—Anniversary services at the Bromley Wesleyan Church, sermons by the Rev. Dr. W. H. Dallinger.

6th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board at the Offices, Wharton-road, Bromley.—Meeting of the St. Luke's Burial Board at the Institute, Bromley Common.—Beckenham Lawn Tennis Tournament commences at the Cricket Ground, Foxgrove-road.

7th.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council at the Council Offices, East-street, Bromley.—Grand International Fete at the St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common, on behalf of the St. Luke's Mission Room, and the Men's Help Society's building fund.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter Payne and Lepper, of furniture, etc., at "St. Winnows," London-road, Bromley.

8th.—Inquiry by the Kent County Council into the petition for allotments in the Shortlands Valley district, at the Council Offices, East-street, Bromley, at 8 p.m.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter Payne and Lepper, of "Oakbank," Lubbock-road, Chislehurst, and "Holmleigh," Bromley-road, Grove Park, at the Mart, City, E.C.

12th.—*First Sunday after Trinity.*

13th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

19th.—*Second Sunday after Trinity.*

20th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30.—Eighth annual excursion of the Bromley and Chislehurst Lodges of the Ancient Order of Foresters, to Brighton.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board at the Offices, Wharton-road Schools.

21st.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council at the Council Offices, East-street.

22nd.—Monthly sitting of the Bromley County Court, at the Sessions House, Market-square.

26th.—*Third Sunday after Trinity.*

27th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

29th.—Visit of H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany to Chislehurst, on the occasion of a fete on behalf of the Deptford Fund, in the grounds of Camden House.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

Meetings of this authority were held on May 10th and 24th, when several matters of considerable local interest, such as the light railway proposal and the triennial elections question, were dealt with.

THE LIGHT RAILWAY PROJECT.

The Council received formal intimation at their meeting on May 10th, of the application to be made for powers to construct a light railway from Herne Hill, through Beckenham and Bromley to Farnborough, and were requested to notify their assent or dissent to the proposal. At the same meeting a letter was read from the Beckenham Urban District Council, asking the Council to join with them in strenuously opposing the scheme, and pointing out that a light railway would be an intolerable nuisance to ordinary traffic.—It was stated in the notice from the promoters that the property affected by the proposal in the Bromley district would include South Hill Park-road, and the main road from Mason's Hill to Farnborough. Plans would be deposited at a later stage, but the Council were required to intimate their views on or before May 29th.—Upon the proposition of Mr. M. J. Dickins, seconded by Mr. G. Lawrence, the Council agreed to formally oppose the scheme.—It was decided on May 24th to leave the matter in the hands of the General Purposes Committee, a resolution in favour of combining with the Beckenham Council in opposing the scheme being rejected.

TRIENNIAL V. ANNUAL ELECTIONS.

A lengthy discussion took place on May 10th, over a proposition by Mr. McIntyre in favour of an application being made to the Kent County Council for an order directing the whole of the Council to retire on the 15th April in every third year, instead of a third of the members retiring annually. The mover quoted figures to show how public interest in the elections had decreased year by year, 64 per cent. of the ratepayers voting in 1894, while only 36 per cent. voted at the last elections in April of the present year, and Mr. McIntyre referred to the fact that the adoption of the triennial principle by the Beckenham Council had resulted in a slight increase of voters.—Mr. Worley seconded the resolution, believing that it would have the desired effect of rousing more interest in public affairs.—Mr. Nye strongly opposed the change, and warmly resented a reference made to the apathy of the electors at the election when he secured his seat. Had the results been different they would not, he said, have moved in the matter. He pointed out that annual elections only cost £130 more every three years, than triennial contests, and suggested that the recent apathy of the electors was due to the Council's own actions.—Mr. Dickins regarded the want of interest shown as a sign of contentment, and did not consider any change desirable.—Mr. Grinsted said unanimity was needed if the proposal was to be successful, and he suggested that the incorporation of Bromley would be a better expedient.—Mr. Lawrence remarked that at triennial elections each man did not always run on his own merit.—Eventually, the resolution was put to the meeting and rejected by one vote, the division being as follows:—For: Messrs. Mayne, McIntyre, Wor-

ley, D. Payne, and Dr. Price (5); against: Messrs. Dickins, Peill, Harris, Nye, Lord, and Hutchings (6). Three members—Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Grinsted, and the Chairman (Mr. Mallett)—abstained from voting.

THE PROPOSED DUST DESTRUCTOR.

It was agreed, upon Mr. Lawrence's proposition, to postpone consideration of the proposed provision of a dust destructor for Bromley, for another period of three months—by which time Mr. T. Davis (the prime mover in the matter) will have returned from his Australian trip.

COUNCIL'S WORKMEN AND SATURDAYS.

The question of arranging for the workmen in the Council's employ to leave off work at one o'clock on Saturdays was again brought forward by a request that the Council would give a definite answer to the men's petition presented last year. —It was stated that the men had agreed to an arrangement whereby they would do extra work in turns on Saturdays without payment, if required; and subject to this condition, the Council, after a short discussion, decided to accede to the request.

DEMAND FOR ALLOTMENTS.

The Council received an intimation, at their meeting on May 12th, that the Kent County Council had decided to hold a local enquiry, into the petition received from ratepayers in the Shortlands Valley district, asking for allotment-grounds. The inquiry takes place at the Bromley Council Offices, on the evening of Wednesday, June 8th.—The Recreation Grounds Committee reported to the Council at a subsequent meeting that they had been unable to secure land for allotments in the Shortlands Valley district.

THE ELECTRIC LIGHT WORKS.

Plans for the electric lighting station at the rear of West-street, Bromley, were received on May 10th, and referred to the Highways Committee, as was also a letter from Mr. W. A. Dickinson, stating that any proposal to erect a chimney-shaft in connection with the works, in such a central part of the town would be strongly opposed, as it would be very injurious and an eyesore. At the next Council meeting the Highways Committee recommended that the plans be passed, and this was agreed to, the Chairman, in answer to Mr. Nye, stating that the Council had no power to stop the erection of such a factory with a shaft in the centre of the town.

CHERRY ORCHARD ROAD.

The Council were requested, by a memorial from the pastor and deacons of the Bromley Common Baptist Church, to take over Cherry Orchard-road, which connects the main Sevenoaks-road and Upper Gravel-road, at Bromley Common, and offers to give up the necessary land for widening purposes were made. It was stated that the whole or part of the road was formerly a public thoroughfare, and was used almost entirely by traffic which would otherwise use the northern section of the Upper Gravel-road, so saving that highway a large amount of wear and tear. Under these circumstances the memorialists urged that the road should be taken over and maintained at the public expense.—The matter was referred to the Highways Committee.

A DUAL SYSTEM.

A discussion arose at the meeting on May 24th, on a resolution brought forward by Mr. Nye, condemning the system by which Mr. J. Attwood acted in the dual capacity of a weekly employee and also as a contractor under the Council. Mr. Nye contended that it was a system most conducive to false returns being made in the Council's time-sheets, and that an exorbitant price for the work of making connections with the main sewer was charged under the arrangement. In a long speech he alleged that he had discovered certain discrepancies in the time-sheets and pay-sheets referring to the matter, and challenged the Council or the Surveyor to contradict his statement that many of the time-sheets were incorrect.—Mr. F. Lord seconded the resolution, and said he did so in order that the matter might be properly investigated.—The Chairman said the dual arrangement had been handed down to the Council from the Local Board, and theoretically it was, he admitted, an undesirable system. He suggested that the matter should be inquired into by a committee of the whole Council; and an amendment to this effect was moved by Mr. McIntyre and seconded by Mr. Worley.—Mr. Nye resented this suggestion and threatened to publish to the public the proceedings of such a committee. —Mr. Grinsted questioned whether a member was at liberty to publish abroad the doings of the Council in committee; but the Clerk said he believed it rested with each member to treat as he thought proper any proceedings in committee.—Mr. Worley, Mr. Dickins, Mr. Lawrence, and Mr. Hutchings agreed with the Chairman that the question could not be properly dealt with in open Council; and eventually the amendment was carried by a large majority.

THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

The Council adopted the General Purposes Committee's recommendation to effect an insurance for those of their workmen employed in the dangerous works specified in the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, such as sewering, steam-rolling, work in pits, etc., and to refer the question of the rates for insurance to the Finance Committee.

A DOUBLE CHECK ON EXPENDITURE.

Mr. McIntyre, at the meeting on May 24th, brought forward a resolution to the effect that in future all accounts for work done and goods supplied should be examined by the Committee responsible for the expenditure, and signed by its chairman before being presented to the Finance Committee. He pointed out that it was very desirable to have a double check of that kind upon all payments.—Mr. Nye seconded the proposition: and it was adopted.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The deficit of £24 18s. 2d. on the Local Jubilee Celebration Fund has, upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee, been charged against the rates.—The Sanitary Committee have been instructed to consider a proposal from the Kent County Council for grouping districts in the county together and appointing one medical officer of health for the combined area. The Local Board, Mr. G. Payne stated, considered a similar suggestion some years ago and decided that it was very undesirable.—The question of paying for the use of a dust-shoot has been referred to the Sanitary Committee to take into consideration.—It was agreed to give permission to the Foresters' Brass Band to play on the Recreation Ground, Martin's Hill on Wednesday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30.—The agent for the purchaser of Turpington Farm, Southborough, wrote, stating that the estate was about to be developed, and that the owner would give up land to widen the lanes adjoining his land, if the Council would make up the pathways and put in a sewer in the roads.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

During May three meetings of this Board were held, on the 2nd, 16th, and 23rd days of the month.

THE ATTENDANCE QUESTION.

At the first meeting a return was presented,

showing that in the schools in Bromley accommodation was provided for 5,178 children, 4,223 were on the rolls, and 3,939 attended, the percentages of attendance being 82 per cent. of the infants and 85 per cent. of the standard scholars, giving an average attendance for the district of 3,559. A return was also submitted by the Clerk at the meeting on May 16th, from which it appeared that the percentage of attendances during the preceding week in the Board Schools had been 82, and 85 in the Voluntary Schools. Those figures, he stated, showed an improvement on previous returns.—Mr. Loly asked how it was that the attendances at the Voluntary Schools were best; and the Chairman replied by pointing out that the Voluntary Schools had the pick of the scholars. Some of the parents in the vicinity of the Board Schools were, he said, very indifferent concerning their children's education.

The Absence of Sick Children.

The Board were informed at the meeting on May 2nd, by a letter from a parent, that though he had notified to the teachers that his children were unable to attend school, having contracted an infectious diesease from some children sent him by the Boarding-out Committee of the Bromley Union, he had been served with a notice.—It was pointed out that the Board were frequently placed in a false position, by the omission on the part of teachers to mark children, who were ill, as sick, on the register; and in their report presented at the next meeting the School Management Committee expressed their opinion that greater care should be exercised by the teachers.

Tenders for Caretaker's House.

On the 16th May, the Board received three fresh tenders for the erection, on modified plans, of a caretaker's house at the Wharton-road Schools. The architect (Mr. Bell) stated that the plans were exactly similar to those of a caretaker's house erected at the Raglan-road Schools eight years ago for £250. The amounts of the three tenders were read by the Clerk as follows:—Mr. J. Hutchings, Bromley, £360; Mr. L. Evans, Bromley, £413; and Mr. Lowe, Chislehurst, £479. It had been confidently anticipated that the modified plans would bring the cost within £300; and the figures of the tenders caused considerable surprise. After some discussion it was decided to accept Mr. Hutchings' tender, it being pointed out that even at the increased price the new building would effect a saving as compared with the present arrangement of renting a house.

Clerk's Salary Increased.

At the meeting of the Board on May 23rd, the School Management Committee reported that they had had the question of the Clerk's salary under consideration, and recommended that it be increased to £300 per year, on condition that he gave up his other appointments and devoted his whole time to the service of the Board. This recommendation was adopted, and will take effect at the end of the financial year, in September.

Miscellaneous.

A cheque for £13 7s. 0d., the sum claimed against the Board as their portion of the cost of the making up of Haxted-road, which had been disputed, was ordered to be drawn.—It was decided to advertise for a trained head-teacher for the Wharton-road Infants' School, at a commencing salary of £100, to commence duties on August 22nd, and sixty-nine applications were afterwards received.—A gratuity of £5 to Mr. F. Santer, who had passed very successfully in the Queen's Scholarship examinations, had been recommended, but the Board decided not to make the allowance, in consequence of Mr. Santer having left their employ without giving notice. At a subsequent meeting the matter was again discussed, and a motion in favour of giving the gratuity will be submitted at the next meeting.

Bromley Football Club.—The members of the Bromley Football Club mustered in large numbers at the "Bell" Hotel on Tuesday, May 17th, for their annual business meeting. Mr. R. Girling occupied the chair, and a fairly satisfactory report on the season's work was presented by the secretary (Mr. A. Ridgway). Though the club had been less successful in their matches than in the preceding season, better teams had had to work hard for victory, and the club's record showed that of 41 matches played 20 were won, 16 lost, and 5 drawn. Mr. G. Allen (financial secretary) reported that the financial position had improved, old liabilities having been wiped off, and a balance left in hand of £14. It was decided to reduce the Committee to seven, and they and the other officers were appointed. The question of a fresh ground for next season was allowed to stand over, negotiations being in progress.

A Servant Suspected of Child-Murder.—On Tuesday, May 10th, a sensational and serious affair was brought to light at Bromley, by the holding of an inquest at the Urban Council Offices, touching the death of a newly-born child discovered on the previous Sunday, in a cellar at a private house in Lansdowne-road, Bromley, in a shockingly mutilated condition.—The evidence went to show that a young woman named Fanny Gardner had been employed at the house—known as "Drusden"—as a general servant, and was noticed by her mistress to be very ill. She had been keeping company with a young man named Greenwood, living at 25, Wharton-road, Bromley, whither she was taken owing to her illness. After her removal her mistress found the body of a newly-born child in the cellar, with its throat cut, and the medical evidence proved that the young woman had been delivered of a child. The deceased had had a separate existence, and had died from hemorrhage and shock due to the injuries. The young woman was removed to the Union Infirmary and is now making satisfactory progress toward recovery. The inquiry was adjourned until June 7th, and in the meantime the young woman has been formally charged with wilful murder, and will appear before the magistrates in due course.

Liberal Gathering at Chislehurst.—Sir Patteson Nickalls presided over the thirteenth annual meeting of the Sevenoaks Division Liberal Council, which was held at Chislehurst on Tuesday, May 3rd, and well attended by delegates from Bromley and other parts of the district. Mr. R. A. McAndrew, J.P., of West Wickham, was elected president for the ensuing year in succession to Mr. F. Hudson, J.P., resigned, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was accorded, and Mr. Hudson was re-appointed treasurer. The names of Mr. F. F. Belsey, J.P. (of Bromley), Mr. W. B. Fitch (Mottingham), and Mr. E. C. Waters (Chislehurst), were added to the list of vice-presidents; and Messrs. Amos and Vian were re-elected honorary secretaries. Addresses bearing on the political situation were given by Sir Patteson Nickalls, Mr. Robert Whyte, junior, and Mr. R. A. McAndrew; and a vote of sympathy with the late Mr. Gladstone in his illness was unanimously passed.

Mr. F. S. Isitt, of St. Catherine's, Beckenham, has been selected as the Liberal candidate for the North Dorset Parliamentary Division.

Mr. F. L. Muirhead, of St. Margaret's, Shortlands, has taken Downe Lodge.

AN INTERESTING MOTOR TRIP.

The following appeared in the BROMLEY CHRONICLE one week last month:—

A few weeks ago a description appeared in our columns of a motor-carriage belonging to a resident of Farnborough, and this week we have to detail our own experiences of a journey by motor-car from Coventry to Bromley.

Having placed an order with the Daimler Motor Co., Limited, of Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C., and Coventry, for a carriage of the waggonette pattern, we were duly informed a few days ago that the same was ready for delivery, and accordingly forthwith betook ourselves to the city of Lady Godiva all eagerness to behold and make trial of the new purchase. Coventry, as is well known, is the centre of the bicycle industry, and has now become the headquarters of the infant motor business as well. Both methods of locomotion require good roads, but by some strange fate that ancient city has some of the worst paved streets it has ever been our misfortune to encounter. In addition to this its thoroughfares are narrow and crowded, while the main streets have lately been invaded by the electric tram, so that altogether it may be said that the town affords excellent opportunities for testing the capabilities of any method of locomotion. That the motor-car is adapted as well as—enthusiastic motor-carists will say better than—any other method of progression for places of crowded traffic, a few hours' stay in this busy seat of industry will amply prove, and the way in which the cars glide through the streams of lorries, cabs, carts, tram-cars, and vehicles of all descriptions will fairly astonish those who are not acquainted with the possibilities of the motor.

The Daimler Motor Company's works are located in a substantial-looking building situate some half-mile from the centre of the town, and on the occasion of a former visit to it fourteen months previously, we had found there were 200 hands employed; this number has now been doubled, and considerable extensions of the buildings carried out. The output of carriages has been proportionately increased, and every week now sees some five vehicles from the hooded phaeton to the Post Office mail-van sent out to eager purchasers.

Some days were spent by us in testing our car over the beautiful roads of the counties of Warwick and Worcester, and it must be admitted that the excellence of the surface of some of these goes far to atone for the execrable quality of those in Coventry itself. On the first day we made a journey of 54 miles accomplished without a single hitch. The second day we were content with 28 miles, but on the third we covered 70.

We must now proceed to give a brief description of the car which as before mentioned is of the waggonette type. The vehicle is entirely made in England though the inventor of the motor is Mr. Gottlieb Daimler, a German, who was an assistant of Otto, the inventor of the well-known gas engine that bears his name. The frame of the carriage was made at Coventry, but the body was made at Mulliner's carriage works at Northampton. The car is, it may be remarked, of the same make as that which last autumn was driven by its owner, Mr. H. Sturmey, from John o' Groat's to Land's End and caused so much interest in the course of its journey. It may also be added that it is the same type of motor that has almost without exception gained all the chief prizes in the various competitions that have taken place in France. The motive power is petrol—usually described as an oil but more properly a mineral spirit, being purified benzoline. It is worked by the explosion of the vapour mixed with air under the influence of heat in the same way as an ordinary gas engine. The method of ignition is a tube heated by a burner. The motor is of the two cylinder vertical type, all the working parts being encased, thus ensuring perfect protection against dirt, dust, and weather. It is so constructed that the charge of petrol and air is automatically adapted to all conditions of its various loads, by which means regularity of speed and economy of fuel are secured.

To come to the record of our journey, we left Coventry a party of four, with a considerable amount of baggage, on Tuesday, at 12 noon, in fair weather, and proceeded along the fine Holyhead road to Dunchurch, accomplishing the eleven miles to that ancient town in just about one hour. Having no horse to bait we did not linger, but sailed gaily on through Braunston to Daventry, eight miles further on our road. The main street of Daventry runs up a rather steep incline, and here, for the first time, we lowered our "devil"—an iron bar with a sharp point which can be trailed behind the car to prevent it running back, in case of a stoppage when going up hill—but there was no need of its services. Through Weedon Beck we sped to Towcester, a distance of 31 miles from our starting point, where we stopped to refresh the inner man, the time occupied so far being 2 hours, 40 minutes. Here we replenished the water tank, for water is necessary for this type of engine, not of course to make steam, but for cooling purposes. After a rest of three-quarters of an hour we started on our way again, and quickly passed through Potters Pury and the Stratfords, our only stoppages being caused by meeting refractory horses, one of which not only turned round at the sight of the new form of vehicle, but strangely enough then backed towards it, with the result that the van to which it was attached, which was of a top-heavy description, gently capsized on the soft grass by the roadside. Fortunately, no one was hurt, and having rendered what assistance was possible, we proceeded on our way, passing through Brickhill and Hockliffe, greatly admiring the useful piece of engineering, whereby the road between these two points has been levelled by means of an embankment and cutting. Dunstable was the next place of any size reached, and our progress through this town excited no little interest. Another 7½ miles brought us to the city of St. Albans, where we had decided to stay the night. The hands of the clock pointed to 6.50 when we reached the cathedral town, and our road-book informed us that we had accomplished 70 miles, so that we had done the journey at the rate of over 10 miles an hour, stoppages for lunch, nervous horses, etc., thrown in. We had started with four gallons of petrol in our tank, and still had half a gallon left; on the basis of the present price of that liquid, the cost for fuel was just over a halfpenny a mile. We got under way at 10.50 next morning and pursued the road to London, through South Mimms, Barnet, and Highgate, and of course had to lessen our speed somewhat on reaching the crowded streets of the metropolis. Our road led us through the heart of the City, and over London Bridge, and the behaviour of the motor through the dense traffic put plenty of horses to shame, stopping, starting, or backing with perfect sweetness of temper. Down the Old and New Kent roads we rattled merrily, and it was satisfactory to find that the solid rubber-tyred wheels showed far less disposition to skid against the tram-lines, than do those of the ordinary carriage. We were compelled to run slowly through the parish of Lewisham, and without hesitation that Board of Works may be assigned the palm for the badness of its roads, the state of the surface at Southend beggaring description. An otherwise pleasant run of an hour from London brought us to Bromley, where we alighted after an agreeable first experience of touring by motor, the distance from St. Albans being about 33 miles, and having occupied 3 hours, 5 minutes.

MUSICAL JOTTINGS.

On the evening of Ascension Day there was the usual festival service at St. Mary's, Plaistow, when three numbers from the "Messiah" were sung as an anthem, and at the conclusion of the service "Handel's Sonata in A" was played by orchestra and organ. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Mr. F. L. Thomas.

It has been arranged to hold in Bromley a Local Examination in music in connection with Trinity College, London, on 27th June.

The concert season practically closed in this district, with the two concerts reported in last month's "Record," and it may be worth while to take a brief glance at what has been accomplished.

The Bromley Musical Society have as usual given four concerts in the Drill Hall, the principal works performed being "St. Paul," Hoffmann's Cantata "Melusina," and a large number of Orchestral pieces both classical and popular.

The arrangement announced at the beginning of the season of "A special rehearsal for all professionals engaged, and as many members as possible, on the day of each concert," must have involved much additional expenditure both of money and labour, but there can be no question that it conduced very largely to the brilliant success which attended these concerts.

The members of the "Bromley Philharmonic Association" have done a fair amount of work in spite of the difficulties which always beset the early years of a musical society. In addition to several minor entertainments, they gave a public concert at the Bromley Grand Hall at which "Acis and Galatea" was performed, but though the audience was appreciative, the financial result, it is to be feared, was not very satisfactory.

Not least among the pleasant memories of the past season, will rank Mr. Norman Bath's concert of chamber music, at the Co-operative Hall, the first of its kind in Bromley for at least 8 or 10 years.

The musical services at St. Luke's Church on Sunday afternoons, the week-night organ recitals and the performance of "Christus" at Bromley Parish Church, and the special service at Plaistow mentioned above, have all, in addition to their more serious purpose, tended to promote a taste for high class music, and therefore may be mentioned in this column.

The Beckenham and Shortlands Choral Societies have both done good work during the winter, and there have been several miscellaneous events, chiefly in the nature of private ventures, but these latter do not call for special notice.

LOCAL OBITUARY.

MR. LYNCH WHITE, BICKLEY.

The death occurred, at the age of 47, on Sunday, May 1st, at Bournemouth, of Mr. Lynch White, of "Homefield," Southborough-road, Bickley. Deceased had formerly lived in Bromley, and was well known in the district. A fit was the immediate cause of death. The funeral took place on May 5th, at Woking Crematorium.

MR. J. BIGGS, ORPINGTON.

Mr. James Biggs, an old and esteemed resident of Orpington, and father-in-law to the Rev. W. Holyoak, pastor of Bromley Common Baptist Church, passed away on May-day, after several weeks' illness, at the age of 66. The deceased gentleman was prominently indentified with the work at Orpington Baptist Church, having been a deacon and church secretary. The interment took place on May 6th.

MRS. NEWTON, BICKLEY.

On May 4th, the death of Mrs. Mary Newton, wife of Mr. H. Newton, of "Westwood," Bickley, took place, at the age of sixty-six. The interment was at Bromley Cemetery, and the first part of the burial service was held at Bickley Church. The deceased lady was widely respected, and many beautiful floral tributes were sent by relatives and friends.

MR. AMOS BORER, BROMLEY.

Mr. Amos Borer, butcher, of Bromley, who for several years had taken a prominent part in local athletics and gained some distinction as a marksman in the Bromley (A) Troop of the West Kent Yeomanry, died after a short illness on Friday, May 13th, at 26, High-street. He contracted a cold at the Yeomanry Sports held on May 4th, and this developed into pneumonia, congestion of the lungs, and pleurisy. Deceased was only twenty-three years of age, and at the funeral, which took place on Thursday, May 19th, at Bromley Cemetery, representatives of the Yeomanry, Bromley Football Club, Bromley Conservative Club, and other bodies attended, to pay their last tributes of respect, while many wreathes and crosses were sent by sorrowing relatives and friends.

MRS. EGGLETON, CHISLEHURST.

The death took place rather suddenly at Dover, on May 17th, of Mrs. Eggleton, who for many years was mistress of the Chislehurst Parochial Schools, and resigned that appointment about twelve months ago. The deceased lady had had a stroke of paralysis on the previous Friday, from which she never recovered.

MISS H. WILKINSON, SHORTLANDS.

A very old and respected inhabitant of Shortlands passed away, in the person of Miss Helen Wilkinson, on May 21st, in the ninety-seventh year of her age. The deceased lady had resided at "The Glen," Shortlands, for over thirty years, and beyond the infirmities natural to such great age, she had enjoyed good health, being able to drive out a few days before her death. The funeral took place at Plaistow Cemetery—being the first outside burial admitted there—on Wednesday, May 25th, the service being conducted by the Rev. W. Hodgson. The mourners included: Mr. Horace Wilkinson (nephew) and his son and daughter, Mr. Tarrell Wilkinson and Miss Theresa Wilkinson, Mr. Conrad Wilkinson (nephew), Miss Rosa Wilkinson (niece), Sir Patteson Nickalls and Mr. Gunn. Mr. H. G. Dunn, of the Market Square, Bromley, carried out the funeral arrangements.

MISS WITHERBY, BROMLEY.

The death took place on May 17th, of Miss Witherby, an old resident of Bromley, who passed away at the advanced age of 77 years. The deceased lady lived at 37, Widmore-road: and the funeral took place at Reigate on May 20th.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has instituted to the rectory of Chelsfield the Rev. J. J. Baddeley, M.A., who has exchanged livings with the Rev. H. B. Barnes.

Mr. W. H. Long, President of the Board of Agriculture, hopes he may be able very soon to relax the muzzling orders now in force in the county of Kent.

WOOLWICH ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

VISIT TO PLUMSTEAD.

The first summer excursion of this flourishing society took place on the 7th of May, when the programme included visits to the old church at Plumstead, the Roman Dock at Abbey Wood, and the ruins of Lesness Abbey. Plumstead Church, where the party assembled, was described by the president of the Society (Mr. W. T. Vincent) and the Vicar of Plumstead (Rev. J. McAllister). The structure has evidently suffered much from neglect and from restoration, and there is a deserted and forsaken look about it which is somewhat depressing to a visitor. Yet there are still a good many fragments of interest to those who search for them. The traces of Norman masonry, the old foundations affording evidences of the former extent of the church, and the early memorials to the departed in the floor of the nave and in the churchyard, are all worthy of careful study.

The east wall of the church has two perfectly clear examples of Norman arches. It seems probable that these were the external windows of the original Norman church which stood on a site immediately east of the existing church. The remains of foundations extending eastward from the church, and supposed by some to indicate a former extension of the edifice, serves to support this theory. It is possible that the earlier building was abandoned owing to the insecurity of the foundations. The north aisle of the church was for many years in ruins owing to the same cause. The only really fine feature of the church is the brick-work tower, erected about the middle of the 17th century, and this is remarkable not so much on account of any architectural merit as for the very fine tones which the brick-work has acquired from exposure to the weather.

The party, numbering nearly a hundred, next proceeded across the fields to the Roman Dock —a deep excavation near the ruins of Lesness Abbey. Mr. Vincent, who gave a short but interesting lecture on the subject, pointed out that the marshes in this vicinity were formerly flooded with a depth of twelve feet of water at every tide, and in the spring there were tides which rose to a height of even twenty feet above the ground level. This, of course, was before the construction of the earth wall which now confines the waters of the river. There was, he clearly showed, every reason to suppose that this deep and partially artificial excavation, was employed by the Romans during their occupation as a place for building and repairing ships.

The adjoining ruins of Lesness Abbey were next visited. The bay-tree marking the site of the grave of Richard De Luci, the eminent soldier and statesman, and the first abbot of the Abbey, was pointed out, and some of the ruinous walls were identified as parts of the important monastic establishment which once occupied this spot.

The excursion was entirely successful in every way, thanks to the exertions of those who were responsible for the arrangements, and also to the glorious weather which added in no small degree to the pleasures of rambling in search of the antique and the picturesque.

A vacancy having arisen on the Kent County Council, owing to the elevation of Mr. W. B. Tylden-Pattenson to aldermanic rank, Mr. J. R. Diggle, of St. Michael's, Tenterden, and Cornwall Terrace, Regent's Park, London, late chairman of the London School Board, has been elected, without opposition, to represent the Tenterden division.

"AIRS APPARENT."

II.—FASHION.

O Fashion, most foolish of fancies,
That flutters the feminine breast,
Which follows your changes and chances
With pleasing and palpitant zest.
Far be it from me to abuse you,
Sweet emblem of woman and art;
But the way that the fair ones misuse you
Gives pain to my heart.

Time was when your wisdom asserted
To our ancestors long ago dead,
That a large flower basket inverted
Was the only fit garb for the head.
That the freedom of ankles and such like
No tight-fitting garments should coop,
And a thing should be worn which was much like
The infantile hoop.

Time was when your cunning despotic
Observed that the birds of the sky,
Whether native or merely exotic,
Were objects of joy to the eye;
When the child of the air and the water,
Sweet songster of beautiful hue,
Was cheerfully given to slaughter
To gratify you.

But that is all past and discarded,
And vanity, sated with crime,
So long by convention retarded,
Has hit upon something sublime.
For a morbid and masculine keenness
Has seized on the latter-day maid,
Which knocks the admirers of Venus
Right into the shade.

O Time, thou respectable roller
Of fashions and fancies and frocks!
Hast thou seen the saltatory bowler
Reposing on Julia's locks?
And Chloe, most artful of witches,
Who was once our delight and our joy,
Encased in a waistcoat and breeches
Of stout corduroy.

What more, O ye garlanded graces!
What further, O Cyprian dame!
Full well may you cover your faces
Concealing your blushes and shame.
When woman, the fairest of creatures,
Behaves in such wonderful ways,
Then the blushes that bloom on your features
Are worthy of praise.

C. B.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE ON THE RAILWAY.—A sensational attempt to commit suicide occurred at the Bromley Station of the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway on Sunday afternoon, May 15th, when a young man named John Charles Rummell, of Tottenham, leapt off the footbridge on to the rails in front of an approaching train. He had a miraculous escape, the engine and carriages passing over him without injuring him in any way, and beyond a scalp wound and bruised heel, he was not hurt. When brought before the Bromley magistrates the next day it transpired that the prisoner had attempted the rash act owing to a quarrel with his sweetheart, who lived in Bromley. He was remanded for a week, and on May 23rd was discharged after being cautioned. Prisoner had been employed as a postman at Southgate, and had previously worked as a postman at Swanley.

The Rev. N. J. Freer, Rector of Cudham, has accepted the offer of a living in Worcestershire.

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DIARY OF MAY.

April.

29th.—Annual meetings of the Bromley Board of Guardians and Rural District Council, when Col. Sir J. Farnaby Lennard, Bart., was unanimously re-elected to the chair.

30th.—First annual dinner of the Beckenham Cricket Club, under the presidency of Mr. A. H. Baker, at Howard's Assembly Rooms, Beckenham.

May.

1st.—Special May-day service conducted by the Rev. T. Nicholson at the Bromley Congregational Church.

2nd.—Annual audit of the accounts of the Bromley Board of Guardians and Rural District Council, by Mr. W. G. Cox, at the Offices, 96, High-street, Bromley.

3rd.—Final concert of the season by the Shortlands Choral Society at the Parish Room, Shortlands.—Thirteenth annual meeting of the Sevenoaks Division Liberal Council, at Chislehurst, Sir Patteson Nickalls presiding.—Second concert of the 14th season of the Beckenham Orchestral Society at the Public Hall.

4th.—Bromley Amateur Dramatic Society's performance of "Judah," at the Grand Hall, on behalf of the Bromley Cottage Hospital funds.—Annual sports of the "A" Troop, West Kent Yeomanry, at Sundridge Park.—Annual general meeting of the Beckenham Abstainers' Union at the Public Hall, Mr. J. M. Skinner presiding.

6th.—Bromley Philharmonic Association's soiree at the Co-operative Hall, East-street.

8th.—Dedication festival services at St. John's Church, Bromley.

9th.—Annual meeting of the West Kent Hockey Club at the "Bay Tree," St. Swithin's-lane, London, Mr. C. A. Nussey presiding.—Audit of the Joint Hospital Board and West Kent Main Sewerage Board's accounts, by Mr. W. G. Cox, at Bromley.

10th.—Public tea and meeting in celebration of the Rev. W. Holyoak's third year of ministry at the Bromley Common Baptist Church.—Public meeting at the Farwig Wesleyan Mission in connection with the annual Synod of the Third London District of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, held during the week at Bromley.—Public meeting at the Village Hall, Chislehurst, on behalf of the Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen, presided over by the Rev. Canon Murray.

11th.—Business meetings in connection with the Wesleyan Synod at the Bromley Wesleyan Church, followed, in the evening, by an official sermon by the Rev. Dr. Dallinger.—Annual meeting of the Beckenham Football Club and of the Beckenham Swifts F.C., at the Church House.

12th.—Gymnastic display at the Village Hall, Chislehurst, by the members of the Senior Band of Hope connected with the Parish Church.

13th.—Performance of the drama entitled "A House of Mystery," at the Grand Hall, Bromley, and on the following night.

15th.—Special services on behalf of the London Missionary Society at the Bromley Congregational Church, the Rev. A. Rowland (President of the Congregational Union) being the preacher in the morning.

16th.—Public meeting in connection with the St. John's Branch of the C.E.T.S. at the Parish Room, Freelands Grove, Bromley, the Rev. P. Barker presiding.—Meeting in aid of foreign missions at the St. Mary Hall, Chislehurst.

17th.—Annual meeting of the Bromley Football Club at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley.—Sale of work at the Beckenham Wesleyan Church, and on the following day, in aid of cleaning and decorating the church.

19th.—(*Ascension Day*). Death of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, at Hawarden Castle.—Annual meeting in connection with the London City Mission at the Bromley Co-operative Hall, the chair being taken by Mr. Theodore Howard.

20th.—Bazaar at the Bromley Drill Hall in aid of Dr. Barnardo's Homes, a sum of £113 being realised.—Adjourned annual meeting of the Bromley Conservative Club, when a vote of condolence with the family of the late Mr. Gladstone was passed.

21st.—Special references to the life and work of the late Mr. W. E. Gladstone made at all the places of worship in this district.

23rd.—Bickley Orchestral Society's concert at St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common.

24th.—Concert at Camden House, in connection with the Chislehurst Ladies' Glee Club.

25th.—Miscellaneous entertainment at St. Mary's Institute, Plaistow.—Performance of Gounod's "Redemption" at St. John's Mission Church, Chislehurst.—Monthly sitting of the Bromley County Court, before His Honour Judge Emden.

26th.—Annual meeting of the Bromley and District Football League, at the Co-operative Hall, East-street.—Evening concert at Camden House, Chislehurst.

28th.—Funeral of the late Mr. Gladstone, at Westminster Abbey.

29th.—Monthly musical service at St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common.

THE RAINFALL.—The rainfall for April, measured by Mr. Batten, The High Field, Bickley, amounted to 1·06 in. Rain fell on nine days, the largest amount registered in one day being ·31 in. on the 27th. For the corresponding month last year the fall was 1·03 in., in 1896 ·75 in., and in 1895 1·57 in.

The funeral of Mrs. Babbage, wife of Major-General Babbage, who for many years was a member of the old Bromley Local Board, took place last month at Bromley Cemetery.

Mr. T. Sidney Cooper, R.A., has returned to Vernon Holme, Canterbury, from London, having quite recovered from his recent severe illness, and is now working daily in his studio.

With the commencement of the present month the BROMLEY RECORD completes the fortieth year of its existence, having been first published in June, 1858.

KENTISH MONASTIC REMAINS.

CHANTRIES AND COLLEGES.

An important branch of the monastic institutions of Kent consisted of what may be included under the comprehensive head of chantries. The terms chantry, chantry chapel, and college, have in process of time become somewhat misunderstood, or at any rate misapplied, and as the popular ideas upon the subject are rather indefinite, we may be pardoned perhaps if we give in a few brief words an outline of their original significance.

Chantry, used with special reference to the chanting or singing of the mass, was an endowment for the maintenance of one priest or more, to sing daily mass for the repose of the soul of the founder or of others specified by him. In process of time the body of priests so employed were spoken of as the chantry, and the same term was applied to the chapel, altar, or part of a church so endowed: but strictly, these were the chantry priests, chantry chapels, etc.

The term *college*, too, in common with so many words which have now lost their mediæval meaning, has become almost entirely restricted to an educational establishment. Its meaning five hundred years ago was quite different. The term properly implies a number of persons incorporated as *colleagues* for certain common purposes, and strictly speaking it has no relation to the building in which those colleagues dwell. It is to be noted, however, that the term college was never applied to the voluntary association of persons as colleagues, but only when they were incorporated by properly constituted authority. Gradually the word became broader in its scope so as to comprehend the building itself. It was applied to a charitable foundation of the collegiate type, particularly to a hospital, asylum, or almshouse, founded to provide residence and maintenance for poor or decayed persons elected members thereof. Bromley College, and Morden College, Blackheath, are good examples of this use of the term.

Still, the chief—probably at one time the only—meaning associated with the word college was that of a community or corporation of clergy living together on a foundation for religious service, and especially for chanting masses—hence the meaning of the term chantry, with which college was practically synonymous.

BREDGAR COLLEGE.

The College of the Holy Trinity at Bredgar, was a foundation of this character. The fine old parish church of Bredgar, with its handsome Norman doorway and grey time-stained walls, still stands as it has for seven or eight centuries stood, the central object of the village. Here, on the floor of the north aisle is an extremely interesting monumental brass commemorating Thomas Coly the Chantry Priest of the College of the Holy Trinity of Bredgar, who died in 1518. The priest

THE HALL, COBHAM COLLEGE, KENT.

BRASS TO THOMAS COLY CHANTRY PRIEST AT BREDGAR, KENT.

himself is shown in effegy vested in academical dress and holding in his hands a chalice containing a conventional representation of the host. The chalice is of elegant form, and if it really represents that in use at the Chantry Altar it is very unfortunate that all the church plate earlier than the 18th century has been lost.

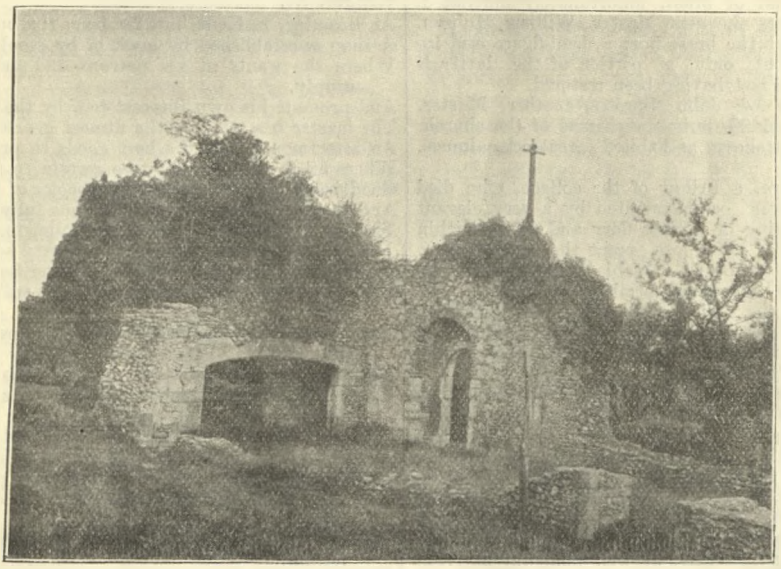
The position of the Chantry Chapel is not precisely known, but it was probably in the north chancel of the church.

This Chantry was founded in the 16th year of Richard II. (1392-1393) by Robert de Bradgare (Rector of the church), John Burbache, and others. It consisted of a chaplain or secular priest, in holy orders, and two scholar clerks or confreers, who were to govern the college and celebrate divine offices, and serve God continually there in future, excepting at those times when the scholars should be employed in their studies. The endowments comprised upwards of four hundred acres of land and certain rents in Hollingbourne, Houkyugge College at Bredgar and all its possessions were surrendered to the king, even before the passing of the Act of Parliament which bestowed properties of this kind upon that rapacious monarch.

Bredgar is a beautifully situated rural village about three miles south of Sittingbourne. It is far away from the noise and bustle of the commercial world, and so has managed to preserve many traces of its former history. The introduction of comparatively new industries has not had the effect of destroying the rustic character of the place, and there are few more charming sights to be seen than the ancient cottages, of which many still exist here, surrounded by the cherry orchards, white with blossom, for which the district is justly famous.

COBHAM COLLEGE.

The College or Chantry of Cobham was founded in the year 1362 as a "perpetual" chantry by John de Cobham, Lord Cobham. A college of five



RUINS OF COBHAM COLLEGE, KENT.

(Hucking), Bradegare (Bredgar), Wormeselle (Wormshill), Bordenne (Borden), Tunstelle (Tunstall), and Bikenore (Bicknor).

The statutes of the College provided that the chaplain should reside and eat in the college, except for the space of one month every year; that he should celebrate mass daily in Bredgar Church; that he should not accept any benefice or office which should hinder his residence; that both the chaplain and the scholars should be competent to sing; and that one of the scholars or the chaplain should be of kin to the founder, for whose soul's repose, of course, the masses were to be chanted.

Opposite Bredgar Church there stands a house which is still locally known as the Chantry House. Here the priest and his assistant scholars resided, and it is a somewhat remarkable fact that the name still clings to the place, having survived the original purpose of the buildings for upwards of three centuries. Unfortunately the fabric of the house has been much altered, and externally, at any rate, its architecture does not present any features of antiquity or interest.

At the time of the suppression of monastic establishments in the reign of Henry VIII., the priests or chaplains was appointed to perform divine service in the church at Cobham for ever. One of these was the Master of the Chantry, presiding over the College and undertaking the cure of the Church. The founder's primary object was that masses should be said to the honour of God, and for the health of his soul and the souls of his progenitors. He endowed the college with his manor of West Chalk, with a property in Cobham, and with 250 acres of marsh land called Rowe Marsh, and several other properties in Kent and Essex.

The same generous benefactor also sumptuously repaired the Church, and gave it several books, vestments, and ecclesiastical ornaments. An interesting list of books, vestments, plate, etc., in the possession of the college in the year 1479, has been printed in Thorpe's *Registrum Roffense*.

Later on John, Lord Cobham, added two more priests to the college, and increased the endowments to support them accordingly. These two additional priests were appointed specially to celebrate mass daily for the souls of Sir John de la Poole, and the Lady Joane his wife, of Sir William de la Poole and Dame Margaret his wife, and of John, Lord Cobham and Dame Margaret his wife.

The two priests lived in common in the college, and were governed and maintained according to the ancient statutes of it, excepting that they were not "perpetual," but might be removed whenever the Master and the more discreet part of the college should so determine.

Among the remarkably fine series of monumental brasses in Cobham Church there are several commemorating Masters of the college, or chantry priests. The earliest of these lying in the chancel is a beautifully engraved demi-figure representing a priest in surplice, over which is a large tippet or almuce with hood, having a fringe of acorn shape, and lappets in front, and fastened in front with an ornamental morse. This brass is in memory of William Tanner, the first Master of the college, who died in 1417.

The succeeding Master, John Gladwin, is also commemorated by a brass, bearing his effigy vested in cassock, surplice, almuce, and cope. He died in 1420.

A memorial of brass, unfortunately mutilated, commemorates the next Master, William Hobson. When perfect the brass bore a demi-figure and inscription, but only a portion of the latter is original, the rest having been restored.

The brass of John Sprotte, another Master, who died in 1499, is in the chancel of the church. The figure is shown as habited in cassock, almuce, and cope.

John Gerye, a Fellow of the college, who died in 1447, was commemorated by a very elegant brass consisting of a cross flory and figure within it, but of this all is lost except the inscription.

These brasses form a valuable series of memorials of the more important members of Cobham College during the period of its prosperity, and they are also interesting as showing the decadence of the art of engraving brasses which took place during the 15th century.

When the suppression of the monasteries took place in the reign of Henry VIII., a clause in the Act of Parliament provided that in the case of this college nothing should be done prejudicial to the interests of Lord Cobham, or his heirs, "but that he and they might, and should have, hold and enjoy the site of this college or chantry, then utterly dissolved, and all and singular its hereditaments and possessions, as well temporal as ecclesiastical, within the realm of England."

The new foundation of Cobham College as almshouses for the poor is due to the generosity of one of the most eminent members of the illustrious family so long associated with this place—William Brook, Lord Cobham. The new buildings, which were finished in the year 1598, occupy three sides of a quadrangle, while the fourth side—that on the south—is occupied by the ancient hall shown in the accompanying illustration.

Within the hall is an interesting stone chimneypiece with some armorial ornamentation, and cut in the stone work is a personal name which has not yet been identified, but which is supposed to be the name of the mason or builder. There are several picturesque ruined walls still standing, and more or less covered with ivy, and few more interesting buildings are to be found in the county.

Cobham, it is hardly necessary to mention, is situated near Rochester, and the village has several other features of interest.

Among those present at the Ministerial banquet given in honour of the Queen's Birthday, were Mr. Justice Bruce, who was the guest of the Home Secretary, Lord Harris the guest of Lord George Hamilton, and Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., who was entertained by the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour.

A CURIOUS OLD RHYME.

In the New London Magazine for January, 1787, appears the following doggerel rhyme, relating to Bromley. We have so far failed to identify the Stationer's Shop referred to, neither do we understand who were the "news-carriers" for whose benefit it was indited—perhaps some of our readers can help us. It is printed with the following preface:—

To the Editors.

Gentlemen.

The following lines were written some years ago for the news-carriers, etc., by whose permission I have sent them for insertion in your Magazine, if you think them worthy a place.

I am, etc.,

J. P. O'SULIVAN.

To the inhabitants of Bromley and the adjacent villages, &c.

At Bromley, in Kent, not far from the brook,
A shop is established by hook or by crook,
Where the wants of his patrons and friends to supply,
And promote his own interest too, by the bye,
The master has tried to the utmost his care,
An assortment of all the best goods to prepare:
Where all so disposed may be certain to find
Good books for the clergy, and books of all kind.
And that none may mistake, he thus fully declares
That he chaffers and deals in the following wares:
Then there's paper for writing of every sort,
As good fool's-cap and post as can ever be bought,
Gilt, black-edg'd and plain, and some rul'd to the hand.
Pens, ink, quills, pounce, wafers, wax, pen-knives and sand.
Here are message-cards, too, invitation to carry,
And playing-cards stamped with the phiz of King Harry;
Ink-stands of all sorts, both for table and pocket,
And one you may slide the top over and lock it;
Lead pencils, and boxes for wafers and pounce,
And fine spangled writing-sand, threepence per ounce.
There are books of account bound in parchment and vellum,
And some with brass clasps, lest long using should swell 'em.
Neat sets of Fry's types to print names upon linen,
And ledgers with alphabets at the beginning.
Port crayons, and cases for pencils in steel,
And neat little books, your bank-notes to conceal.
In short, there's whatever the stationers sell,
As cheap as in London, and finished as well.
There are printed books, too, of all sorts and conditions,
Well bound in good order the fairest editions.
All tastes he can suit, be they ever so various.
Here are truths, and grave maxims, to please the discerning;
Here the wit may find jokes, and the scholar find learning;
Here is mirth for the gay, and sad tales for the grave;
And sieges, and battles, and wars, for the brave.
For the curious inquisitive mind, that loves facts,
Here are all sorts of hist'ries, and memoirs, and tracts;
For the poet here's rhime, for the solid here's prose,
And assistants for those who want helps to compose;
Political pamphlets, and monthly reviews,
Magazines of all sorts and all manner of news.
To pass a dull hour, here are novels in store,
Fairy tales and romances, and fifty things more.

Collections of all the best songs that are sung,
Devout books for the old and love tales for the young.
For the schoolman, here's nice and abstruse disquisitions,
Court cabals and State papers to please politicians:
Here are wond'rous exploits of intriguing gallants,
And young ladies' escapes from their old maiden aunts.
Here are voyages, travels, and letters and plays,
And operas, and riddles, and moral essays;
Here's abundance of works of the sentiment kind,
And here, too, the satyrist pleasure may find.
All sorts of new music, songs, airs, and sonatas,
Solos, trios, duets, catches, glees, and cantatas.

To sum up the whole: Here's what each one may choose,
And what they do not they are free to refuse.
That all may enjoy the effects of this treasure,
And read for a trifling expense at their leisure,
Twelve shillings a year give command of the whole;
You may read as you please, without any control.
Or if that sum's too much, or you choose a time shorter,
You may always subscribe for three shillings a quarter.

Thus having announced to the public his station,
There remains but to make this sincere declaration,
That he will always strive with his utmost endeavours
To obey their commands and so merit their favours.
It affords him the highest delight to reflect
His success is beyond what he e'er could expect;
And yet such is the honour to which he aspires,
It is not a whit beyond what he desires.
This trifling affair having seen two editions,
Appears, as most other works do, with additions.
The reception the first has obtain'd leaves no fear
That the second will meet with a fate more severe;
Since it serves to convey his best thanks to his friends,
By whose favour he rose, and on whom he depends.

J. P. O'S.

BAZAAR IN AID OF DR. BARNARDO'S HOMES.—The Bromley Drill Hall was the scene of a very successful bazaar on Friday, May 20th, arranged by a number of Bromley ladies with the object of raising funds towards the maintenance of two cots for crippled children at Dr. Barnardo's Homes. Miss Clark, the honorary secretary, and those who assisted her had gathered together a capital collection of fancy and useful goods, and the stalls, etc., which were tastefully set out, were presided over by Mrs. Kilvington, Mrs. George, Mrs. Petrie, Mrs. and the Misses Collins, Miss N. Smith, Miss Jollyman, Miss MacFarlane, Miss Smith, Miss Parry, Miss E. Clark, Mrs. E. Clark, Miss Wreford, Miss Clark, Mrs. H. Tweedy. Miss Pellett, Miss Harding, Miss Burkitt, Miss Gladys Collins, Miss Winifred Collins, and the Misses Bramsden. Dr. Barnardo performed the opening ceremony, and notwithstanding the unpropitious weather, the attendance of the public was very encouraging, the very satisfactory sum of £113 being raised.

SAD FATALITY AT BROMLEY.—A Bromley painter named Maddocks, living at 45, Havelock-road, met with a fatal accident on May 24th, whilst working at the rear of Messrs. Broadley Brothers' premises, No. 144, High-street, Bromley. He was standing on a ladder some forty feet distant from the ground, when he lost his footing and fell to the ground. He was rendered unconscious and sustained a bad injury to his head, and after being attended to by Dr. Playfair, was removed to the Bromley Cottage Hospital. The unfortunate man died the following evening. An inquest was held at the St. Mark's Men's Club, Mason's Hill, Bromley, on Saturday, May 28th, when a verdict of Accidental Death was returned.

THE WEST KENT YEOMANRY.—The annual ten days' training of the West Kent (Queen's Own) Yeomanry commenced on May 12th, at Tunbridge Wells, and was well attended. A very hearty reception was given to the visitors, various entertainments being provided for their enjoyment; and there was a large gathering at the regimental sports which took place on the Agricultural Show Ground on Wednesday, May 18th.—On May 4th the "A" (Bromley) Troop of the Yeomanry held their annual sports at Sundridge Park, Bromley, but owing to rainy weather the attendance of the public was not so large as usual. The prizes were distributed at the close by Mrs. Satterthwaite, wife of Colonel E. Satterthwaite, commandant of the 2nd Vol. Batt. Queen's Own (Royal West Kent) Regiment.

WESLEYAN SYNOD AT BROMLEY.—The annual Synod of the ThirdLondon District of the Wesleyan Methodist Church took place at Bromley during the week commencing May 9th, and was attended by about two hundred ministers and laymen. A devotional meeting at the Bromley Wesleyan Church, presided over by Mr. H. W. Soutter, was the first of the public meetings, and on the following day, Tuesday, May 10th, the need of district evangelisation was set forth by various speakers, at a well-attended public meeting held at the Farwig Wesleyan Mission, when the Rev. Walford Green (ex-president of the Conference, and chairman of the Third London District) presided. The Rev. W. L. Bennett (Lewes), Rev. J. Hopkins (South London Mission), the Rev. J. Dixon (Brighton), and the Chairman gave interesting addresses on the subject. The business meetings were, of course, private, and numerous matters were dealt with. The Revs. J. Ingram (secretary of the district), T. H. Whitamore, G. Charter, W. E. Cooling, and J. Kenny were the ministers appointed to attend the representative session, and the following were chosen to attend the Conference during the pastoral session: Revs. G. H. Camburn, J. Scott Lidgett, W. L. Cooper, W. J. Cook, W. L. Bennett, and T. Ross. From the different reports presented it appeared that there was an increase in the total income for the district, and that temperance work and Sunday and day schools had made considerable progress.—On Wednesday, May 11th, the delegates met at luncheon at the Bromley Grand Hall, at which the Rev. Walford Green presided: and in the evening the official sermon was preached to a large congregation in the Wesleyan Church, by the Rev. Dr. Dallinger.

DAMAGES FOR PERSONAL INJURIES.—The principal case heard at the May sitting of the Bromley County Court consisted of an action by an infant named Reginald Webb, who sued through his father, for £25 damages for personal injuries sustained by being run over by a baker's cart driven by a defandant named Claydon. Plaintiff lived at Birkbeck-road, Sidcup, and he was knocked down and run over by the defendant's cart when crossing that road. The child was not, it appeared, very seriously injured, and after hearing the evidence, damages to the extent of £10 were given.

The benefice of St. John's, Hoxton, vacant by the resignation of the Very Rev. G. P. Pownall (formerly Dean of Perth, Australia), has been conferred by the Archdeacon of London on the Rev. Eric Farrar, son of Dean Farrar and Vicar of St. Thomas's, Coventry.

"IVA KILDARE,"

BY MRS. L. B. WALFORD,

Author of "Mr. Smith," "Cousins," "Frederick," "A Mere Child," "The Baby's Grandmother," etc., etc.

"Pooh! Don't listen to her, Sophia.' Iva is like all the girls—crazed on the subject. It's the fashion," cried Lady Tilbury, lying boldly. "You and I have more sense. I must say I like a decent dwelling-house, and though Iva is so grand and disdainful, she wouldn't fancy walking downstairs with a rat scampering behind her, or hearing them rushing about her bedroom at night, any more than we should. Tell us more about the old place. It is really most interesting" (the Tilbury Court voice and manner) "and quite a blessing that poor Sir Philip made up his mind to sell it before it was too late." And Lady Tilbury concluded with a flourish of her skirts, as though settling herself in for pure enjoyment—but she gave Iva a little warning kick round the corner of the ottoman, unseen by Sophia Lossett.

Nothing loth, Sophia expatiated afresh, but on a sudden a recollection occurred. "You said something about the Hall's not being perfect, Lady Tilbury?"

"So I did." Lady Tilbury's eyes sparkled.

Miss Lossett looked interrogation.

"It needs a mistress," said the widow, mischievously. It was too bad of her, but she really could not help it.

There were times when Lady Tilbury could not keep her dignity; it was an acquired dignity at the best, not indigenous to the soil; and though it came bravely to the front whenever her daughter was concerned, it occasionally failed her ladyship on her own behalf.

"A mistress? Oh, Lady Tilbury, I should not think Mr. Druitt is thinking of that at all! If he had been a marrying man, surely he would not have waited till now—why, he is five-and-forty!'

"A very good age—and he doesn't look as much. Men of seventy marry nowadays."

"Of course, of course"—(mental note: Sir Thomas was past sixty)—"but," continued Miss Sophia, hastily covering the slip and her confusion, "Mr. Druitt is so emphatically a bachelor."

"He is, is he?"

"He told my father so. My father assured me, when we were debating about the propriety of my going to the Hall with him, that it would be quite absurd to stay away——"

"So it would. If one were to stay away from every house in which there's an unmarried man," continued Lady Tilbury, "one might as well shut up shop altogether! *I* visit Mr. Druitt," and she left the inference to be drawn by her visitor.

"Yes. You, of course."

"Well" said Lady Tilbury drily.

But she took pains to obliterate all traces of the dryness ere the interview closed.

"It was too bad of you, mother; she has gone tripping away, like a young fawn, all on springs to bound in at the door of Old Cary Hall—all on fire to cheer the lone bachelor's solitary heart." Iva, half-laughing, half-reproachful, turned from a window whence she had been waving a farewell. "Poor old Sophy! How could you make such a fool of her?"

"Bedad, my dear, if you ask me——"

"Oh, when you say 'Bedad' there's no doing anything with you. You are as wicked as a girl—ever so much wickeder than I. But, you know, I think, I do think—considering Mr. Druitt lives so very near them——"

"He can hardly escape!" cried Lady Tilbury merrily. "Sophia will throw out her grappling-irons and hook him, and be installed among the clean hollands and heavy curtains, before we know what we are about. And why not? Why should she not, if she can? Mr. Druitt is——"

"Far too good for her," said Iva, shortly.

"Far too good for her!" repeated Lady Tilbury in surprise. "That was not what I meant at all. I was considering whether he was to be swallowed for the sake of his folding-screens and curtain-rings. Certainly, he is a pleasant man."

"I like him."

"Oh, so do I."

"And if I can help it, he shan't fall a victim to Sophia Lossett!"

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CHAPTER XXIII.

THE OLD PLACE AND THE NEW MASTER.

And it is quite possible that but for Iva Mr. Druitt might have fallen a victim. He was a very simple man, as well as a very modest one, where women were concerned; and though he had no particular turn for matrimony, and had never been in love in his life, from sheer complaisance he had more than once nearly suffered himself to be led to the altar ere he came to Old Cary Hall.

Luckily for him, there had been someone clearer-sighted than himself at his elbow to hold him back.

"My son, you do not really care for this lady."

It was a gentle voice that spoke, but it was one that penetrated Jabez's heart.

He had owned he did not care—particularly.

"But do you think she cares for you?"

Whereat Jabez had hung his head, blushing like a boy.

This had happened on more than one occasion, and the pitfall been averted.

On the death of the parent for whose opinion he entertained so deep a reverence, Jabez, left unguarded, might have run into danger afresh, but for the upheaval of all things, which engrossed him like a coat of armour. He was so taken up with quitting the old life and entering upon the new that tender sympathy was wasted on him. It passed absolutely unnoticed.

"They think they'll nab him now," Amos had cried with his wide-mouthed grin; and the bombshell which was flung into the circle of the brothers' acquaintance by the announcement of the younger's departure was the one sweet ingredient in his bitter cup. He and Mrs. Amos chuckled together as they told each other that at least Jabez carried off his two hundred thousand out of reach of Jane Doubleday and Florence Fairclough.

But although he had escaped these sirens of the North, the perils of bachelorhood were increased rather than diminished by Mr. Druitt's becoming possessor of a fine estate with a magnificent, nobly appointed country seat. What on earth could a lone man want with such a big house? He was not shutting up half the rooms and living hugger-mugger in a poky, makeshifty way in the rest. He was not using Old Cary Hall as a sort of inn, where he and his body-servant could find accommodation during the hunting season, and be "done for" by a resident couple, a gardener and his wife, or the like.

Nothing of the sort. Mr. Druitt had had the whole place turned inside out, cleared, cleaned, swept and garnished. Some months had been spent in masonwork, plumbing, and carpentering alone; then a whole army of furniture-mongers of one sort and another had been let loose with the walls, and what had looked to be the bare window holes of tenantless chambers (with nor[illegible] of broken glass left unmended) were now [illegible] panes [illegible] to

be garnitured with curtain and blind, suggestive of comfortable habitation within.

A suitable establishment had been got together, presided over by a portly dame and her equally imposing mate. And here we may just inform our readers that the common prediction of the curious into such matters, that beneath such a *regime* Mr. Druitt would be plundered *ad libitum*, had not been and would not be fulfilled, for this reason. Jabez had known the two from his birth; and they were bound to him by the ties both of affection and gratitude.

Mrs. Grindle loved to rule, it is true; and she also loved economy, thrift, and money-saving for their own sakes; but she had her master's comfort as well as his dignity at heart, and he was safe in her hands. Grindle, who was under his wife's thumb, was simply a fine figurehead. He took care that the footmen did their duty, and considered that when he had inspected the work, made a stir if there were a speck on the silver, or a dint in a carving-knife, he had amply earned his rest upon his own parlour couch, his cigar and his newspaper, or his stroll with the dogs about the grounds.

That was his life, and Jabez knew it, and approved it.

Such a major-domo was precisely what he required, and he had had his eye on Grindle for the post for years. "If ever I should want you two," he had said in old times, "you must leave all and come to me—eh, Mrs. Grindle?" Whereat Mrs. Grindle, foreseeing a rare sovereignty, had most cheerfully assented; and when the time actually arrived she and Grindle felt as though turned out to clover for the rest of their days. But Miss Sophia Lossett and others of her kind naturally thought the clover field superfluous.

That was not what Mr. Druitt wanted. Here was a man of leisure, a man of means, a man of forty-five and no more—he *must* want a wife. It was absurd to suppose he did not mean to marry; else why, argued the logical fair ones—why had he done up the place? It was not to be imagined that he did it up for himself! Ignoble, unworthy supposition!

"They simply can't believe that the poor man likes to have things nice on his own account," said Iva, adverting to Sophia's visit. "Every one of them is the same. All the old maids in the place are cackling after him. It is disgusting, *I* think."

Mr. Druitt did not think it disgusting, because, as we have endeavoured to show, Mr. Druitt never thought such things. He had run the gauntlet of every form of feminine attack during his mother's lifetime, and never discovered why she was the object of so many tributes from busy fingers, the subject of such endless friendly calls and tender amenities.

She was a woman of delicacy, and did not enlighten him—unless the case were desperate. He was then just saved by the skin of his teeth.

"You will marry some day, my dear son," the quiet little old lady would say, piercing him through with her grey eyes, "but I should like you to choose your wife, not to let *her* choose *you*."

It was, after all, more the recollection of this phrase, which had become almost sacred in the retrospect—it was the remembrance of it and of the speaker's keen intelligence which, more than even Iva Kildare's watchful supervision, prevented Jabez from responding as she had feared to Sophia's advances.

But then it was Iva who—naughty girl—let in the light upon the latter. She could not, she averred, stand by and see the thing done.

"What thing?" demanded Lady Tilbury.

"Why—why—why, that old fool of a Sophia reigning at the Hall!" cried Iva hotly. "That's what she's after. It's not Mr. Druitt; he's nice enough—far too nice for her—but it would be all the same if he were old and ugly, deaf and dumb. She wants to rustle down those oak staircases, and take up her abode within the double doors—oh, I know her"—by this time she had learnt to know her; neither Iva nor her mother were so tolerant of Sophy as of yore—"and I could not bear it; I simply could not *bear* it." Tears rushed to the girl's eyes as she spoke.

Lady Tilbury looked grave.

But presently she told herself that it was only a year since Reggie went, and that more than a year was needed to wipe out a long past like his; whereupon she plucked up spirit and retorted, quite in her own manner: "And it is you that are telling me all this, you bit of a wiseacre? Was it not I who told *you?*—And that the very day silly Sophy was here, talking of her carpets and curtain-rings! And didn't you turn upon me—me, your own mother—and as good as charge me with being a cruel, worldly woman for making a fool of the poor creature?"

"You did find her out first," owned Iva, reluctantly. Which was quite enough for Iva's mother, who, being of a generous nature, never insisted on a victory.

After this it was that Mr. Druitt began to offer one excuse and another for declining the frequent little notes of hospitality which issued from the Gate House. He had eagerly accepted them at first; even afterwards he would have been willing enough to exchange his solitary meal for the cosy board which Sophia took care should be so temptingly set forth, and where there were always one or two other guests to do away with any feeling on Mr. Druitt's part that the entertainment had been got up for him.

He had wondered a little how people like the Lossett's gave so many dinners, which, even though small, were set forth with some display and at some expense. It was a nice feeling on their part, surely; a friendly, neighbourly feeling which prompted the trouble and outlay.

Something of the kind let drop at Tilbury Court called forth the following:

"Mr. Druitt has been dining again at the Gate House, mother. I wonder why we are never asked?"

"Never asked! Dear me! Are you never asked?"

It was Mr. Druitt himself who interposed, looking from one to another as he spoke.

"*Never!*" said Iva, looking back at him, and not saying another word.

Lady Tilbury was also mute. After this, Mr. Druitt remembered his mother's words.

This episode was now a thing of the past; it had faded peacefully out of sight, as others of the sort had done, and no troubles, no perplexities nor difficulties marred the lustre of that glorious December morning which was to inaugurate a new departure in Mr. Druitt's life.

Mr. Druitt was in the best of health and spirits. It really seemed as though the prophecy that hunting would take off ten years of his forty-five were being fulfilled in his case. He had now had two seasons, and was beginning a third with unabated zest and increased experience. He looked trimmer, fresher, smarter, than of yore. His whole face shone with content.

And it would be an injustice to infer that all this was due to leading a life devoted to self-pleasing, even of an innocent nature. Quarter sessions, boards of guardians, district councils, committees of various sorts and kinds, all knew our friend, and his early business training enabled him to be a valuable recruit in their ranks. Further, he evidenced a capacity for managing the large profitless estate with which he had now, as people thought, encumbered himself, so that it began to

yield a profit, small indeed, but satisfactory to himself, and a source of wonder to others.

"I don't know but brother Jay has done the right thing after all," even the sceptical Amos was surprised into exclaiming at last. "He was no good here; but the bucketing he got in this office has been the making of him down yonder, and he is quite an oracle among *them*," quoth he, with a mixture of contempt and elation.

Jabez had received a kindly letter from his brother on the morning we speak of, and perceived that it had been penned with some pains. He had asked for an opinion, and Amos had given the opinion fully; that was perhaps to be expected; but what was unusual and pleased the recipient much was that it was delivered with a certain reservation. "You can judge better than I of this," had been twice repeated. The letter was in the pocket of his hunting coat as Jabez stood smiling on the doorstep.

The groom came round with Ladybird, his favourite mare.

"She's a bit fresh this morning, sir."

"Glad to hear it, William." Freshness had no terrors for our horseman now.

"Hey! I've forgotten my sandwich-case," cried he, clapping his pockets suddenly, and an attentive Thomas, who had appeared in the doorway at the sound of horses' steps, vanished on the instant.

"Never do to forget that, William," laughed Mr. Druitt, mounting gaily; "we ought to have a good spin to-day, and it's hungry work, when you have time to think of it. See those letters go that are on the writing-table, Thomas. I forgot to put them in the box last night. And, I say"—checking the mare, who wanted to be off—"ask Mrs. Grindle to let old Bunny have some broth or something when he calls with my boots to-day. That's all," and, his mind free of every care, he trotted off down the avenue.

"Good sort, ain't he?" observed William, looking after the retreating figure in the sunshine. "None o' your mean, stingy, scrape-along-as-you-may gents. Get some credit out o' Druitt, you do. Good beasts, good stables, good wage—good crib altogether. Blowed if I've ever been better suited!"

(To be continued.)

Births.

Cole.—On the 13th May, at Lansdowne-road, Bromley, Kent, the wife of William F. C. Cole, of a daughter.

James.—On the 17th May, at St. Mildred's, Cambridge-road, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Reginald William James, of a son.

Kirk.—On the 20th May, at 43, Bromley common, Kent, the wife of Sidney Kirk, of a son.

Maltby. — On the 16th May, at 2, Exeter-villas, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Charles M. Maltby, of a daughter.

Robinson.—On the 22nd May, at Hillside, Ravensbourne-road, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Fredk. W. Robinson, of a son.

Sharland.—On the 21st April, at Pitlochry, Hammelton-road, Bromley, Kent, the wife of W. Herbert Sharland, of a son.

Marriages.

Bennett—Clifford.—On the 19th April, at the parish church, Horley, Surrey, by the Rev. Thomas Cobb, M.A., assisted by the Rev. W. Mahoney, John George Lloyd Bennett, of Bromley, Kent, to Elizabeth Clifford, daughter of the late J. T. Clifford, of Isleworth.

Earnshaw—Earnshaw.—On the 30th April, at St. Luke's, Bromley, Kent, by the Revd. A. L. B. Peile, Master of St. Katharine's Collegiate Church, Regent's-park, assisted by the Revd. E. L. Colebrooke, the Vicar, Alfred John Earnshaw, of Wimbledon, to Annie May, second daughter of the late Alfred Earnshaw, of South-hill-park, Bromley.

Harris—Erich.—On the 23rd April, at St. Saviour's, Paddington, by the Rev. Marshall Tweddell, M.A., vicar, assisted by the Rev. A. B. N. Crowther, M.A., cousin of the bridegroom, William Nelson Harris, of Hurstleigh, Bromley, Kent, second son of the late Horatio Harris, of Gwydyr House, Brixton-rise, to Suzette, daughter of Oscar Erich, of 18, Randolph-crescent, Maida Vale, W.

Deaths.

Marzetti.—On the 30th April, at Davos Platz, Switzerland, Percy Marzetti, second son of the late C. T. Marzetti, of Bromley, Kent, in his 43rd year.

Newton.—On the 4th May, at Westwood, Bickley, Kent, Mary, wife of Henry Newton, aged 66.

Nickinson.—On the 10th May, at Bromley, Kent, Paul Nickinson, of 51, Chancery-lane, London, aged 44 years.

White.—On the 2nd May, at Bournemouth, Lynch White, Junr., of Homefield, Bickley, Kent, in the 47th year of his age. Funeral at Woking Crematorium on Thursday, 5th inst., at 11 o'clock.

Wilkinson.—On Saturday, the 21st May, at The Glen, Shortlands, Helen Wilkinson, daughter of the late J. H. Wilkinson, of Seabrook, Kent, aged 97.

Witherby.—On the 17th May, at 37, Widmore-road, Bromley, Kent, Sarah, the eldest daughter of the late George Witherby, of Highbury-park, aged 77.

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.

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).

Work Wanted.

DRESSMAKING wanted by Widow Lady.—Please Address, Mrs. Gilbert 79, Simpsons Road, Bromley.

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

NURSE (middle aged) highly respectable person, total abstainer, would like to meet with Employment, temporary or otherwise, to Invalid Lady or Gentleman; good references Apply, Mrs. R., 67A, Beckenham Lane, Shortlands, Kent.

Wanted to Purchase.

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.

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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).

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Scotch & Welsh Mutton, Ox Tongues, Dairy Fed Pork, &c.

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(CONTINUED).

KENT, GROVE PARK.—An exceptionally convenient detached Family Residence, approached by a carriage sweep, standing in a well planted and attractive garden of fully half an acre. The house contains 7 bedrooms, dressing room, bath room, etc., etc., 3 reception rooms, handsome hall, gallery staircase, lavatory, etc., ample domestic offices and good cellarage, enclosed yard and all necessary outbuildings. The gardens include a full sized tennis lawn, flower beds, and borders, a variety of choice shrubs, also fruit trees. Possession on completion.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, June 8th, 1898, at 2 o'clock precisely, the above particularly well arranged residence known as "Holmleigh," Bromley Road, built some few years since for the owner under the superintendence of a well-known architect. The property stands on high ground, commanding choice and extensive views, and is within five minutes' walk of the church and railway station. Held for a term having about 80 years unexpired at a very moderate ground rent.

May be viewed and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Edell and Gordon, Solicitors, 4, King Street, E.C.; at the Mart; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, BROMLEY.—Valuable antique Furniture, including walnut and other bedroom suites, wardrobes, dressing tables, wash-stands, chests of drawers, etc., and the usual bedroom appointments, elaborately carved old English oak dining room suite, Sheraton sideboard, carpets, fenders and fire irons, antique pier glasses, gilt girandoles, valuable Chippendale drawing room furniture, cabinets, settee, chairs, tables, old bureaus and oak chests, Chippendale secretaire, book cases, glass, plated articles, etc., etc.; also a choice collection of china, including old Chelsea, Crown Derby, Dresden, Wedgewood, Worcester, Coalport, Delft, Bristol, Satsuma, etc.; numerous valuable old engravings and paintings and miscellaneous effects.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER have received instructions from W. T. Beeby, Esq., M.D. (who is leaving Bromley), to Sell by Auction upon the premises, "St. Winnows," London Road, on Tuesday, June 7th, 1898, at 11 for 12 o'clock precisely, the valuable antique furniture, old china, engravings, paintings, and numerous miscellaneous effects.

May be viewed the day previous and morning of sale, and catalogues obtained 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 back page.

E. STRONG & SONS,

Commercial and Artistic Printers,

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Farm, Timber and General Valuers, Surveyors,

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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.

Sales of LOCAL PROPERTIES take place at frequent intervals at the

"BELL" HOTEL, BROMLEY.

KENT, CHISLEHURST.—The attractive Residential Property known as "Oakbank," Lubbock Road, about six minutes' walk from the railway station, near to the church and common, on high ground commanding fine woodland scenery. The house is approached by a carriage drive, and contains porch entrance and spacious hall 38ft. 6in. by 8ft. 6in., double drawing room, conservatory, noble dining room, morning room, library, etc., two staircases, twelve bedrooms, two dressing rooms, two bath rooms, lavatory, etc., etc.; ample domestic offices, including servants' hall; numerous out-buildings, and well placed stables, with coachman's rooms, five-roomed cottage, farmery, etc., etc. The picturesque grounds are fully matured, and include shrubberies, walks, wilderness, lawns, tennis lawn, large productive kitchen garden, glass houses, etc. There is a well stocked orchard and paddock, the whole Property comprising about 4½ acres.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction at the Mart, City, E.C., on Wednesday, June 8th, 1898, at 2 o'clock precisely, the above-named superior Residential Property, held for a term of 50 years from 1886 at a rental of £185 per annum. The owner of the lease has expended a large sum in the way of improvements. The Chislehurst Golf Links in Camden Park almost adjoin. Possession on completion.

May be viewed by order, and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Harwood and Stephenson, Solicitors, 31, Lombard Street, E.C.; at the Mart, and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Land Agents and Surveyors, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

OFFICES:—BROMLEY AND BECKENHAM, KENT,

AND AT

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

For remainder of Auction Sales see preceding page.

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

THE

BROMLEY RECORD

AND

MONTHLY ADVERTISER.

No. 480. JULY, 1898. Price One Penny.

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Special

LOCAL REGISTE

(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.

PROPERTIES WANTED. — Messrs. Baxter Payne & Lepper have enquiries for houses answering the under-mentioned description, and they will be glad to receive particulars of any such properties which will at once be placed before applicants whose requirements the same are likely to meet.

BROMLEY.—Detached house with five bedrooms, three reception rooms, bathroom, etc. Rent between £60 and £70. Possession at Michaelmas.

BICKLEY.—Furnished house with seven bedrooms, three reception rooms, bathroom, and usual offices, for about three months. Possession middle of July, if possible. About £8 8s. 0d. per week.

BROMLEY.—Near Widmore Road, eight bedrooms, three or four reception rooms. Modern house with stabling if possible. Rent, £120—£150, or would purchase.

CHISLEHURST.—With about two acres of ground. Family residence with at least seven bedrooms, and if possible billiard room. £200 per annum would be given for suitable house. Might purchase.

TO BE SOLD OR LET.

BICKLEY.—Charming detached and double fronted modern Residence, with well-matured garden. Seven bedrooms. Large conservatory. Price, £2,400, leasehold. Rent, £150 per annum.

FARNBOROUGH.—Delightful country Residence in this favourite rural district. Stabling. Fine ground of eight acres. Price, freehold, £6,000. Strongly recommended. 14416.

HAYES.—Pretty detached bijou cottage Residence on the Common, four bedrooms, two reception rooms, and housekeeper's room. Rent, £55. 14447.

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

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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 of Weaving. Carding, Spinning, and fancy Lace Making taught. For all Particulars apply Mrs. Falconer Sinclair, who will be pleased to show specimens, &c. The Croft, Crescent-road, Bromley, Kent (S.E. Station, Sundridge Park).

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

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TARRAGONA PORT	12/0	1/0
GENUINE DOURO WINE ...	18/0	1/6
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COCKBURN'S FINE OLD ...	36/0	3/0
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And upwards.		

SHERRY.		
FULL PALE...	12/0	1/0
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LIGHT SOUND WINE	24/0	2/0
DINNER SHERRY	30/0	2/6
CHOICE OLD, from	36/6	3/0
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CLARET.		
SOUND GOOD	12/0	1/0
VIN ORDINAIRE	15/0	1/3
MEDOC	18/0	1/6
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BURGUNDY.		
GENUINE	15/0	1/3
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BEAUJOLAIS	24/0	2/0
BEAUNE	30/0	2/6

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WINES FROM	36/0	3/0
LOUIS PAMPHILON, 1889 Ve.	60/0	5/0
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SCOTCH WHISKY.	per doz.	per bot.
GOOD OLD (33 under proof) ...	24/0	2/0
SUPERIOR	30/0	2/6
FINE OLD	36/0	3/0
GLENLIVET BLEND	42/0	3/6
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J DEWAR, PERTH	42/0	3/6
J. WALKER, KILMARNOCK	42/0	3/6
PAMPHILON'S VOS (Unrivalled)	48/0	4/0

IRISH WHISKY.		
GOOD OLD (33 under proof) ...	24/0	2/0
SUPERIOR	30/0	2/6
FINE OLD	36/0	3/0
G. ROE'S	42/0	3/6
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UNSWEETENED or SWEETENED	24/0	2/0
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FINEST UNSWEETENED ...	30/0	2/6

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BRITISH BRANDY	30/0	2/6
BLENDED BRANDY	42/0	3/6
PURE COGNAC	54/0	4/6
VERY CHOICE ****	69/0	5/0
HENNESSY'S. OUR OWN SHIPPING and BOTTLING	66/0	5/6

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BLENDED	30/0	2/6
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12ft. by 9ft. 9in.	£4 18 6
13ft. 6in. by 12ft.	6 8 6
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18ft. by 14ft. 3in.	9 14 6

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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.

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Statement of Accounts of

THE UNION BANK OF LONDON, Limited,

On 28th MAY, 1898.

LIABILITIES.

Dr.	£	s.	d.
Capital and Reserve Fund ...	2,555,000	0	0
Deposits and Current Accounts,	15,317,784	18	4
Acceptances and Liabilities by Endorsement	1,981,458	18	2
Other Liabilities	359,222	3	7
	£20,213,466	0	1

ASSETS.

Cr.	£	s.	d.
Cash in hand and at Bank of England	2,654,339	19	2
Money at Call and Short Notice,	3,193,000	0	0
Investments—including Reserve Fund	2,941,953	2	5
Discounts, Loans, and other advances	8,847,027	6	7
Liability of Customers on Acceptances and Endorsements ...	1,981,458	18	2
Bank Premises and other Assets,	595,681	13	9
	£20,213,466	0	1

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SOAP MAKERS TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

Strong arms
are not necessary to do the washing when

Sunlight Soap

is used; it does nearly all the work itself. Just rub a little on the clothes, roll them up and put them back in the water. Then when you take them out you will see that

Sunlight Soap does the work.

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.

The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

JULY, 1898.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st.—Meetings of the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board, and the West Kent Main Sewerage Board, at 96, High-street, Bromley, at 4.15 p.m.

3rd.—*Fourth Sunday after Trinity.*

4th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the St. Luke's Burial Board at the St. Luke's Institute, Raglan-road, Bromley Common.—Excursion arranged by the Bromley Temperance Council to Southend-on-Sea.

5th.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council, at the Council Offices, East-street, Bromley.

7th.—Bromley Bible Flower Mission, at Ebberlee House, West-street, Bromley.

9th.—Athletic sports in connection with the Beckenham Cricket Club.

10th.—*Fifth Sunday after Trinity.*—Anniversary services at the Bromley Wesleyan Chapel.

11th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board, at the Offices, Wharton-road, Bromley, at 8.15 p.m.

13th.—Bromley Congregational excursion to Eastbourne.—Bromley Wesleyan excursion to Broadstairs.

14th.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter Payne and Lepper at the Bell Hotel, Bromley, of freehold and leasehold properties at Bromley, Shortlands, and Pratts Bottom.

17th.—*Sixth Sunday after Trinity.*

18th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

19th.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council at the Council Offices, East-street, Bromley.

20th.—Athletic sports in connection with the Bromley Conservative Club, at Sundridge Park, Bromley, at 2.30 p.m.

21st.—Bromley Bible Flower Mission, at Ebberlee House, West-street, Bromley.

22nd.—Monthly sitting of the Bromley County Court, at the Court House, Bromley.

23rd.—Bromley Common and District Cottagers' flower show and athletic sports, at the Park, Bromley Common.

24th.—*Seventh Sunday after Trinity.*

25th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board at the Offices, Wharton-road, Bromley, at 8.15 p.m.

27th.—Annual flower show at Croydon-road Recreation Ground, Beckenham.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter Payne and Lepper, at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, City, E.C., of the freehold residence known as "Homefield," Bickley, and also plots of building land.

31st.—*Eighth Sunday after Trinity.*

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

Two meetings of this authority were held last month, on June 7th and 21st respectively, when the proposed light railway and several other matters of interest came up for discussion.

THE DUAL SYSTEM.

At the meeting of the Council on June 21st, the report of a committee of the whole council on the allegations made by Mr. Nye in connection with the system under which Mr. J. Attwood acts in a double capacity as a weekly employee and also as a contractor to the Council was submitted. The Committee stated that they had investigated each item in the wages-sheets referred to by Mr. Nye and found that the Surveyor's accounts were quite in order and that his explanations were satisfactory. They had also passed a vote of confidence in the Surveyor, his three road-foremen and Mr. J. Attwood. They considered, however, that the dual system of employment needed inquiring into. The report was adopted, after Mr. Nye had made a lengthy statement to the effect that he adhered to the course he had taken, and that the system was an extortionate one. The credit for changing it would not, he said, belong to the Council, but to himself.

OBJECTIONS TO THE LIGHT RAILWAY.

The General Purposes Committee, on June 7th, reported that they had considered the plans deposited in connection with the London Southern Light (Electric) Railways, which, it appeared, would enter Bromley parish at Westmoreland-road and proceed thence by the new St. Mark's church to Masons Hill, and along Bromley Common to the Farborough boundary keeping in the road the whole distance. They considered it undesirable that powers of interference with the Council's roads should be obtained by a private individual, and as the proposed railway was practically a tramway it ought to be subject to the provision of the Tramways Act, under which the consent of a local authority was necessary. To carry the railway along the main road would prove very dangerous, especially at Masons Hill, and the Committee were of opinion that there was plenty of private land available for the purposes of the promotor. They recommended the Council to oppose the scheme, and to refer the question back to them to prepare formal causes of objection, and evidence to be given at the inquiry. The report was agreed to, and at the following meeting a further report was presented recommending the approval of a draft petition to the Light Railway Commissioners against the proposed order. They also suggested that the Clerk should circularise the owners and occupiers of property on the proposed line of route, to ascertain whether they were in favour of or against the proposal. In the debate which ensued Mr. Dickins suggested that opposition should only be taken by the Council with the purpose of put-

ting them in a position to make such restrictions and suggestions as were desirable. Any facility for travelling ought not to be hampered by them, so long as the public safety was secured, and they could not, he said, agree to the railway traversing the narrow road at Masons Hill. Mr. G. H. Payne pointed out that it would not be an expensive matter to circularise the ratepayers. He further questioned the usefulness of a light railway in that district, and regarded it merely as a speculation on the part of the promoter.—Mr. Nye expressed his disapproval of the scheme, but suggested that the whole of the parish should be circularised if any step in that direction was taken. Mr. Lord considered that the views of the ratepayers should be ascertained before the Council proceeded further with their opposition.—After further discussion, in the course of which Mr. Worley expressed a belief that if the line was taken out of the roads to which they objected, the great majority of the Council would cease to oppose the proposal, Mr. Davis seconded an amendment to the adoption of the report, which Mr. Dickins submitted, omitting the paragraph referring to the circularising of the inhabitants. The frontagers along the line of route would, he said, be sure to be against the scheme, and if the Council considered the Bill undesirable, or that it could be amended and made more acceptable, they should be content to oppose it on that ground.—The amendment omitting the suggestion to circularise the residents, was accepted, and the report adopted in its amended form.

The Electric Light.

The Council were informed by the Bromley Electric Light Company, Limited, that mains for the distribution of the light would be laid in the Widmore-road, East-street, High-street, Market-square, Tweedy-road, College-road, Hammelton-road, London-road, Chislehurst-road, West-street and Masons Hill. The electric energy would be supplied on the three wire system, the pressure at the consumer's terminal being 210 volts.—The Surveyor, who reported that the proposed system of supply was satisfactory, was instructed to further report upon the foregoing proposals of the Company.

Important Widening Works.

Upon the recommendation of the Highways Committee, the Council decided on June 7th to carry out works of widening at Burnt Ash-lane and Nichol-lane, at an estimated cost of £658, sufficient land to widen these old highways to forty feet being given up by the owners, on condition that the Council did the work, and erected a retaining wall with fence in Burnt Ash-lane and a fence in Nichol-lane.—Mr. Nye contended that the works would chiefly benefit the frontage owners, and that they should therefore make their own roads.—Mr. Mallett (the Chairman), pointed out that both roads were very largely used and that the widening was very desirable and could be effected at very little cost compared to what would have to be expended if the improvement were delayed.—It was decided to apply to the Local Government Board for a loan for the works.

Council and County Council Members.

Upon the proposition of Mr. Grinsted, the Council decided, after some discussion to furnish the representatives of Bromley on the Kent County Council with copies of the minutes and reports, and to invite them to attend the meetings, with a view to bringing the Urban Council into closer touch with the County Council. It was pointed out that on several occasions misunderstandings and delays had arisen owing to the County Councillors for this district being unacquainted with the Bromley Council's action in different matters, and that the practice, embodied in the resolution, was adopted at most of the London Vestries.

The Water Company's Mains.

In answer to the Council's request for permission to be given to the fire brigade to open the valves connected with the mains for the purposes of drill the Kent Waterworks Company wrote to the effect that they could not see their way to give the permission. In the case of a fire the emergency might excuse a temporary interruption of the supply, but at other times the turncock's services were available and should be requisitioned.—Mr. G. H. Payne said the company incurred a serious responsibility, as the valves were very liable to get out of order if not used.

Mr. T. Davis's Return.

Mr. T. Davis, the late Chairman, made his first appearance at the Council on June 21st, after his return from Australia, and recieved a very cordial welcome from the members.

School Board and Medical Officer.

At the meeting on June 21st, the Clerk reported an interview with the Clerk to the Bromley School Board, with reference to several suspected cases of fever at one of the Board Schools.—Attention was called by Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Worley to the criticism passed at a meeting of the School Board upon the Medical Officer's action in visiting the schools to inspect children recently discharged from the fever hospital. They considered that Dr. Codd was only doing his duty as a public officer in so inspecting the children, and that the remarks made concerning his action were uncalled for.

The Inspection of Official Documents.

Arising out of the charges made against the Surveyor's Department by Mr. Nye, in reference to the work of junction-making—which the Council had disposed of after an inquiry in committee—Mr. Nye, at the meeting on the 21st ult., moved a resolution to the effect that the Surveyor, by having refused to produce a certain book belonging to the Council, when requested to do so by a member, had committed a breach of the standing orders and was deserving of severe censure, and, further, that the Council demanded that he should produce all such books and documents for inspection when required. Mr. Nye said he had been refused the documents, and he demanded his rights. He had sought legal opinion on the point, and read a letter from Mr. W. H. Bosanquet stating that he had a perfect right to examine the books.—Mr. Lord seconded the resolution.—The Chairman pointed out that Mr. Nye had already twice inspected the documents referred to, and that the Surveyor, having placed the matter of the allegations made by Mr. Nye, in his solicitor's hands, had considered himself privileged to withhold further production of the books, pending a direct resolution on the subject.—Mr. Davis thought the resolution placed them in an awkward position, as if they voted against it they would be admitting that the Surveyor had a right to withhold the production of documents.—Mr. Dickins thought the fact of the Surveyor having appealed to the common law gave him power to exercise discretion.—Mr. Grinsted also considered that the peculiar circumstances justified the action of the Surveyor.—An amendment to the resolution was eventually proposed by Mr. Davis as follows:—"That this Council regrets that the Surveyor has not correctly understood the meaning of the Standing Orders, and directs him in future to comply strictly with their instructions." Mr. Nye withdrew his proposition in favour of this amendment, and the voting upon it was equal, but it was carried by the casting vote of the Chairman.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

Three meetings of this Board took place during the past month.

APPOINTMENTS.

The first meeting was held on June 6th, at which the chief business was to receive a report of the School Management Committee, recommending the following appointments:—Miss Mary E. Dorman, of Peckham, as head teacher of the Wharton-road Infants' School; Mr. J. Daws, of the Valley-road school, as certificated assistant at the Raglan-road school; Mr. G. E. Britton to fill Mr. Daw's place at the Valley-road school.—The report was adopted.—At a meeting of the Board on June 27th, Mr. J. E. Woods, of St. John's College, Battersea, was appointed as assistant teacher at the Aylesbury-road school.

EVENING SCHOOL WORK.

At the Board meeting on June 13th, a report on the Aylesbury-road evening school was presented, showing that the average attendance had been 18, and the total grant earned amounted to £18 10s. 6d. The Inspector's report was to the effect that there was satisfactory order and generally satisfactory progress.—A similar report was submitted at the meeting on June 27th, respecting the Wharton-road evening school. The average attendance had been 12.7, and the total grant amounted to £12 11s. 6d.—Both reports were referred to committee, and the Clerk instructed to furnish a return of the cost of the evening classes.

SUSPECTED WASTE OF WATER.

A letter was read from the Kent Water Works Company on June 13th, to the effect that possibly much of the large consumption of water that had been registered in the Lady-Day quarter at the Raglan-road schools was due to the extravagant nature of the automatic flushing systems, which required most careful supervision. The Board had investigated the matter, and the letter was in reply to a communication they had sent to the Company. On June 27th, the School Management Committee reported that the caretaker of the schools had been requested to avoid any waste of water.

LABOUR CERTIFICATES.

From a report presented by the Clerk, it appeared that 162 scholars had attended the examination for labour certificates held in May last, compared with 147 in 1897, and 63 had passed, and 99 failed, compared with 64 and 83 respectively, in the preceding year. Of that number 65 attended from the Board school and 97 from other schools, the rate of passes for the Board school scholars being 43 per cent., while 36 per cent. passed from the other schools.—Several members considered the result unsatisfactory for such an elementary examination.

THE BOARD AND THE MEDICAL OFFICER.

Considerable discussion took place at the meeting on June 13th, respecting the inspection by the Medical Officer of Health during school hours of several children who had recently been discharged from the fever hospital. Dr. Codd pointed out, in a letter to the Board, that as he suspected some source of infection in the Valley-road school, he had visited it in order to ascertain how the children sat, and to see if there were any children in the "peeling stage."—The Chairman, Mr. Gomer, and others adversely criticised Dr. Codd's action, and expressed the opinion that children should be examined at their own homes. Mr. Loly and Miss Heppel on the other hand, said they could see no objection to Dr. Codd visiting the schools, and added that if he could trace infection in that way he would be performing a very valuable service. Eventually the question was referred to the School Management Committee, and at the next meeting that Committee recommended that Dr. Codd be given free access to all the schools, but they expressed the hope that he would, where possible, examine the children at their own homes.—This report was adopted without comment.

SCHOOL CHILDREN AT WORK.

At the meeting on June 27th, the Education Department applied for a return as to the number of children in the Board's district who were at work, out of school hours. Such employment, unless carefuly guarded, was, they stated, likely to injure the children's health, and also to injure the general education.—The Clerk said there were about 95 cases of that character in Bromley, and several instances were quoted of children working very early in the morning before putting in full time at school.—The matter was referred to the School Management Committee.

A LARGE BATCH OF ABSENTEES.

The Clerk reported that 148 cases of irregular attendance at school had been investigated by the School Attendance Committee during a fortnight, and in twelve cases the parents were ordered to be summoned.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Plans for the caretaker's house at the Wharton-road schools were approved by the Education Department, and permission given to borrow the money from the Public Works Loan Board for thirty years at 2¾ per cent.—It was decided, after further consideration, to give a gratuity of £5 to Mr. F. Santer, who had passed so successfully in the Queen's Scholarship examination, while employed as a teacher under the Board.

R.S.P.C.A. GATHERING AT BROMLEY.—A well-attended drawing-room meeting, in furtherance of the objects of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, was held, by the kind permission of Lady Bruce, at "Yewhurst," South Hill Park, Bromley, on Wednesday, June 15th. The Rev. P. Barker (chairman of the Bromley committee) occupied the chair, and in a short address spoke of the need for an inspector for the Bromley part of the district alone. Mr. C. A. Reeks (country representative of the parent Society), also gave an address, giving particulars of the work of the Society during the 74 years of its existence. Before the company dispersed donations for the Society were collected by a little dog answering to the name of "Ruffey."

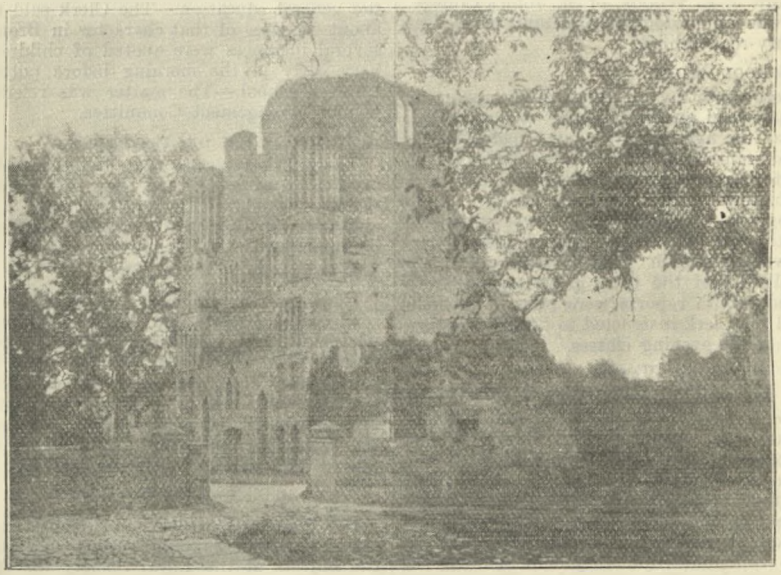
BROMLEY BAPTIST CHURCH.—Special services in celebration of the Rev. R. Silvey's third completed year of pastorate at the Bromley Baptist Church were held on Sunday, 12th ultimo, followed by a public tea and meeting on Wednesday, June 15th. Mr. S. Thompson, of Beckenham, occupied the chair at the public meeting, when addresses were given by Mr. S. Toone, Mr. T. C. Coombes, the Chairman, Mr. F. F. Belsey, J.P., Mr. A. Tindall, and the pastor. It was reported that the church debt was nearly wiped off. The choir, under the direction of Mr. Bert Pearce, rendered some enjoyable selections during the evening.

Mr. W. F. Foster, chairman of the Cudham Parish Council, has been elected unopposed as member of the Bromley Rural District Council for the parish of Cudham, in the place of the Rev. N. Freer, who has left the district.

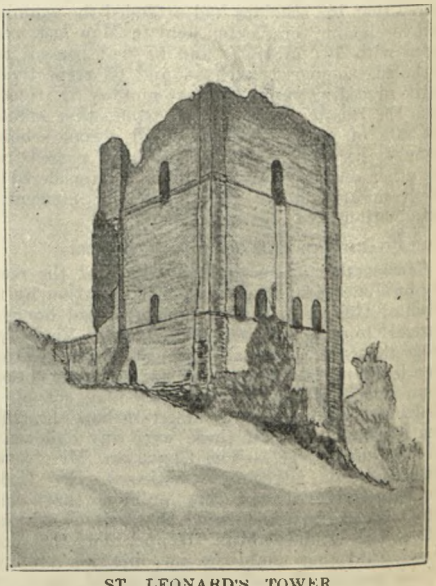
We understand that Widmore Lodge, Bickley, has been purchased by Mr. H. D. Tweedy, of Bromley.

A SCIENTIFIC OUTING.

An all-day excursion of much interest, under the auspices of the Bromley Naturalists' Society and the Bromley Camera Club, the arrangements for which were carried out by Messrs. H. H. Mellon and E. T. Godward, took place on June 15th, to the neighbourhood of West Malling, and gave much pleasure to the participants. The party, to the number of over thirty, including Mr. S. B. Webber, president of the Camera Club, and Messrs. Wilson and A. Rogers, vice-presidents of the Naturalists' Society, left Bromley (L.C.D.R.) Station at 9.32, and were met on their arrival at Malling by the Rev. C. H. Fielding, who kindly acted as guide for the day. The party first drove to East Malling Church, a building of much interest, the architecture dating from Early English to Late Perpendicular. Much coloured glass remains, and there is a fine gilded ceiling in a Decorated chapel at the East End. The church was given by Bishop Anselm to the Nunnery of West Malling. Leybourne Castle was next visited. This fortress was held by a family of that name from the reign of Richard Cœur de Lion, to that of Edward III., when the family became extinct in the person of Juliana de Leyborne, who was known as the Infanta of Kent, and who, though she had had four husbands, survived them all and left no issue. The estate now belongs to the Hawley family, of racing fame. A fine gateway and some other portions of the Castle still remain. Lunch at the "Bear" Hotel was the next event of interest. Then the party drove to Birling, which was the seat of the ancient residence of the Nevills (Lords Abergavenny), and where one of the line still lives. A walk of about a mile led to Coldrum Farm, where there is a Cromlech and a circle of stones. The path then lay along the "Pilgrims' Way" to Trottersclife Church, a Norman building of much interest, in perfect preservation. Thence the party proceeded on wheels to Addington Park, where they viewed the huge fallen stones. There are two circles, and an irregular mass of large stones close to them perhaps marks a subterranean chamber. The cluster of these remains is thought to indicate a great tribal cemetery. As time would not allow of a visit to Offham Green, with its ancient quintain—a survival of the tourney—a return was made to West Malling Abbey, which is now occupied as a convent in connection with the Cowley Fathers. The remains of the Abbey are full of interest, and portions of it date from Norman to late Perpendicular, part of the Norman work so greatly resembling the west front of Rochester Cathedral as to leave little doubt that both are the work of the same designer. Among the other parts of the old building remaining are the fronting of the great gate-way, of which we reproduce a photograph kindly lent by Mr. G. W. Smith, and parts of the cloisters, nuns' chapter-house (now



MALLING ABBEY (FROM S.W.)



ST. LEONARD'S TOWER.

used as kitchen and scullery), the old kitchen and chapel. Tea was then taken at the house of refreshment visited earlier in the day, shortly after which most of the party returned home, though some stayed on to inspect the ruins of St. Leonard's Tower, described in our issue of February, 1897. During the day several photographs of the party were taken, as well as views of the places of interest, and all returned home feeling that a most enjoyable as well as instructive day had been spent.

LOCAL WEDDINGS.

MR. F. M. SMITH AND MISS F. A. CROUCHER.

The Congregational Church, Bromley, was the scene of a pretty wedding on June 1st, the contracting parties being Mr. Frederick Montague Smith, fourth son of Mr. Edward Smith, of "St. Stephen's," Bromley Park, and Miss Florence Alice Croucher, younger daughter of Mr. Edward E. Croucher, of "Tewkesbury," Bromley Park. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. T. Nicholson, in the presence of a large congregation, and the church was tastefully decorated for the occasion. The bride, who was given away by her father, was dressed in a white satin duchesse pearl embroidered bodice, with chiffon sleeves, skirt trimmed with trails of orange blossom, and full court train. Miss Nellie Smith (sister of the bridegroom), the Misses Heckford (cousins of the bride), Miss Ethel Booth, Miss Katie Gibbs, and Miss Muriel George attended the bride as bridesmaids, and they wore white muslin dresses and picture hats trimmed with red and pink roses. Mr. Reginald Smith acted as best man. After the ceremony, a reception was held at "Tewkesbury," and the newly-married pair afterwards left to spend the honeymoon in the Lake district. Numerous and costly presents were received.

MR. GRANT WILSON AND MISS L. F. JENKIN.

Mr. Charles Grant-Wilson, son of Mr. George Grant-Wilson, of Streatham, who has just entered into partnership with Dr. H. J. Ilott, of Bromley, was married on June 2nd, to Miss Lilian F. Jenkin, daughter of the late Rev. A. Jenkin, of Harbridge, Hampshire. The ceremony took place at the church of St. James, Swansea, and the bride was given away by her brother, Mr. D. Trevillian Jenkin. The Misses Margaret Brooke and Mary Roberts (cousins of the bride), Miss A. Lloyd Still, Miss Kathleen Sant, and Miss Mary Hughes were the bridesmaids, and Mr. Wemyss Grant-Wilson acted as best man. The honeymoon was spent in Switzerland.

MR. A. W. HARVEY AND MISS L. DEWEY.

The marriage solemnised at the Bromley Parish Church on June 22nd, between Mr. Arthur Willoughby Harvey, son of Mr. Charles Harvey, of Leytonstone, and Miss Lilly Dewey, second daughter of Mr. T. C. Dewey, of South Hill Wood, Bromley, occasioned great local interest, and the church, which had been very tastefully decorated, was filled with invited guests and friends of the bride and bridegroom. A full choral service was held, and the ceremony impressively conducted by the Vicar of Bromley (Rev. A. G. Hellicar, M.A.), assisted by the Rev. Stanley D. Dewey, M.A., vicar of Geddington, and brother of the bride. The bride was given away by her father—who for more than twenty years has filled the office of vicar's warden at the Parish Church. She wore a dress of ivory duchesse satin trimmed with chiffon and real lace, with a veil of old point lace, and wreath of real orange-blossom, and a diamond star-brooch, the gift of her parents. There were six bridesmaids—the Misses Violet and Daisy Dewey, Violet Harvey, Edith Jaques, Ivy and Daphne Dewey—and their costumes consisted of cream poplin with chiffon fronts laced with green velvet, Leghorn hats trimmed with white chiffon and feathers, and they each carried a bouquet of roses and lilies. Mr. Douglas Harvey, brother of the bridegroom, acted as best man; and the bride's little niece and nephew, Veronica and Grahame Dewey, acted as train-bearers. Groups of the younger scholars from the Masons Hill Schools, dressed in white, and carrying baskets of flowers, under the charge of Miss Barnes and Miss Longford, added to the pretty spectacle inside the church, and the pathway outside was lined with elder scholars from the Masons Hill Schools. Master Fairchild sang the solo "O rest in the Lord" during the service, and as the bridal party left the church Mendelssohn's Wedding March was played by Mr. F. Fertel (the organist). In the decoration of the church the Misses Greenhill and the Misses Laura and Mabel Hellicar had taken an active part, and the effect was very pleasing. A reception was afterwards held at South Hill Wood, and attended by about four hundred invited guests. The presents numbered over two hundred, and included some very handsome and costly gifts. Later in the day the happy couple left for Derbyshire, to spend the honeymoon, and the bride's travelling costume consisted of a tailor-made blue and white check skirt and blue coat lined with white satin, and hat to match. The wedding cake was made at South Hill Wood. The bride's bouquet, and also those carried by the bridesmaids, were sent to the Bromley Cottage Hospital.

Pollution of the River Cray.—The condition of the river Cray, the water of which for some months past has been very low owing, it is stated, to borings made by the Water Company, was reported upon by the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Tew), to the Bromley Rural District Council, on Friday, June 17th. Dr. Tew pointed out some of the principal causes of the pollution, chief among them being Messrs. Joynson's paper mills, and stated that the pollution had been specially evident of late on account of the small amount of water coming down the river. There were also considerable encroachments throughout the course of the stream. It was decided that Dr. Tew should make a further report on the matter, and that the Surveyor should make a house-to-house inspection all along the river, and that the Clerk should, where necessary, serve notices for the abatement of nuisances.

Chislehurst Scaffolding Fatality.—An inquest was held at the Parochial Schools, St. Paul's Cray, on June 1st, touching the death of a bricklayer named William Thomas Martin, aged 62, living at Belmont Grove, West Chislehurst. From the evidence it appeared that the deceased was in the employ of Messrs. G. Candler and Sons, builders, of Brixton Hill, and on May 26th he was working at the Bickley Hotel, Chislehurst, on a scaffolding about eight feet high, when he suddenly fell over and was dead when picked up. Death, according to the doctor's evidence, was due to fracture of the skull and lacerated brain, occasioned by the fall, but whether the fall was caused by a fit or by the deceased missing his footing, he could not say. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned by the jury, who considered that no one was to blame in the matter.

CHIVALRY.

In days of old the brave and bold
Encased in shining armour,
Were wont to go in search of foe
To humour some fair charmer,

And having slewn the vagrant loon,
With spoils and glory laden,
They homeward went in sweet content
To woo and win the maiden.

But if perchance the foeman's lance
Should penetrate their inners,
Then truth to tell, they went to—er—well,
The place for ALL good sinners.

You could not name a better game
For such as felt pugnacious,
The whole affair, without much care,
Was so unostentatious.

Not long ago a fiery glow
Inflamed my vital member,
For some fair dame whose maiden name
I cannot now remember;

So straight I vowed in accents loud
And trembling with emotion,
To find the foe and lay him low,
To prove my dear devotion.

So out I went, the fell intent
My manly breast consuming,
When lo! I saw before the door
A massy figure looming;

Full well I knew that man in blue;
I'd met him rather often;
My soul began to love the man,
And all my wrath to soften.

I felt I could not spill the blood
Of one so unsuspecting,
And so instead I went to bed,
And spent the night reflecting.

O Chivalry! when shall we see
Thy Golden Age returning?
When shall we know thy fiery glow
Our manly bosoms burning?

The years rolled on, and thou art gone,
Thy charms are rent asunder,
Or else they're not, and that is what
I sometimes rather wonder.

Perhaps some knight in armour bright,
Of size and hue satanic,
Will rise one day in brave array,
And cause a local panic.

The fairy glance of true romance
May linger still in places:
We do not know if this is so,
Nor have we found its traces.

O maiden smile that used to wile
Our souls in sweet delusion,
Thou art not dead, but only fled
To some more chaste seclusion.

O noble strife, our love of life
Has made us think thee frightful;
The genial row offends us now,
That once was thought delightful.

Fair knighthood's band has left our land
With all its gold and banners:
In fact our race has lost the grace
Which decked its former manners.

Then mourn with me, O Chivalry,
For thy extermination;
Our hearts must yearn for thy return
With empty palpitation.

You've had your day, and I dare say
Folks sometimes found you boring;
And could it be, I do not see
That you would bear restoring.

A modern age has closed the page
That held so brave a story,
The former day has passed away,
And you are gone to glory!

C.B.

FESTIVAL CONCERT AT CRYSTAL PALACE.

The annual concert by the London contingent, numbering about 3,000, of the Handel Festival Choir, which was given on the 25th June, was more varied in character than is usual. The close proximity of the date to that of the 60th anniversary of the Queen's coronation was marked by the singing of the National Anthem as a prelude to the concert, immediately followed by "Rule, Britannia," and it need hardly be said that the effect was in both cases most impressive. Wagner's "Kaiser-Marsch" was for the same reason selected as the opening number of part two, and a special version of the national song with which it concludes had been prepared, commencing "Hail Victoria! Queen and Empress!" In this the audience were invited to join; but although the march itself is vigorous and very beautiful, the "National song" is not specially striking, and failed to arouse enthusiasm.

With the aid of Madame Adelina Patti, Miss Clara Butt, Mr. Edward Lloyd, and Mr. Santley, selections were given from the "Messiah," "Israel in Egypt" (four numbers, including of course the Hailstone Chorus), "Judas Maccabæus," and "Elijah." From the last named was taken the "Prayer for Rain" and "Chorus of Thanksgiving," and they were most beautifully rendered: special mention must be made of the singing of Master F. H. Pedgrift, whose wonderfully powerful and clear voice was heard in the youths' part.

It need hardly be said that the choruses were given throughout with a power and effect that could hardly be equalled elsewhere; and the same remark applies even more strongly to the "Dies Iræ" from Berlioz' Grande Messe des Morts. This most remarkable work is arranged for a six-part chorus, and five orchestras, four brass bands being placed at the four corners of the main orchestra, with a most unusually large proportion of percussion instruments. The effect of this immense volume of sound, together with the deeply solemn and impressive character of the music, was well nigh overwhelming.

The choir also gave the Chorus of Dervishes from the "Ruins of Athens" (Beethoven), of which it may be safely said that quaint and curious as it is, nothing more unlike Beethoven's general style could possibly be imagined; and the very beautiful choral Epilogue from "The Golden Legend" (Sullivan) concluded the programme.

Solos were given in the second part by Madame Patti, Miss Clara Butt, and Mr. Edward Lloyd, but of their performances it would be superfluous to speak. They sang as only they can sing, and in each case were enthusiastically applauded and recalled.

Mr. Manns conducted throughout, and received the warmest possible welcome, both from the choir and orchestra, and from the immense audience.

Mr. F. Fertel, organist and choirmaster of the Bromley Parish Church, has been appointed conductor of the Bromley Philharmonic Association for the ensuing year.

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DIARY OF JUNE.

1st.—Annual meeting of the Bromley Philharmonic Association, at the Bromley Town Hall, when Mr. F. Fertel was appointed conductor.

2nd.—Social gathering of the fathers of children attending the Prickend National Schools, Chislehurst, at the St. Mary Hall, when an address was delivered by Mr. F. C. Dobbing, J.P.

4th.—Annual dinner of the Chislehurst Golf Club, at Camden House, Chislehurst, when it was announced that Camden House and the golf links had been purchased at a cost of £33,000 by the Club.—Beckenham Golf Club held their third open competition on the old race-course at "Woodside," when a number of valuable prizes were competed for.

5th.—Sermons by the Rev. Dr. Dallinger, at the Bromley Wesleyan Church, on behalf of the Trust funds.

6th.—Nineteenth annual open lawn tennis tournament, in connection with the Beckenham Cricket Club, commenced at the Foxgrove-road, Beckenham, and continued during the week.—Mrs. Belsey presented the prizes, in the Bromley Congregational School-room, to the successful scholars, of the Bromley and Beckenham section, in the Scripture examination held by the West Kent Sunday School Union.

7th.—Two days' international fete opened by the Hon. Mrs. Forster, at St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common, on behalf of the St. Luke's Mission Room and the Men's Help Society's Room building fund. About £120 was realised.

8th.—Public inquiry held by Mr. A. T. Waring, on behalf of the Kent County Council, at the Bromley Urban Council Offices, concerning a petition for allotments presented by resident ratepayers in the Shortlands Valley district.—Race meeting, in connection with the Bromley Cycling Club, when the five miles' championship race for Mr. Coles Child's challenge shield was won by W. H. Willson.

10th.—Mr. C. E. Baker, J.P., as Chairman of the Beckenham Urban Council, entertained a number of gentlemen to dinner at the Cafe Royal, Regent-street, to meet the President and other officers of the Urban District Councils' Association.

11th.—"Lifeboat Saturday" successfully inaugurated at Beckenham, over £70 being collected.

12th.—Sermons preached on behalf of the Metropolitan Hospitals, at most of the local churches, and collections taken for the same object.

13th.—Public meeting in celebration of the first anniversary of the opening of the London City Mission Hall, Chatterton-road, Bromley Common.

15th.—Farwig Wesleyan Mission's excursion trip to Hastings.—Public tea and meeting in recognition of the third completed year of the Rev. R. Silvey's pastorate at the Bromley Baptist Church.—Drawing-room meeting at "Yewhurst," South Hill Park, Bromley, by permission of Lady Bruce, on behalf of the R.S.P.C.A., the Rev. P. Barker, presiding.

20th.—Excursion trip to Brighton, arranged by the Bromley and Chislehurst Lodges of the Ancient Order of Foresters.—Proposal brought forward at the Beckenham Urban Council to purchase one acre and a half of freehold land at Shortlands, for ornamental gardens.

23rd.—Sale of work in aid of Dr. Barnardo's Homes, at Camden House, Chislehurst.—Exhibition bicycle polo match by Captain Gorham's team at Beckenham.

24th.—Election of Mr. Alderman Alliston, of Beckenham, as a Sheriff of the City of London.

26th.—Monthly musical service at St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common.

28th.—Local Government Board inquiry at Bromley into the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board's application to borrow the sum of £6,500, for the extension of the hospital

29th.—H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany opened a fete at Camden Park, Chislehurst, in aid of the Deptford Fund.

FASHIONABLE MARRIAGE.—The marriage of Mr. E. Archibald Chubb, eldest son of Sir George Hayter Chubb, of Chislehurst, to Miss Mary Haworth, eldest daughter of Mr. John F. Haworth, of Bowden, Cheshire, was solemnised on June 8th, at St. Paul's Wesleyan Church, Bowden. The bride, who was given away by her father, was attired in a gown of rich ivory satin, embroidered with pearls and silver in true-lovers' knots, and her ornaments included a pearl and diamond pendant (the gift of her father), and a peridot and diamond brooch, which, with a sapphire and diamond ring, and her bouquet of lilies and white roses, was the gift of the bridegroom. The bridesmaids were the Misses Joan, Helen, Nan, and Frances Haworth (sisters of the bride), and the Misses Ethelyn, Helen, and Prillie Chubb (sisters of the bridegroom). The elder bridesmaids' dresses were of ivory silk broche with a small design of pink rosebuds, and the younger bridesmaids' costumes consisted of ivory crepe de Chine. Each bridesmaid wore two gold and enamelled heart-shaped pins, connected by a gold and pearl chain, upon which were engraved the initials of the bride and bridegroom. Mr. G. Herbert Chubb (brother of the bridegroom) acted as best man, and after the ceremony and a reception at Brentwood by the bride's mother, the happy pair left for Switzerland. The bride went away in a pale blue cloth tailor-made costume, the bodice having a tucked yoke of rose-coloured satin. The whole dress was braided with silver, and a large white picture hat was worn.

LIFEBOAT SATURDAY AT BECKENHAM.—On Saturday, 11th ultimo, the experiment of having a "Lifeboat Saturday" was tried at Beckenham, and proved very successful, upwards of £70 being raised. An interesting procession perambulated Beckenham and Penge, in which various friendly and kindred societies, together with the Deal Lifeboat manned by its crew, took part, and the work of collecting was undertaken by a number of local ladies and gentlemen. In the evening the committee and collectors dined together at the Railway Hotel, where a very enjoyable time was spent.

RAMBLES IN SURREY.

BETCHWORTH.

The southern slopes of the North Downs in Surrey are remarkable for some of the most beautiful scenery in England, and for historical associations of very considerable interest. The beautiful district around Guildford, Dorking, and Reigate are too well known to require description, but between these three towns there are many villages which offer equally strong attractions to lovers of the picturesque and the beautiful, and there can be no question that the village named at the head of this article occupies a foremost place among them.

The North Downs, under the shelter of which Betchworth reposes, have always been an important factor in the social and commercial progress of Surrey, just as they have always been a prominent feature in its landscape. Originally, when the wealden districts of Surrey, Kent, and Sussex were occupied by one vast, pathless forest, these bare chalk downs afforded the only road for travellers, and the only means of inter-communication between different parts of the country. The old track way, known as the "Pilgrims' Way," still exists, an unobtrusive but eloquent witness of the sort of road in use in times anterior to the coming of the Romans. This ancient track-way is situated on the sides of the North Down hills. Running along at the foot of the hills is another road of great interest. In Surrey it runs roughly from the Kent and Surrey boundary, near Westerham, to Guildford. Along this thoroughfare, which marks an early period in the cultivation of the Weald we find many of our ancient and most interesting villages, and Betchworth, although not actually on this road, belongs to the group.

The earliest facts about the history of Betchworth are derived from the Domesday Book wherein it is stated that in the time of Edward the Confessor the place was held by Cola,* and that at the time of the survey it was held by the celebrated and powerful Richard de Tunbridge. At that time there was a church, and a mill, six villains, ten "bordars," and six bondmen. For some reason not easily understood the value of the manor had deteriorated, for it is stated that "in the time of King Edward, and afterwards, it was valued at 9 pounds; and now, at 8 pounds."

The existence of a church at Betchworth at this time argues a population, and the survey shows that as a matter of fact, there was a small number of inhabitants, but where the church was situated, and what was the character of the building are questions which cannot easily be answered.

The present church possesses some traces of early masonry ascribed by some to the Norman period. If this be really so it is probable that the church referred to in the Domesday Book stood on the site of the present building. The church is most pleasantly placed among an environment of trees and picturesque cottages, one of the most charming of which stands at the entrance to the churchyard, and is locally known as "Church Cottage." The church has been very carefully restored, and the walls and windows are in first-rate condition, the only drawback being that the whole building has an appearance of newness which is not suitable to an ancient building. The roof is covered with Sussex stones, a feature more commonly seen in the neighbourhood of East Grinstead and Horsham, than in this locality.

BETCHWORTH CHURCH: NORTH SIDE.

Inside the building, on the floor of the chancel, is a very interesting monumental brass to a former vicar—William Warcysworth—who died in 1533. He is represented in the vestments of a priest, holding with both hands a paten, with a representation of the host. There is also a palimpsest brass shield with a rather interesting merchant's mark. Various monuments and tablets adorn the church, but they are interesting only as links in the chain of local history.

Probably the most interesting person who lies buried at Betchworth is Captain Charles Morris, the poet. His grave, near the east end of the church, in the burial ground, is marked by a head-and-foot-stone. On the former is this inscription:

(*) Possibly an abbreviation of "Nicolas."

"Sacred to the Memory of Charles Morris, Esq., of London and Brockham Lodge in this parish; who died on the 11th day of July, 1838, aged 93 years."

Brockham Lodge was for many years the summer residence of Captain Morris, and eventually it became his final retreat in the winter of his age. The house is very pleasantly situated at a short distance from Brockham Green, and its grounds are skirted by the river Mole. Captain Morris was in many respects a remarkable character. As a lyric poet he stands perhaps without a rival. He was a very influential member of several of the musical societies of his day. The Beef Steak Club presented him with a silver bowl, and the following reference to it occurs in one of his last lyrics, written at the age of 90:—

"When my spirits are low, for relief and delight,
I still place your splendid memorial in sight;
And call to my Muse when Care strives to pursue,
'Bring the Steaks to my memory, and the Bowl
to my view.'"

The Harmonic Society gave Morris a gold medal as a mark of recognition of the merits of his song, "Ad Poculum." Morris was intimate with the Prince of Wales after the latter's admission to the Beef Steak Club in 1785, and many of his songs were sung for the first time after the Club dinners. Some of his songs were political, and all bore evidence of keen wit and great literary merit, but some of his most humorous songs were utterly unfit for the family circle, and were very properly banished from respectable society.

The obituary notice of Captain Morris in the "Gentleman's Magazine" says:—"Many of his convivial songs will live, and much that he ought not to have written is already forgotten. He was an agreeable companion, whose society in early and middle life was much coveted and relished by those who had the opportunity of its enjoyment."

Considering that it is only sixty years since the death of Morris it seems rather remarkable that his memory has already faded into oblivion in the locality in which the latter part of his life was spent. On a recent visit to the churchyard it was found that the sexton knew nothing about the lyrical poet whose effusions once made so much commotion.

Probably the most interesting house at Betchworth is Moor Place, a mansion which is said to have been built in the earlier half of the 15th century, but subsequent alterations and additions have been made to it, and the general style of the building at the present time reminds one of the period of Queen Elizabeth rather than that of Henry VI. The house contains much ancient furniture, the most curious of which is an elaborately-carved bed-stead which is said to have belonged to Cardinal Wolsey, and to have been used by him during his residence at Esher. The head-board and tester are enriched by carving, and the latter bears the words "Remember thy End" in Gothic text. The bed-posts consist of large figures representing King David and King Solomon.

Betchworth Castle, which occupied a commanding position on the banks of the River Mole in the direction of Dorking, has long been destroyed by the combined forces of nature and man. It was once owned by Richard de Tunbridge; it afterwards fell into the possession of the Earls of Arundel, and after passing through the hands of various other lords it was destroyed in or about the year 1690, and an ordinary dwelling-house, built on its site, has also been swept away.

[Photo.] THE RIVER MOLE AT BETCHWORTH. [G. W. Smith.

Betchworth is easily accessible by means of the Reading and Guildford branch of the South-Eastern Railway, and it is also within easy walking distance of Reigate and Dorking. The village is charmingly secluded, and the lovely foliage, the winding river, and the quaint half-timber cottages and rustic farm buildings, have the effect of producing a very perfect picture of rural serenity and comfort. The place is thoroughly well worth a visit.

Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., Mr. H. C. Richards, Q.C., and Sir Albert Rollit have been added by the House of Commons to the Standing Committee on Law for the consideration of the London University Commission Bill.

Alderman Alliston, of Beckenham, has been elected one of the Sheriffs of the City of London.

HOSPITAL SUNDAY COLLECTIONS.

The annual collections on behalf of the Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund were made in the churches and chapels throughout London and the suburbs on Sunday, June 12th, and the appeals made from the pulpits in this district met with an encouraging response as the following particulars will show:—

	1898. £	s.	d.	1897. £	s.	d.
Bromley Parish Church ...	72	1	6	37	7	2
St. Mark's Bromley	28	1	0	18	2	8
St. John's Bromley	30	9	0	39	9	0
St. Luke's Bromley	14	9	0	23	0	0
St. Mary's, Plaistow	34	13	11	45	14	2
Christ Church, Bromley ...	10	0	0	11	0	0
Bromley Congregational Church...	60	18	11	84	10	10
Brom. Cong. Church boxes	31	0	2½	29	12	10
St. George's, Bickley	80	7	6	66	0	0

	1898. £	s.	d.
Holy Trinity, Bromley Common ...	15	0	0
West Wickham Church	37	19	5
St. Nicholas, Chislehurst	278	4	3½
St. John's, Chislehurst	10	0	0
Annunciation, Chislehurst	81	9	9
Wesleyan, Chislehurst	16	8	3
Beckenham Parish Church	76	8	3
St. Paul's, Beckenham	132	0	0
Elm-road Baptist Church, Beckenham	13	0	0
St. Mary's, Shortlands	44	5	4
Chelsfield Parish Church	14	2	4
Christ Church, Sidcup	8	18	0
Parish Church, Foots Cray	12	10	7½
Parish Church, St. Mary Cray	7	17	5
Temple, St. Mary Cray	21	1	9
All Saints', Orpington	29	14	0
Parish Church, Orpington, and St. Paul's, Crofton	41	4	11
Parish Church, North Cray	8	14	6

The Rev. E. J. Pulling, M.A., a former curate of Farnborough, has been temporarily appointed curate-in-charge of St. Audrey's Mission Chapel, Keston, by the Dowager Countess of Derby, for the purpose of continuing the good work which was initiated by her son, the late Lord Sackville Cecil, who built the church, and spared no expense or time in making the services bright, musical, and attractive.

Mr. Frank Spenlove Spenlove, R.B.A., principal of the Spenlove School of Painting, The "Yellow Door" Studios, Beckenham, is to be congratulated on having been elected a member of the Council of the Royal Society of British Artists, at a Special Annual Meeting held last month, Sir Wyke Bayliss, F.S.A., being in the chair. Mr. F. S. Spenlove will hold this honourable office for a period of three years.

The Rainfall.—The rainfall for May measured in Widmore-road, Bromley, amounted to 3·04 inches. Rain fell on 21 days, the largest amount registered in one day being ·57 inches, on the 19th. The fall for the first five months of the year reached a total of 7·13 inches, being about an inch behind the average of the last ten years. In May last year 1·38 inches of rain was measured, in 1896 0·29 inches, and in 1895 0·75 inches.

On July 1st the Union Bank of London, Limited, opened its branch at 33, High-street, Bromley. This banking company was established nearly sixty years ago, and a list of the directors, with the financial statement, appears in another part of this journal.

"IVA KILDARE,"

By Mrs. L. B. Walford,

Author of "Mr. Smith," "Cousins," "Frederick," "A Mere Child," "The Baby's Grandmother," etc., etc.

CHAPTER XXIV.

THE SISTER'S DEBUT.

When an elder sister has been for several years going about the world, and the next in age makes her *debut*, it may be a very happy moment for both, or—it may not.

Where there is a strong bond of affection between the two, or even where tastes and dispositions suit, it is all right. The dispositions need not be similar; lively and serious temperaments accord well; a gentle nature will often wind its tendrils fast round a bolder and more vehement one, and *vice versa*; but there must be some underlying strain of sympathy, some communion of spirit, else the new state of things is a trial to both.

Between Iva Kildare and Maud Tilbury there was all the width of—shall we say the Irish Channel? The one was quick-witted, easily moved, perhaps a shade too easily offended, impressionable, inconsistent, sensitive, susceptible, proud one moment, penitent the next—a very creature of faults and impulses, yet withal so warm of heart, so generous, candid, and high-minded, that time alone was needed to shape a noble woman out of the bright and lovely girl. The nature of the other was by no means so complex. She had many excellent qualities, and these were patent to every eye.

Maud Tilbury had inherited from her father much sterling honesty and worth of character. She had also all his sense of the duties and responsibilities of her position, joined to a love of justice and of truth and of plain, straightforward dealing, which would have been valuable attributes in anyone, but were especially so in a young lady who would one day become an important landowner, with the welfare of many depending upon her rule.

Unfortunately, the very traits which were to be so much commended, and which in after-years were to do such good service to the tenants of Tilbury, were not those which smoothed the surface of daily life, on the emancipation of our schoolgirl.

It had been a cherished idea on the part of Maud that it only needed lessons and governess to be left behind for her to be on a level with Iva and her mother; and on the strength of this conviction she had assumed airs of superiority towards the other two who followed in her wake, for some time previous to the great event.

"Of course I shall do everything with mamma and Iva," she had announced easily. "If Iva had married, I should have come out sooner, and taken her place with mamma; but as she hasn't—and after all, she is only twenty-one; she may marry yet—I shall just go about with them," condescending to the situation.

"She is quite expecting it, mother," said Iva, in the boudoir. She paused a moment, then added gently: "Of course she is, poor child! We must be fair to her; only"—she sighed—"only I have had you all to myself for so long that it is a little—hard."

"If Maud thinks that just because she is getting long frocks, and has her name on my card, she is to have *everything*, she is very much mistaken." Lady Tilbury had caught the little break in the voice, and was up in arms in an instant. "Have I not given her a bedroom to herself, and newly

furnished it? And isn't she to have a ball, and to be presented in the spring? Of course I mean Sir Thomas's daughter to be properly done by.'

"She knows that, mother.'

"She ought to know it. I am doing everything for her exactly the same as for you."

"I say she knows it. She is perfectly satisfied. I have just been up to see her things from Debenham's. She is showing them to the maids now."

"Well, aren't they pretty, and nice?"

"Very. I don't think the blue will suit her; it is not quite the shade for candlelight; but as she chose it herself, I said nothing. The white ball-dress is lovely. Oh, it is not that, mother; it is —*you* know," and suddenly the speaker came close up, and knelt down, and hid her face in her mother's lap.

"I seem to have lost everything," she sobbed.

It was not that during the years which had elapsed since Reggie's departure no one had come forward to take his place, for there had been several suitors, and more who would have been ready to become so on encouragement.

But Iva had turned from them all either with indifference or repulsion.

Once or twice, indeed, she had fancied at the outset that her heart might be touched, or at any rate that her hand might be won; esteem, regard, and so forth might enable her to accord it with a fair chance of right on her side, and happiness for both; but if, this point reached, there ensued further development, the ending was invariably the same. She could not do it. A form, a face, thrust itself between her and every other claimant; and though she would have scorned to own that the flame of a day, of an hour, still smouldered inextinguishable in her breast, as a matter of fact it was so.

The flame had been waiting to be lit, perchance; but if so, she did not know as much.

So it came to pass that, with that love-craving at her heart which so many warm young natures possess, Iva clung more and more to the one person in the world who poured out upon her love without stint (Reggie alone had done the like—never investing her with a virtue she had not, never ridding her of a blemish she had), who knew by instinct what was passing in her bosom, with whom she could speak or be silent, smile or frown, as she chose; who was, in short, her all-in-all, now that no other all-in-all seemed possible.

Must she, then, yield this dear, exclusive right?

My readers will naturally exclaim: "Nothing of the kind. Have we not heard Lady Tilbury herself protesting against the idea? Are we not sure that she loves her Iva, her firstborn, with a love far above and beyond ordinary maternal affection?"

Ah! but Iva knew what she knew; she knew that although her mother might fume and fret, disliking any vexatious change in her present congenial life, and resenting the intrusion of a newcomer into the cosy *tete-a-tetes* which had obtained ever since her widowhood, she was of too adaptable, too accommodating a nature not to drop the antagonistic attitude ere long.

Gradually Maud would be acclimatised to the boudoir, and its mistress to Maud. Maud would have a seat in the carriage—*her* seat—for she would not care to be one of three on drives and excursions. Maud would be asked to pour out tea in the afternoons.

Iva hated tea-making and tea-pouring, and she and her mother had been wont to help themselves (except when visitors were present), laughing and josling and munching together, pulling the plates about, and sharing the last piece of cake evenly between them, like children.

All such baby tricks would be impossible henceforth.

Iva had a vision of Maud, with very clean and rather red hands, fresh from soap and water, holding aloft the large silver teapot, and dropping into cup after cup the exact proportions of every ingredient; and she saw, too, the effect of this upon Lady Tilbury—Lady Tilbury, who in Sir Thomas's day had been always struggling after correct habits and demeanour, but who of late had been more or less a backslider.

Lady Tilbury would pull herself together, and begin again.

She was still young enough and pliant enough to start unhesitatingly on any fresh tack; and it might be—might very likely be—that the admission of her second daughter to the freedom of the drawing-room and dining-room would see a new era inaugurated in the family.

"She'll get to think me wild and ignorant, she that used to look upon me as a wonder of beauty and cleverness!" moaned Iva in solicitude. "Oh, why don't I know more? Why did I insist upon learning so little when I had the chance? Why did I make Sir Thomas say I should do well enough before I had really learnt anything? Maud will find out how little I know—she who has stuck to her books so steadily, and gone in for masters and classes, as well as all the rest. She is not really clever—no cleverer than I—but mother will be afraid of her; she is half-afraid of her now; because she is all Tilbury, and has the blue blood, which neither of us has. As long as she was a child, we scoffed at this, and held by each other; but now Maud will find she has the world at her feet. She is the rich Miss Tilbury, the heiress, Sir Thomas's eldest daughter; I am but poor Iva, and haven't a relation fit to produce on this side of the water. They may do for Ireland," cried she bitterly.

And then she would fall to bewailing her beauty, which was so little good to her. Would she not have done better with a plain, useful face, with which she could have battered about in spheres where no one cared anything about dark-fringed eyes and damask cheeks? Was not a pretty girl handicapped from the very starting-point?

Maud was not pretty; she was rather handsome on a heavy, agricultural scale. "Nevertheless she will find admirers in plenty," muttered Iva.

Poor Iva was very jealous.

CHAPTER XXV.

MISS TILBURY, OF TILBURY COURT.

Maud too began to assume airs. She had learnt the secret of her own importance, and we may be sure that first among those ready to make their own out of this was Miss Sophia Lossett.

"Of course poor dear Iva is not—she never can be Miss Tilbury, of Tilbury Court."

Sophia was in luck; she had dropped in for a chat, and found the elder ladies out for the afternoon; while the younger, detained at home by a cold, and weary of her own society and the dulness of an empty drawing-room, was in the mood to make the most of a visitor. It was an opportunity not to be thrown away.

"I daresay she has never felt it till now," proceeded the gossip, comfortably ensconced by the fire, and secure from interruption, "but she must learn the truth sooner or later. Dear Iva is so good, she will not mind it."

"I don't see what there is to mind; Iva has had it all her own way ever since I can remember, and it is only fair I should have my turn."

"Certainly. Only fair, as you say. Every girl should have her turn, and of course, you in your position, with your expectations——"—Maud

bridled—"you are entitled to more than others. We all expected Lady Tilbury would have made a great fuss—a sort of coming of age——"

"I don't come of age till I am twenty-one,' importantly.

"And *then* we shall expect grand doings. Quite a young princess! You will be coming into your kingdom. Does Lady Tilbury—ah—will she continue to live here?—but pray don't think me inquisitive —hastily—"don't let out any *secrets*, Maud. Only one is naturally a *little curious;* we have grown so used to Lady Tilbury and Iva, we have come in a manner to look upon *them* as the rightful owners of this lovely place; but of course that is only our foolish way, and of course everyone knows that entailed property must descend to the rightful heir, and as you are the heir——"

"My mother has the right to live at Tilbury Court during her lifetime."

"Really? Yes, we all supposed so; but of course we could not tell. Well, that is very nice, I'm sure; very right and proper. Poor Lady Tilbury would have felt it dreadfully if she had had to turn out."

"To turn out! Oh, dear! I should never turn out mamma!"—(slipping back into "mamma" again). "You surely cannot suppose that Miss Lossett?" and, Maud, looking very like her father in Sir Thomas's most dignified vein. Miss Lossett had recourse to a profuse explanation.

"My dear Maud, of course not. You would be the last person—her own daughter—and Sir Thomas's own daughter—how could you think—? I must have expressed myself very badly—I am quite shocked! All I meant, my dear, was this—perhaps I ought not to mention it, but such things do happen"—archly—"as that the little god Cupid steps in, eh? And in your case, where there would be no pecuniary hindrance, eh——?"

"Oh, I suppose I shall marry some day," said Maud calmly.

"Quite so. Of course you will. *Now* you understand me. Supposing—just supposing—you did happen to want to marry some nice young gentleman without means—they are always *the* ones, my dear—the fascinators—Reggie Goffe, for instance—what a charming, taking boy he was—"

"Boy! Do you call him a boy? He always seemed quite old to me."

"He was old enough to run away with all our hearts, at any rate"—Sophia laughed, and stroked the fur tails of her boa—"quite a lady-killer, as I doubt not Iva would tell you. Between ourselves, it was just as well for dear Iva's sake that he was carted off out of the way before——"—nodding significantly. "*That* would never have done. In her case it would have been impossible. Not a penny between them."

"Mamma would never have allowed it, surely!"

"Your mother, Maud—ahem!—no, no, I don't think she would." Sophia suddenly turned out a new ending to the sentence she had begun, and eyed its effect. She suspected that her hearer would demand the meaning of its latent signficance.

Maud, however, appeared satisfied, and remained silent, ruminating.

"Pretty dense," muttered Sophia to herself. "But though your mother has Tilbury Court for her life, of course she has not the whole of the rent-roll," proceeded she, cautiously. "I know Sir Thomas told my father that he derived a certain part of his income from other sources; and *that* money of course he could do what he liked with. Still I suppose—oh, dear"—catching an obstinate expression on the other side of the rug, which might be awkward to deal with—"I believe it is coming on to rain!" (For all her sheep's face, she may take it into her head to be offended, thought she.) Whereupon she changed the conversation deftly, chatted on this and that, and presently left under flying colours. One thing she had achieved; she had made Maud promise to go and see her occasionally at the Gate House.

"What on earth do you want to go there for?" said Iva one day.

"I like to go and see people; why shouldn't I? We have known the Lossetts all our lives."

"Oh, you are very welcome to go for me; only I can't understand the pleasure of it."

"Because you can't, that is not to say I can't."

"Let her go, Iva," said Lady Tilbury in a low voice. "Don't squabble about nothing, there's a dear." For of late there had been a good many squabbles about nothing; and Lady Tilbury's life was by no means so easy as it had been. She could not make the two amalgamate; and to take the part of either or espouse her cause was to turn the fiery darts of the one tongue or the one sledge-hammer blow of the other on herself.

Maud had but one thing to say: it had been her weapon from infancy; and though it had hitherto been a failure, the time had now come for it to be wielded with effect. She could not now be dismissed from the room for charging her mother with partiality to the daughter of her first husband.

Iva, on the other hand, felt as if her throne were slipping beneath her feet if the luckless lady strove to be peacemaker.

Oh, for the good old times when Reggie's voice in the corridor or his step in the doorway would bring Iva round, however black her mood! Only once had he failed, and by this time Iva's mother knew why, and sighed to herself when now and again came cheerful, buoyant letters from the young soldier—brief, it is true, but not at all the epistles of a lovelorn swain.

It was obvious that he had learnt the lesson of forgetfulness, as it was best and wisest he should; and could Iva have done the same there might have been nothing to regret; but Lady Tilbury was not quite so sure as she could have wished to be about Iva.

"Ask your sister about those ball-cards, Maud."

"Do you think we need ask her at all, mamma? We know exactly what to do. I have thought it all over, and asked the Stanley girls and the Yates girls, and we made out the programme together."

"Without asking Iva?" Lady Tilbury frowned.

"Iva would only have argued and disputed," said Maud, smoothly. "You know Iva never does agree with any of us girls."

"What nonsense! You don't take her the right way. She never was like that with me. Of course, if you try to set her on one side——"

"She will have to be set on one side some day," retorted Maud; and though the words themselves were all but inaudible, Lady Tilbury felt a cowardly shrinking from provoking their repetition.

(To be continued.)

Births.

ELEY.—On the 4th June, at 7, Clock House-road, Beckenham, the wife of Jno. Christopher Eley, of a son.

WOOD.—On the 4th June, at Glebe House, Hayes, Kent, the wife of Charles F. Wood, of a daughter.

Marriages.

BEVINGTON—KIRK.—On the 11th June, at St. John's, Sevenoaks, by the Rev. H. E. Simpson, of St. Matthew's, Westminster, assisted by the Rev. J. Stewart, Vicar of Great Chesterford, Essex, Robert Knox Bevington, son of Colonel Samuel Bourne Bevington, J.P., of Merle Wood, Sevenoaks, to Marian, eldest daughter of Sir John Kirk, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., of Wavertree, Sevenoaks

BIDDLE—TOWNEND.—On the 15th June, at St. Michael's, Chester-square, by the Rev. George Crossle, Rector of Broome, Norfolk, assisted by the Rev. W. Fleming, of Christ Church, Chislehurst, John Haines Biddle, of Addison-road, Kensington, elder son of the late William Ayres Biddle, of Walton, Warwickshire, to Bertha Margaret, daughter of Thomas Townend, Glenrose, Chislehurst.

BUTLER—GULLICK.—On the 7th June, at Christ Church, Bath, Arthur George Butler, M.B. Lond., of Trevose, Beckenham-road, Penge, only son of Arthur Gardiner Butler, Ph.D. of the Natural History Museum, and the Lilies, Beckenham, to Maude, eldest daughter of T. Gullick, Esq., of Heathfield, Bath.

CAZENOVE—DODSON.—On the 4th June, at Holy Trinity Church, Beckenham, by the Rev. W. Smyly, M.A., Vicar of St. John's, Penge, Charles Francis Cazenove, eldest son of C. D. Cazenove, of Marine-square, Brighton, to Ethel May, youngest daughter of the late Henry Dodson and Mrs. Dodson, of Cambridge Lodge, Newlands-park, Sydenham.

HARVEY—DEWEY.—On the 22nd June, at the Parish Church, Bromley, Kent, by the Rev. A. G. Hellicar, M.A., Vicar of the Parish, assisted by the Rev. Stanley D. Dewey, M.A., Vicar of Geddington, and brother of the bride, Arthur Willoughby Harvey, elder son of Charles Harvey, of Forest Drive, Leytonstone, to Lilly, second daughter of Thos. C. Dewey, of South Hill Wood, Bromley, Kent.

JONES—NASH.—On the 6th June, at the Parish Church, Bromley, by the Rev. J. M. Tamplin, Edward, son of the late Edward Jones, late of Scafell Farm, Newtown, North Wales, and of Mrs. Bliss, Plas Madoc, Bishops Castle, Salop, to Kate, third daughter of Frederick Nash, Southside, High Wycombe, Bucks.

LAYMAN—WHITE.—On the 4th June, at St. Peter's, Cranley-gardens, Frederick Noel Layman, second son of Charles Noel Layman of "The Firs," Beckenham, Kent, to Minna, widow of John Berry White, of 3, Cornwall-mansions, Queen's-gate.

MARSDEN—COOPER.—On the 15th June, at the Parish Church, Beckenham, by the Rev. Henry Arnott, James Whittaker, son of the late J. Marsden, of Bolton, Lancs., and of Mrs. Marsden, of Beckenham, to Maude, youngest daughter of the late John Cooper, of Wanstead.

SMITH—CROUCHER.—On the 1st June, at the Congregational Church, Bromley, Kent, by the Rev. Thos. Nicholson, F. Montague Smith, son of Edward Smith, of the Stock Exchange, and St. Stephens, Bromley Park, to Florence A. Croucher, younger daughter of Edward Elijah Croucher, of Chancery-lane, and Tewkesbury, Bromley, Kent.

SQUIRE—HEPBURN.—On the 16th June, at St. Mary Magdalene's, Addiscombe, by Rev. Algernon C. E. Thorold, M.A., Rector of Hougham-cum-Marston, assisted by Rev. Canon Thompson, D D., Vicar of Cardiff, Alfred Hugh Knight Squire, LL.B., solicitor, son of the late Alfred Rook Squire, of Ladbroke-grove, W., and Bush-lane, E.C., and Mrs. Baynes, of Bromley, to Ethelwyn Mary, second daughter of James Smith Hepburn, of 1, Elgin-road, Addiscombe.

Deaths.

ALSTON.—On the 12th June, at Loancroft, Bromley, Kent, James Brown Alston, aged 77, formerly of Fairfield, Bickley, Kent, third son of the late George Alston, of Muirburn, Lanarkshire.

BAXTER.—On Whit-Sunday, at 37, Masons Hill, Bromley, Kent, Alice Emily, third daughter of William Walmisley and the late Caroline E. Baxter, aged 34½ years.

DUNN.—On the 24th May, Elizabeth Dunn, of the Cemetery Lodge, Bromley, aged 70 years. "Loved and respected by all who knew her."

JOYCE.—On the 8th June, at Studland, Beckenham, Emma, second daughter of the late Frederick Joyce, of Waltham Abbey and Bath.

KONIG.—On the 6th June, at Voldagsen, Hanover, Alfred Konig, elder brother of F. A. Konig, of Chislehurst.

MANICO.—On the 26th May, at Claverley, Beckenham, Kent, Edward Smith Manico, aged 76.

MILLER.—On the 1st June, at Bromley, Enos William Miller, in his 93rd year.

NEWINGTON.—On the 6th June, at Beckenham, Alexander Thurlow Newington, youngest son of the late Charles Newington, of The Highlands, Ticehurst, Sussex, aged 75.

NORTHCOTE.—On the 9th June, at Amwell, Beckenham, Kent, Gilbert Charles Northcote, in his 74th year.

PALMER.—On June 3rd, at Pembridge, Bromley, Kent, Emily Annie, the beloved wife of John Clark Palmer, in her 46th year.

PURVIS.—On the 13th June, at Coney Hill, Beckenham, Henry John Purvis (of the Firm of John Hall and Co., jun., of 1, New London-street), aged 47.

SIMPSON.—On June 6th, at 33, Palace-grove, Bromley, Kent, Eliza Fanny Simpson, aged 69.

WALKER.—On the 29th May, at Camberwell, Rhoda Walker, in her 100th year. Formerly of 67, High-street, Bromley.

FUNERALS.—J. HUMERSTON, Undertaker and Appraiser, 17, East Street, Bromley; Upholsterer and Cabinet Maker. re132

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May be viewed, and particulars with conditions of sale, obtained of Percy K. Langdale, Esq., solicitor, Holborn Viaduct, E.C.; at the Mart; and of Baxter Payne & Lepper, Auctioneers and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

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18ft. by 14ft. 3in.	9 14 6

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QUERNMORE SCHOOL,

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Large resident Staff of Graduates. Every facility for Sports, under the supervision of Masters. Over 5 acres of cricket and football fields immediately adjoining the 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; and Gymnastic Classes in School Gymnasium.

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Families supplied with Pure New Milk Three Times Daily. Cream 3s. per Quart.
Fresh Butter Churned Every Morning. New Laid Eggs from our own Fowls.

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The favour of your recommendation is solicited.

G. A. TRENHOLM, *Manager*

BROMLEY HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS,

ELMFIELD ROAD, BROMLEY, KENT.

Head Mistress: MISS HEPPEL, B.A.

THE AUTUMN TERM WILL BEGIN ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th.

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 on Wednesday and Friday, September 14th and 16th, from 2.30 to 4.30.

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BROMLEY.

Printers and Publishers of the "Bromley Chronicle," "Beckenham Chronicle," "Chislehurst Chronicle," "Bromley Telegraph," and "The Bromley Record."

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Union Bank of London, Ltd.,

ESTABLISHED 1839.

Subscribed Capital, £11,000,000. Paid Up Capital, £1,705,000.

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Statement of Accounts of

THE UNION BANK OF LONDON, Limited,

On 28th MAY, 1898.

LIABILITIES.

Dr.	£	s.	d.
Capital and Reserve Fund ...	2,555,000	0	0
Deposits and Current Accounts,	15,317,784	18	4
Acceptances and Liabilities by Endorsement	1,981,458	18	2
Other Liabilities	359,222	3	7
	£20,213,466	0	1

ASSETS.

Cr.	£	s.	d.
Cash in hand and at Bank of England	2,654,339	19	2
Money at Call and Short Notice,	3,193,000	0	0
Investments—including Reserve Fund	2,941,953	2	5
Discounts, Loans, and other advances	8,847,027	6	7
Liability of Customers on Acceptances and Endorsements ...	1,981,458	18	2
Bank Premises and other Assets,	595,681	13	9
	£20,213,466	0	1

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.

The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

AUGUST, 1898.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st.—Bank Holiday.—Annual Summer Show in connection with the Alexandra Horticultural Society, in Elm Grove Meadow, Newlands Park, Sydenham.

2nd.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

3rd.—Fifteenth Annual Summer Show of the Downe Horticultural Society, at Downe.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne and Lepper, of growing crops at Luxted Farm, Downe.

4th.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne and Lepper, of building land at Sandford-road, Bromley, and of the detached dwelling house, 48a, Stanley-road, Bromley, at the Bell Hotel, Bromley.

7th.—*Ninth Sunday after Trinity.*

8th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of St. Luke's Burial Board, at St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common, at 8.15 p.m.

10th.—Fifty-mile Race, under the auspices of the Bromley Cycling Club, on the Catford Track.—*Al fresco* concert in the garden of the Bromley Conservative Club.

12th.—Meetings of the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board and the West Kent Main Sewerage Board, at 96, High-street, Bromley.

14th.—*Tenth Sunday after Trinity.*

15th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

17th.—Annual Summer Show of the Farnborough Horticultural Society, at Farnborough.

21st.—*Eleventh Sunday after Trinity.*

22nd.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

28th.—*Twelfth Sunday after Trinity.*

29th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

Two meetings of the above Council were held during July, when several interesting matters were discussed.

JOINT MEDICAL OFFICER PROPOSAL.

At the Council's meeting on July 5th, the Clerk to the Kent County Council wrote, intimating that a conference would be held on the following Thursday in London of representatives of District Councils and the County Council, respecting possible further combinations of districts in the county for medical officers. Several suggested combinations were mentioned, the one affecting Bromley being as follows:—

	Population.	Amount now paid to medical officer.	Estimated contribution to salary of joint medical officer.
		£	
Hollingbourne R.D.C.	13,318	70	100
Malling	24,751	100	150
Beckenham U.D.C. ...	20,707	150	200
Bromley U.D.C. ...	21,684	100	200
Wrotham	3,437	20	50
Totals	83,897	£440	£700

Mr. G. H. Payne pointed out that by the proposal Bromley would be served by a medical officer having no less than 48 parishes to look after, and would have to pay £100 per year more than under their present arrangement, by which they paid £100 for a medical offer for their own district. The document, he said, condemned itself.

At the conference upon this question, Mr. G. H. Payne and Mr. F. H. Norman represented the Bromley Council, and Mr. Payne expressed the Council's views on the question. The general opinion of the representatives at the meeting was in favour of a continuance of the existing arrangements, while they also considered that the creation of the suggested additional office of a general medical officer for the county, which would cost the county £1,000, was not desirable. A resolution embodying these views was carried unanimously.

PROPOSED COMPETITION IN ELECTRIC LIGHT.

The Council were informed by a communication from Messrs. Dollman and Pritchard, solicitors, that an application would be made to the Board of Trade for a provisional order to be granted to another company to supply electric light for Bromley and Chislehurst, and also for Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells.—In answer to Mr. Davis, the Clerk said it was possible to have two companies, but the Council could, of course, withhold their consent to the application, though that, under certain circumstances, could be over-ruled by the Board of Trade.—Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Nye favoured the idea of competition; but Mr. Davis remarked that the thing was not ripe for competition yet.—The Chairman (Mr. W. R. Mallett) considered that it would be undesirable to encourage another company; and Mr. G. H. Payne said he thought the Council, after parting with their provisional order, were bound, morally, to support the present company. He suggested that a reply be sent, stating the Council would not give their consent; but, upon Mr. Nye's suggestion, Mr. Payne agreed to hold over a resolution to that effect until the next meeting.—At the Council's meeting on July 19th, Mr. G. H. Payne moved his resolution to the effect that the Council refused their consent to the company's application.—Mr. Worley, who seconded, remarked that it would be better to have one successful company than two failures.—Mr. Davis agreed that it was not desirable to give their consent.—Mr. Nye strongly opposed the resolution, remarking that any

monopoly was an evil, and that when it got into unscrupulous hands it was a menace to the interests and well-being of the public.—The resolution was carried, Messrs. Nye and Lord alone voting against it.

The Question of Complaints Against Officials.

In accordance with notice, Mr. Worley moved the following resolution:—"That upon the moving of any resolution that may be put upon the agenda relating to the conduct of any officer of the Council, any member may move that such resolution shall be referred to a Committee of the whole Council for investigation and report without debate.' There had, he said, been an understanding that they should not discuss the conduct of their officers in open Council, but when that understanding was not respected, it was of no effect, and as the present mode of procedure, whereby a long statement could be made publicly before the matter was referred to a committee, was unfair and against all common-sense, he had brought forward his motion. Officers were, he said, bound to get themselves disliked if they did their duty, and to publicly investigate any complaints against them would under-mine their authority.—Mr. Peill seconded.—Mr. Nye protested against any attempt to conduct the business in secret. He remarked that when secrecy had to be adopted to silence an adversary, it went to prove that that adversary had something more than falsity on his side, for falsity could be met and refuted in the open, but to silence truth secrecy had to be resorted to. Why, he asked, did they not make a clean sweep, and abolish both the Press and the public from their meetings.—Mr. Dickins expressed his disapproval of the resolution, for though the object might be good, they could not, he said, gag a member. It was a matter which must be left to the common-sense of the members. If any charges which were untrue, were made against an official, it was, of course, unfair that that officer should have to wait a considerable time before it went forth that nobody else on the Council believed in the charges, but pure critiicism of an officer could not be interfered with.—Mr. Davis also considered it a matter which must be left to the common-sense and good feeling of the individual member who was bringing any such charge. Members would, he hoped, carefully sift any complaints they might have to make, before they ventured to state them publicly.—Mr. Grinsted sympathised with Mr. Worley's object, but did not think it would be in the interests of the officers to pass the resolution. In the recent events, their officials had come out of the matter all right, as the effect had been to improve their position rather than to damage them. —Mr. Lawrence pointed out that the resolution would not preclude the possibility of a debate on any particular charge, as the feeling of the members as to referring such a matter to committee would have to be consulted.—Mr. Worley adhered to his resolution which, on being put to the vote was rejected by 5 to 3.

Light Railway Scheme Abandoned.

Two communications were submitted at the meeting on 5th ult., referring to the proposed light railway.—The Clerk to the Beckenham Urban Council wrote enclosing a copy of that Council's petition on the subject to the Commissioners; and the Clerk to the London County Council wrote inviting the Council to send delegates to a conference in London on the question, the writer stating that the proposals if carried into effect would operate so as to withdraw from the Local Authorities both inside and outside London many of the advantages conferred upon them by the Tramweys Act of 1870.—It was decided that the Chairman (Mr. Mallett), and Mr. Davis should attend the conference on behalf of the Bromley Council.—On July 19th, Mr. Mallett and Mr. Davis submitted a report on the conference, and Mr. Mallett added that none of the delegates from the South side of London desired electrical tramways, while the people in the north of London wanted tramways to enable them to get to their work.—The Clerk stated that he had been officially informed by the Secretary to the Light Railway Commission that the promoter of the light railway from London to Farnborough had abandoned the scheme.

Private Roads Taken Over.

Upon the proposition of Mr. Peill, the Council agreed, provided the road charges were paid, or agreements for payment were entered into, to take over Glebe, Station, Heathfield, and Haxted roads and Elmfield Park.

More Litigation.

It was reported that the action brought by Mr. Norrish against the Council for damage to his land at Tredwell Farm, Southlands-road, through flooding by surface water, had resulted in damages amounting to £8, being awarded the plaintiff. The Council agreed to consider the matter in committee, with a view, it was understood, to a possible appeal.—At the meeting in committee, the Council decided to pay the damages amounting to £8, and the taxed costs £25 19s., and not to appeal.

Mr. Coles Child Claims Compensation.

A letter was read from a firm of solicitors acting on behalf of Mr. Coles Child, J.P., referring to the proposed making up of Bickley avenue. They objected to the work, contending that the avenue was not a street within the meaning of the Public Health Act, and claimed £125 as compensation for carrying the surface water sewer through land belonging to Mr. Coles Child, which they stated was laid out for building purposes.—The letter was referred to the Highways Committee, and the Council instructed the Clerk to invite tenders for the work.—At the meeting on July 19th, the Council decided to offer Mr. Coles Child the sum of £20 as compensation.—The tender of Messrs. Mowlem and Co., amounting to £1156, for making up Bickley Avenue, was accepted.

Unpaid Road Charges.

The Council adopted a motion brought forward by Mr. Peill, instructing the Finance Committee to inquire into the question of the recovery of sums due—about £200—from the representatives of the late Mr. Angus, in respect of the making-up of Chatterton, Pope and Walpole Roads, and if the owner could not be found the Committee were authorised to consider and report upon the advisability of enclosing the land.

The White Hart Field.

Considerable discussion took place at the meeting on July 19th, concerning a plan which was submitted for the laying out of the White Hart Field as a pleasure ground. No estimate of the cost was presented, but provision was made in the plan for a caretaker's house, a covered bandstand, playing fountain, etc., and several members, including Mr. Davis, Mr. Lord, and Mr. Nye, considered the scheme was too elaborate. A less expensive plan would, they said meet all requirements.—Mr. Dickins had given notice of a motion to the effect that a cycle track be provided on the ground, but this was not submitted, it being understood that the plan was only a provisional one, and that Mr. Dickins's suggestion could be considered at a future date.—Mr. Nye protested against a resolution in favour of submitting the plan for Mr. Coles Child's approval, contending that it was out of order as the Council

had previously given instructions, by resolution, for an estimate of the cost to accompany the plan. He moved an amendment to the effect that the Council approach Mr. Coles Child, with a view to getting him to allow the ground to be levelled and turfed and used as a recreation ground for children.—Mr. Davis seconded; but the amendment was defeated by 6 votes to 5.—The resolution proposed by Mr. G. H. Payne, and seconded by Mr. Worley, was carried by a narrow majority.

Salaries Increased.

The Council in committee on July 19th, revised the salaries of their employees, and afterwards approved of various increases, including:—F. H. Norman, clerk, from £275 to £290; E. T. Godward, assistant clerk, £140 to £150; M. Bates, sanitary inspector, £220 to £235; T. Butler, assistant sanitary inspector, £110 to £125;; S. Hawkings, surveyor, £325 to £330; W. A. Cope, assistant surveyor, £140 to £150; G. Stone, rate collector, £156 to £170; and J. Harrison, librarian, £130 to £140. The increases together amount to £122 per annum.

Adjournment.

It was decided to adjourn for the summer vacation, until September 6th, the Committee meeting being arranged for August 30th.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

Two public meetings of this Board were held during July, on 11th and 18th respectively.

Temperance Teaching in Schools.

It was reported at the meeting on the 11th July, that a very good proportion of the scholars who had taken part in the competitions arranged in connection with the temperance lectures delivered by Mr. Harvey, of the Kent Band of Hope Union, had gained certificates; and Mr. Harvey informed the Board that some excellent papers had been sent in, reflecting the highest credit on both teachers and scholars.

Complaint of Stone-Throwing.

The Board received a complaint from the treasurer of the St. Mary Home, Shortlands, of damage done by stone-throwing by children attending the Valley Board School.—Mr. Loly remarked that stone-throwing was getting very prevalent in Bromley; and it was agreed to request the head teachers of the Schools to admonish the children.

School Attendance Officer.

At the meeting on July 18th, the School Management Committee reported upon the application of the School Attendance Officer for an increase of salary. He had, it appeared, been in the Board's service for six years at a weekly salary of 35s., and they recommended an increase to £2 per week.—This was approved.

Unnecessary Trouble.

Attention was called by Mr. Judd to the trouble caused both to the Clerk, and the members, by the delay, on the part of teachers, in furnishing the requisite certificates for children who were entitled to leave school. A letter was also read addressed to the Clerk from Mr. Salter, of the Bickley Schools, to the effect that a certificate he had been asked for had already been given to the boy, and stating that he thought it would be better if the keeping of children at school was attended to more than bothering so much about obtaining their certificates to leave.—The Chairman and several members considered the letter an impertinent one, and it was decided to send a copy of all the correspondence on the subject to the governors of the school. Mr. Loly pointed out that the Board made no preference in enforcing the attendance of children at school, and were only animated by the most friendly feelings towards the National schools.

It was decided to adjourn for the summer vacation, until August 22nd.

MUSICAL GOSSIP.

There has been little to record in the musical world during the past month, musicians being presumably, like other people, scattered far and wide among the health resorts of the country.

Many of them combine business with pleasure, and as a result there has been in recent years, a very marked advance, both in quality and quantity, of the concerts provided at the various watering places during the summer season.

At some (notably at Eastbourne and at Llandudno) excellent orchestral concerts are given, supported by many of the leading London instrumentalists; in others, where a garrison or large naval station is at hand, as at Southsea and Plymouth, first-class military bands lend their assistance; and at nearly all are to be heard soloists and vocalists chosen from among the rising members of the profession, many of whom must in the near future take front rank. It would surely be worth the while of music lovers to make note of any promising young artistes they may hear during their summer holiday, and to watch, where practicable, their future career.

Of all the various methods adopted for amusing public curiosity and interest, certainly one of the most curious and quaint is that of the club of cricketer musicians, who are now making the tour of some South coast towns, playing cricket matches during the day, and giving concerts in cricketing costume, in the evenings. Among the members of the club may be recognised some whose faces are not unfamiliar in Bromley musical circles.

A gentleman who has for some years been in the habit of collecting curios on striking musical criticisms, recently showed his scrap-book to the writer, and among its contents, two paragraphs clipped from a contemporary, not only possess a local interest, but are such gems of expression, that they are worth reproducing. Describing a musical service in one of the Bromley Churches, the writer says "The organist being aided by the percussion instruments, viz., trombones as well as trumpets, was enabled to give the choruses the dressing accompaniment intended by Mendelssohn." It is, of course, conceivable that both trumpets and trombones *might* be employed as "percussion instruments," as under great provocation, brass candlesticks and even paraffin lamps have been so used; but such proceedings in a church would amount to brawling. The other extract is from a report of a performance of "Gounod's Redemption." Speaking of one of the recitatives, the writer, after remarking that "it commences on the dominant throughout" proceeds to say "Under the vocal arrangement, is a prettily worked orchestral dressing, travelling at the same time, and carefully kept in its place by the conductor."

A careful study of these two passages should afford as much scope for mental energy as half-a-dozen ordinary conundrums.

Yeomanry Shooting Contest.—On July 6th, at the Milton Range, the Inter-Troop Yeomanry Cup, which becomes the property of the Company who wins it three years in succession, was shot for by the Bromley, Tunbridge Wells, Maidstone, and Cobham teams, at a range of 500 yards, and won for the first year by the A (Bromley) Troop with a score of 453. Tunbridge Wells was second with 446; Maidstone third with 413; and Cobham last with 404. The Colonel's Cup was won by Corpl. Stockwell (Bromley).

FASHIONABLE WEDDINGS.

MR. H. W. HANDCOCK AND MISS SOPHIE TULLOCH.

A fashionable wedding was solemnised at St. Luke's, Bromley Common, on Saturday, July 9th, between Mr. Henry William Handcock, Assoc. M.I.C.E., son of Mr. William J. Handcock, and Miss Sophie (Mimie) Tulloch, daughter of Major Tulloch, C.B., R.E., late of the Local Government Board, and as the bride's family is well known, there was considerable interest taken in the event. The church was tastefully decorated, and the bride, who was given away by her father, was handsomely attired in white satin, trimmed with chiffon and Honiton and Brussels lace, with tulle veil, and was attended by no fewer than six bridesmaids and three pages. The names of the former were Miss Dorothy Tulloch (sister of the bride), Miss Handcock (sister of the bridegroom), Miss Ethel Ducat, and Miss Hilda Smith (cousins of the bride), Miss Brenda Hopkins, and Miss May Hopkins; and their costumes consisted of yellow silk under Indian silk gauze, and Leghorn hats, trimmed with black plumes and yellow roses. The pages were the Masters Robin Dawson, Kingsley Dykes and Robin Howard-Williams. The officiating clergy were the Rev. T. F. Morton, M.A., uncle of the bride, Rev. Evelyn Morton, M.A., rector of Foulsham, Norfolk, cousin of the bride, and Rev. E. L. Colebrooke, vicar of St. Luke's, and Mr. F. G. Handcock acted as the best man. A reception was afterwards held at St. Luke's Institute, at which about 250 guests were present. The room was set out and arranged with great taste as a huge drawing-room by Mr. J. Humerston, of East-street, Bromley, who was also responsible for the preparations at the church. The floor was covered with crimson cloth and two square carpets, and the windows were draped with choice tapestries and muslins. A buffet, which was supplied by Mr. W. Maunder, of Bromley, was canopied with canary and white muslin, and draped with crimson curtains, while flowers supplied by Messrs. Laing and Sons, of Forest Hill, reigned supreme at every point, with a huge group in the centre of the room, reaching up to the gas pendant.

The newly-married couple subsequently took their departure for the coast of Cornwall, where the honeymoon was spent. The bride's going-away dress was a sapphire blue faced cloth Louis XVI. coat and skirt, vest of old brocade, lace ruffles, and Leghorn hat, with black plumes and shaded roses.

MR. C. M. ZIMMERMANN AND MISS E. E. KURTZ.

A wedding which occasioned a good deal of local interest, was solmnised on Saturday July 9th, at St. Mary's Church, Shortlands, between Mr. Charles M. Zimmermann, son of Mr. August Zimmermann, and Miss Elsa Emilia Kurtz, daughter of Mr. J. August Kurtz, of Hill House, Durham Avenue, South Hill Park, Bromley. The Rev. H. F. Wolley, M.A., vicar, officiated, and the bride, who was given away by her father, wore a handsome dress of white satin duchesse, trimmed with Brussels lace and chiffon, court train, and Brussels lace veil, and a diamond pendant (the only ornament), the gift of the bridegroom. She carried a beautiful bouquet of white flowers. Mr. Max Zimmermann acted as best man, and the bridesmaids were the Misses Lina Kurtz, Maria Gerta Zimmermann, Alice Dankins, and Hetty and Bee Kurtz. They were attired in eau-de-nil satin dresses, trimmed with ecru lace and chiffon, and they wore white Leghorn hats trimmed with black feathers, chiffon, and pink roses. Each bridesmaid wore a diamond brooch, and carried a bouquet of pink roses, these being the gift of the bridegroom. The mother of the bride wore a reseda green silk dress trimmed with Honiton lace, and a gold lace bonnet trimmed with black feathers, and she carried a bouquet of mauve orchids. The mother of the bridegroom was attired in a black moire antique dress, trimmed with real old point lace, and a black bonnet trimmed with pink roses, and she carried a shower bouquet of pink roses.

After the ceremony a reception was held at Hill House, and largely attended, and in the evening the happy couple left for London, en route for the English Lakes, and Scotland and Ireland, where the honeymoon was spent. During the reception a Blue Hungarian Band played selections of music.

The wedding presents were costly and handsome, and numbered about two hundred.

MR. S. H. SIMPSON AND MISS C. M. LAYMAN.

At the Parish Church, Beckenham, on Saturday, July 9th, the wedding took place of Mr. Stanley Herbert Simpson, fourth son of Mr. J. H. Simpson, Oaklawn, Beckenham, and Miss Charlotte Maude Layman, daughter of Mr. Charles Noel Layman, of The Firs, Albemarle-road. The Rev. Henry Arnott (Rector) performed the ceremony. The bride was given away by her father and wore a dress of ivory duchesse satin, with draped satin bodice, gathered chiffon yoke and chiffon sash, fastened by a cluster of orange blossome, the sash falling from the left side to the hem of the skirt The veil was of tulle surmounted by a coronet of orange blossoms. She carried a bouquet of choice white exotics, and was attended by the following bridesmaids:—Miss Florence Layman ,(her sister), Miss Daisy Simpson, Miss Mabel Simpson and Miss Ada Simpson (sisters of the bridegroom), Miss Barbara Blakesley (cousin of the bride), and Miss Eileen Berry White. These young ladies wore dresses of soft China silk, with tucked bodices, and trimmed lace insertion and sashes of the same silk, lace insertion, and lace being introduced on the skirts, and white chip hats with ostrich feathers and chiffon and a small cluster of William Allan Richardson roses on the side. Their posy shaped bouquets were of the same flower, and the two children carried baskets of the same roses. These together with silver souvenirs were the gifts of the bridegroom. After the ceremony a numerously attended reception was held at The Firs, and later on the newly-married couple left for Folkestone en route for Ostend where the honeymoon was spent. The bride's going-away costume was of steel grey, trimmed with chiffon and ecru coloured lace, and white satin hat with feathers. The presents numbered 140.

How to Soften Water.—Mr. Frederick Harris, B.Ss., F.C.S., head-master of the High School for Boys, Bromley Lodge, having been asked by Dr. Price, a member of the Urban Council, to ascertain to what extent the hard water supplied by the Kent Company can be softened by the use of Anti-Calcaire, and whether anything injurious is thereby added to the water, has experimented and found that 80 per cent. of the total hardness can be removed by its use, and that nothing of a harmful nature is thereby introduced.

A Colonel's Bankruptcy.—Col. Routledge, of Tower House, Tweedy-road, Bromley, made application on July 12th, at the Croydon Bankruptcy Court for his discharge. The liabilities amounted to £102 19s., and the assets realised £8. Debtor admitted having lost £50 or £100 in gambling during the last three years; and his discharge was suspended for two years.

BROMLEY NATURALISTS' SOCIETY.

A TRIP TO GREENWICH.

On July 9th, about thirty-two members and friends of the Bromley Naturalists' Society had an enjoyable excursion to Greenwich Park, and the Royal Naval College. The party were conveyed from Bromley by waggonettes, and arrived at the Royal Naval College gates at about three o'clock, where they were cordially welcomed by Mr. Gifford Hooper, who had kindly consented to conduct the party, and Mr. A. D. Webster, superintendent of Greenwich Park. A visit was first paid to the Chapel Royal, 1706-52, with its beautiful ceiling, sculpture, and alter piece, painted by Benjamin West, P.R.A., and the visitors also inspected the crypt, which is the only remaining portion of the old Royal Palace of Placentia. The Naval Museum of Arctic relics, etc., was next visited, the party being conducted over this interesting building by Lieutenant Pratt. Some models of vessels from the "Great Harry," of 1530, to the most modern battle-ships, were seen, and sections carefully pointed out, and the visitors were also much interested in a model showing how battleships are launched. Before leaving the museum, the Vice-president of the Society (Mr. Henry Wilson), expressed the thanks of the members to Lieutenant Pratt for his kindness. After inspecting the Painted Hall, the ceiling of which was painted by Sir James Thornhill between 1708 and 1727, and other parts of the Hospital, the party proceeded to Mr. Webster's house, where tea had been very generously provided by the Superintendent and Mrs. Webster. The repast was much appreciated, and a visit was afterwards paid to the Ranger's house—lately occupied by Lord Wolseley—and now vacant. A stroll through the grounds was very enjoyable, and the visitors then proceeded to the Barrows, which are supposed to cover the remains of the Danes who died at Greenwich in the early part of the eleventh century. Cordial votes of thanks were accorded Mr. Gifford Hooper, and Mr. and Mrs. Webster, for their kind services: and after visiting the Royal Observatory the return journey was commenced, and Bromley reached in good time.

Death of Mr. Edwin Fownes.—The death occurred on July 3rd of Edwin Fownes, one of the most famous "whips" of modern times. In the days before railways were in vogue, Fownes was well-known in Bromley, and was for some time driver of the four-hour omnibus which took business men to the City. As the railway crept nearer to these parts, the driving journey was curtailed—first at Lewisham and afterwards at Beckenham. Fownes was a very fine driver, and his sons have become hardly less well known in the same walk of life. He began his career on the "Telegraph," which ran between London and Tunbridge Wells, when he was only fourteen years of age, and he had reached the age of 77. His funeral took place at Putney Vale Cemetery, and the chief feature of it was the assemblage of upwards of sixteen coaches and four, bearing marks of mourning, which followed the seven private carriages containing the relatives and friends. These coaches included the "Old Times," which runs to Virginia Water, the first coach with which the deceased was associated; the two "Comets," Brighton coaches; the "Perseverance," Dorking; the "Vigilant," Ascot; the "Olden Times," Tunbridge Wells; the "Vivid," Hampton Court; the "Venture," Windsor; "Sportsman," Ockham; "Rocket," Burford Bridge; "Tally Ho," Reigate; "New Times," Guildford; "The Age," Oxford; "Present Times," Shepperton; "Vale of White Horse," Henley. Every driver was in mourning. The body was carried in an open hearse, drawn by four black horses, and upon the coffin was a model of the "Defiance" coach, made of mignonette, French marigolds, and marguerites, which was the gift of Mr. Earnest Fownes, a son; while another son (Charles) sent a whip made of orchids, gladioli, and gardenias. The unique procession caused much interest along the line of route, and it was noticed that all the Putney and Fulham 'bus drivers carried black crape on their whips during the day.

The Charge Against a Beckenham Doctor.—A special sitting of the Bromley magistrates was held on July 21st, to hear the charges against David Wallace, a Beckenham medical practitioner, who has been remanded on several occasions on a charge of assaulting Elizabeth Alice Clara Warrilow, aged 21, and performing an illegal operation on her, to procure abortion, at Beckenham.—Mr. Bodkin, instructed by Mr. Frayling for the Treasury, appeared to prosecute; and Mr. Hohler, instructed by Mr. Gregory, defended the accused.—The prosecutrix, who is living with her parents at 106, Ravenscroft-road, Beckenham, gave evidence at considerable length, and after hearing two other witnesses, the Bench adjourned the case until Saturday, July 23rd. A further hearing took place on July 30th, and the prisoner was informed that he would be committed for trial at the Assizes, to be held at Maidstone, in November.

Baths & Technical Institute for Beckenham.—At the last meeting of the Beckenham Council before the holidays, the seal was affixed to an agreement with the Cator estate for the conveyance of land on the Old Clock House estate, abutting on Beckenham-road, for a site for Baths and Technical Institute. The offer made by Mr. Burroughes was considered to be very fair, and general satisfaction has been expressed in Beckenham at the fact that acceptable arrangements have been concluded.

Local Wesleyan Ministerial Changes.—According to arrangements made by the Stationing Committee of the Wesleyan Conference, the Rev. J. W. Simister will be the new minister for Beckenham, in the place of the Rev. G. A. Guest, who is down for Harrogate, Yorkshire, the Rev. G. R. Forde, for Widmore, in the place of the Rev. J. Southouse who goes to Walham Green; and the Rev. W. H. Clogg is appointed for Chislehurst, in the room of the Rev. E. Stanley Shelton, who is transferred to Brighton (Dorset Gardens). The Rev. W. C. Bourne is transferred to Sidcup, in succession to the Rev. J. Wright, who is appointed to Torquay. The Rev. T. H. Whitamore remains at Bromley as superintendent.

Bromley Conservative Club Sports.—These annual sports attracted a very large gathering of townspeople to Sundridge Park, where they were held, by permission of Sir Samuel Scott, Bart., M.P., on Wednesday, July 20th, most of the business houses closing early for the occasion. An interesting programme of races was successfully carried out, and at the close Lady Sophie Scott distributed the prizes. Mr. H. W. Forster, M.P., who was accompanied by the Hon. Mrs. Forster, proposed a vote of thanks to Lady Sophie Scott for her kindness, and this was carried by acclamation.

The Rainfall.—The rainfall for June measured in Widmore-road, Bromley, amounted to 1·10 in. Rain fell on 13 days, the largest amount registered on one day being ·23 in. on the 25th. For the corresponding month last year 4·56 ins. were measured, and in 1896, 3·34 ins. For the first six months of the year the total rainfall has only reached 8·53 inches, while for the same period last year it was 14·97 ins.

THE MEGALOMANIAC.

(After J—n D—v—ls—n in the "Saturday Review."

I.

In many climes
Above the seas,
My voice sublimes
The vulgar breeze.
With fitful rhymes
Not unlike these.

II.

I climb on high,
Beyond the ken,
Out of the eye
Of mortal men,
And often I
Climb down again.

III.

My thoughts disperse,
Devoid of fear,
Around my verse,
Then disappear.
My style is terse
But always clear.

IV.

My words acclaim
In accents loud,
My poet's flame,
My pen endowed;
And put to shame
The common crowd.

V.

In darkling throes
Entwined about,
My spirit goes
Upon the shout,
And no one knows
What it's about.

VI.

My name, to wit,
Is rather fine.
To tell you it
I must decline;
It will not fit
All in one line.

VII.

But lest I prate
Or stray too far,
"Megas" means "Great"
(With neuter "a").
I need not state
What maniacs are.

C.B.

Polo Tournament at Beckenham.—The Eden Park Polo Club's ground at Beckenham was the locale of a series of interesting games during the second week in July, in connection with the contest for the Challenge Cup presented by the County Polo Club Association of Great Britain. Teams representing Warwickshire, Eastbourne, Rugby, Stanstead, Middlewood, Chislehurst, Fetcham Park, Eden Park, and Cirencester, took part, and the final struggle was between Chislehurst and Stanstead, Chislehurst eventually proving victorious by four goals to one. The Chislehurst team was composed of the following players:—Mr. C. P. Nickalls, Mr. B. Savill, Mr. M. Nickalls, and Mr. P. W. Nickalls, and each of these were presented with a silver cup by Lady Lennard. The tournament was well attended, and passed off very successfully.

ROYAL VISITS TO CHISLEHURST AND BROMLEY.

Twice within the short space of three weeks has this district been honoured by the presence of a member of the Royal family, in the person of H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany, both visits having for their object the furtherance of the movement for the alleviation of the poverty and suffering in Deptford, which has now become known as the Deptford Fund.

The first visit paid by the Duchess of Albany was to Chislehurst on Wednesday, June 29th, and it was quite a memorable day for that village. A fete was opened by H.R.H. the Duchess in the grounds of Camden House, and was largely attended. The Royal Parade, West Chislehurst, High-street, and other parts of the village, as well as the Water Tower, had been profusely decorated by the residents, and the arrangements for the fete were entrusted to a local committee, with Mr. Ernest S. Allen as honorary secretary, and the duties were carried out in an extremely complete and able manner. The day was beautifully fine, and thousands of people visited the village. Her Royal Highness, attended by Sir Robert and Lady Collins, arrived at Chislehurst station at about 12.10, and, accompanied by a number of ladies and gentlemen, with a guard of honour of the West Kent Yeomanry, proceeded to the Parish Church, where a short service was held, with an address by the Rector, the Rev. Canon Murray. The distinguished visitors were afterwards entertained at luncheon at Newlands, the residence of Sir G. Chubb, and during the afternoon they drove round the village to inspect the decorations. At S. Michael's Orphanage a halt was made, and the Princess graciously accepted a bouquet at the hands of little Miss Madge Aplin, and expressed her gratification at what had been done by the decoration committee. At the gates of Camden Park the 2nd Kent Volunteer Artillery furnished a guard of honour, and as the procession entered, the Scots Guards' band played the National Anthem. The proceedings inside the park consisted of a procession of School children, drills by the girls' brigade of the Chislehurst Band of Hope, and the presentation of purses. The day's proceedings resulted in a sum of £1.293 being realised and handed over to the Deptford Fund.

H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany also visited Bromley on Tuesday, July 19th, and presided over a meeting at Church House, the residence of Mr. Paul Henwood, when it was decided to organise a local effort on behalf of the Deptford Fund. There was a large and representative gathering, and Mr. P. Henwood was appointed as chairman of the local committee, with Mr. J. Wheeler Bennett as vice-chairman, Mr. T. C. Dewey, honorary treasurer, and Mr. F. Griffith, honorary secretary. The Chairman of the Central Committee of the Fund (Mr. Tarleton) outlined a scheme which was adopted, the principal features of it being the opening of a donation list, the securing of annual subscribers, the issuing of purses and collecting cards, and a grand bazaar to be held in Bromley in December. Before the business proceedings, the party partook of luncheon, provided in a large marquee in the beautiful grounds of Church House. Several handsome donations were promised during the gathering.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has presented to the living of Folkestone the Rev. Erskine William Knollys, at present vicar of St. Mary's, South Norwood. Mr. Knollys was formerly vicar of Addington, Surrey.

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DIARY OF JULY.

4th.—Bromley Temperance Council's excursion to Southend.—Evidence given before the Royal Commission on the Water Supply, by Mr. F. H. Norman (Clerk to the Bromley Urban Council), Mr. R. G. Mullen (Clerk to the Rural Council), and Dr. R. M. H. Randell (on behalf of the Beckenham Urban Council).

6th.—Inspection by Lord Chelmsford of the local companies of the Church Lads' Brigade at the Rectory Field, Beckenham.—Fifth annual fete of the Prince Imperial Lodge of Oddfellows at Mead-road, Chislehurst.—Annual festival of the local branches of the Girls' Friendly Society, at Bromley.

9th.—Annual athletic sports in connection with the Beckenham Cricket Club at the Foxgrove-road ground, Beckenham.

10th.—Anniversary services in connection with the Sunday School at the Bromley Baptist and Wesleyan Churches.

11th.—Contest commenced for the County Polo Association's challenge cup, at Eden Park, Beckenham, Chislehurst eventually winning the trophy by 4 goals to 1.

12th.—Annual outing of the Bromley Parochial Sunday Schools to Ramsgate and Margate.—Banquet in celebration of the resumption of the meetings of the "Acacia" Lodge of Freemasons, at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley.

13th.—Chislehurst Horticultural Society's annual show and sports.—Evening race-meeting in connection with the Bromley Cycling Club, at the Bromley Cricket ground, Widmore-road.—Annual outings of the Bromley and Widmore Wesleyan Sunday Schools and the Bromley Baptist Sunday School to Broadstairs; and of the Bromley Congregational Sunday School to Eastbourne.

16th.—Annual sports of the Abbey School, Beckenham.—Annual meeting of the Bromley and Shortlands Women's Total Abstinence Union, in the grounds of "The Mount," Shortlands, Mr. E. Unwin presiding.—Cricket match between the West Kent Yeomanry and the Royal Horse Guards at Sundridge Park, Bromley.

17th.—The Archbishop of Canterbury preached at Christ Church, Beckenham, in aid of the Vicarage fund.—Church parade of friendly societies at Beckenham to the Parish Church.

18th.—Beckenham Cricket Club's week commenced at the Foxgrove-road ground.

19th.—H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany visited Bromley and presided over a private committee meeting at Church House, when it was arranged to hold a grand bazaar at Bromley in December in aid of the Deptford Fund.

20th.—Annual sports of the Bromley Conservative Club at Sundridge Park.

21st.—Annual Treat of the St. Mary's (Plaistow) School children at Sundridge Park.—Flower show and sports at Hayes.

22nd.—Monthly sitting of the Bromley County Court before Judge Emden.

23rd.—Bromley Common Cottagers' annual flower show and sports.—Illuminated fete at "Westgate," Beckenham, in connection with the Cricket week.—Annual parade of the Bromley friendly societies, in aid of the local hospitals, about £20 being collected.

25th.—Distribution of prizes by the Archbishop of Canterbury to students at the Royal Naval School, Mottingham.

27th.—Fourteenth annual meeting of the Bromley and South-Eastern Permanent Investment Building Society, at 26, Market Square, Mr. D. Grinsted presiding.—Annual summer show of the Beckenham Horticultural Society, at the Croydon-road Recreation Ground, the opening ceremony being performed by Lady Lennard.

30th.—Annual athletic sports in connection with the Holmby House School, Bromley, on the Cricket ground, Widmore-road.

Combination of Local Railway Companies.—The proposed working agreement between the London, Chatham, and Dover, and the South-Eastern Railway Companies was finally discussed and approved at a meeting of the representatives of each Company, held on July 21st. The scheme provides for the working of the two systems under one directorate and management, and Mr. Cosmo Bonsôr, M.P. (chairman of the South-Eastern), has been appointed as chairman of the joint Boards, while Mr. J. S. Forbes (chairman of the Chatham Board), will hold the position of adviser to both companies. The heads of the agreement were submitted to a meeting of shareholders of the South-Eastern Company on July 26th and approved.

Woolwich Antiquarian Society.—On July 2nd, one of the series of summer outings arranged by the Woolwich District Antiquarian Society took place, Canterbury being the *venue*. Arriving about 11, the party first proceeded to the grand Cathedral, where two hours were spent most profitably and agreeably in viewing its many objects of interest. After lunch, St. Augustine's College and St. Martin's Church were inspected and examined, and later the party wended their way to the City walls and the Dane John, now converted into a public park. During a repast partaken of at the Falstaff Hotel, the opportunity was taken of making a presentation to the Society's zealous and efficient honorary secretary, Mr. Richard J. Jackson, who was the recipient of a handsomely-framed address engrossed on vellum, expressing his fellow-members' appreciation of the able and devoted services rendered to the Society by him at and since its formation three years ago. With the address was also given a well-filled purse of sovereigns, the presentation coming as a complete surprise to Mr. Jackson, who expressed his thanks in a few spontaneous words.

Mr. Alderman Alliston.—Alderman Alliston, of "Kamesburgh," Copers Cope-road, Beckenham, was elected as one of the Sheriffs of London, on June 24th. He began his commercial career in the City in 1848, and nine years later started business on his own account in the cotton dress trade. Mr. Alderman Alliston entered the Court of Common Council in 1878, and since that time he has occupied several important corporate positions, including those of chairman of the former Grand Markets Committee, and the deputy-governorship of the Irish Society. He is a Lieutenant of the City, a liveryman of the Cordwainers' Company, a member of the Royal Hospital for Incurables, chairman of the City Dispensary, and he has long been actively associated with several philanthropic movements. Model dwellings were erected in Hoxton by him some years ago, and have proved a decided success.

KENTISH MONASTIC REMAINS.

DARTFORD.

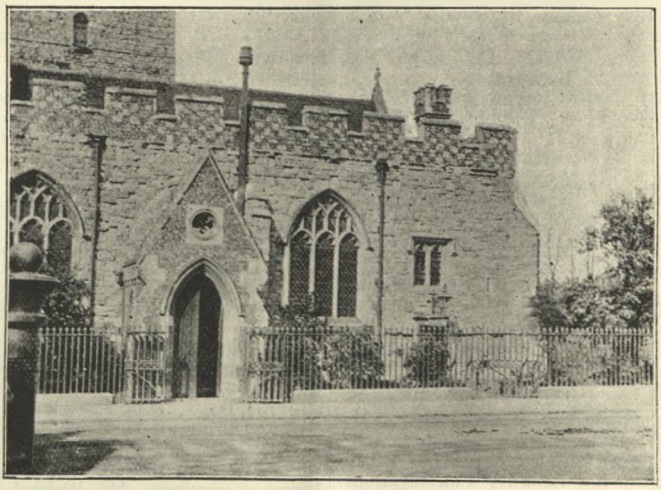
Of the large number of passengers who travel by the railway between London and Dartford, probably only a small proportion have any idea that the old-fashioned farm-house, with its grey stone garden walls, and generally sleepy appearance, situated at a short distance west of the railway station, represents all that now exists of the once famous Friary of Dartford. On closer examination than is possible from the window of the passing train, the place will be found to bear a good many marks of antiquity, in spite of the encroachments of the modern builder in all directions around it, and in spite, too, of the fact that the once sacred site has for many years been devoted to the uses and purposes of a farm-stead.

The story of the Friary is closely bound up with that of the town. Of the early importance of the place we have indisputable evidence. The very name borne by the town, in fact, refers to one of the chief reasons of that importance. The ford of the river Darent must always have been valuable as a military post, and there is every reason to believe that the tower which now forms a part of the church, was built as a fort for the defence of the ford, and as a protection to the town. On the southern side of this fort the parish church was afterwards erected, and in times of war and depredation the people brought hither their valuables as to a place of complete safety.

From a very remote period, stretching further back than the time covered by existing records, Dartford was a demesne of the Saxon kings, and they had a mansion on what was afterwards the site of the Friary. There is a tradition that King Ethelbert, under the ausnices of Augustine, founded here a seminary for noble virgins, and that the Danes, in one of their piratical excursions, falling upon this community, then under the government of Editha, the daughter of a Saxon king, outraged and murdered the inmates.

This tradition is involved in a certain amount of doubt, but it is clear that the town of Dartford was much benefited by the numerous pilgrims travelling to and from Canterbury after Becket's murder, by the marriage here of Isabella, sister of Henry III., to the Emperor of Germany in 1235, and by the splendid tournament given here by Edward III. in 1331, so that the foundation of a Friary for sisters of the order of Preachers in 1355 comes quite naturally as a step in the growth of a town of increasing influence and widening boundaries.

The great patent of endowment of the Friary was not given, however, until 1371. It was placed by the king under the patronage of St. Mary and St. Margaret. The prioress and nuns were first of the order of St. Augustine, then of St. Dominic, next again of St. Augustine, and then again of St. Dominic. The reason of this frequent change of rule does not appear. Possibly it may have been caused by a desire to please some of the more influential nuns, for this was a Nunnery to which the best and noblest families of the country sent their relatives both for secular education and also as a preliminary step to their entry upon a religious life. Bridget, the fourth daughter of Edward IV., was one of the nuns of Dartford, and many other ladies of importance are known to have received their education within its walls. Several noble ladies were buried here, including the Lady Bridget (already mentioned); Lady Joane, daughter of Lord Scroope; Lady Margaret, daughter of Lord Beaumont (both prioresses here); and Catherine, widow of Sir Maurice Berkeley, Knight.



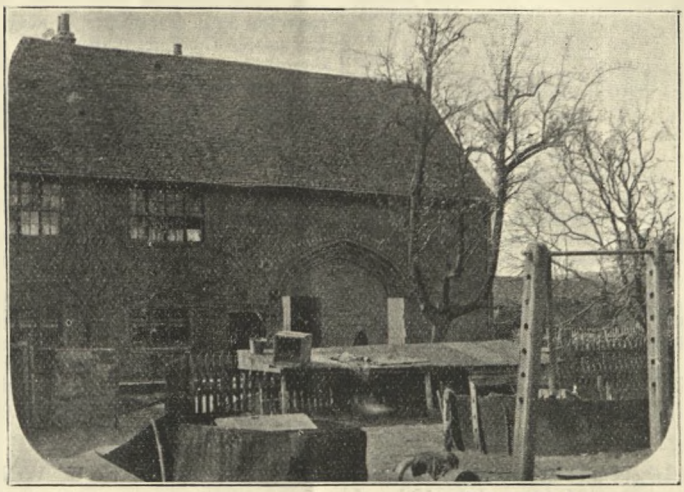
DARTFORD CHURCH, SHOWING THE CHANTRY PRIEST'S ROOM.

When the stormy days of Henry VIII.'s persecution approached, the Sisters of Dartford sought to save themselves by subscribing to the act of succession, and the king's supremacy, but without avail. They were soon after "prevailed" upon to surrender up their house, lands, and possessions into the king's hands. At the period of the dissolution the Friary was valued at upwards of £380 per annum, or upwards of £400 per annum according to another account.

The king kept the site with its gardens and orchards, as a house for his own residence, but it does not appear that he ever lived there. The place was granted by Edward VI. to the Lady Anne Cleves, the repudiated wife of Henry VIII., and from time to time it has changed owners upon subsequent occasions.

What now remains of the actual fabric of the Dartford Friary is a handsome red-brick archway, formerly the gate-house. The upper part of the structure has unfortunately been replaced by a comparatively modern tiled roof. To the south of this there is attached a wing built partly of red bricks and partly of blocks of squared stone. This

now forms the farm-house, but probably a good part of the walls were once part of the apartments of the prioress or some such important portion of the establishment. The chapel probably stood to the east of the gate-house, towards the middle of the quadrangular space occupied by the Friary buildings, and still marked by the remains of a moat. Certain architectural fragments—portions of



THE GATE-HOUSE, DARTFORD FRIARY.

columns, etc.—to be seen about the rick-yard, and in other parts of the premises, appear to have belonged to the chapel, or to some of the more important apartments. They are of fourteenth century workmanship, and are probably portions of the original Friary building.

The inner walls of the moat, of which several pieces are visible, are composed of a curiously hard, greenish stone, which may possibly have been brought from some distance by sea as ballast for ships. It certainly is not found locally, but it has been very freely used in the buildings here, and large fragments of it may be seen lying about in all directions.

Reference has already been made to Dartford Church, especially with regard to its remarkable tower. There is, however, another part of the church equally worthy of attention, and one which cannot be omitted from our series of articles on the monastic remains of Kent. We refer to the two rooms at the east end of the south chancel, once the dwelling-place of the priest serving the Stampit Chantry—a foundation dating from the year 1333. The object of the Chantry was to ensure the daily celebration of mass for the repose of the soul of the founder, Thomas de Dertford, alias Ab. Stampit, Vicar of Dartford. It was also intended that daily mass should be celebrated for the repose of the souls of his ancestors, and of all the faithful departed. The accompanying view of a part of Dartford Church shows on the right hand or eastern side a well-proportioned window of two lights. This window belongs to the upper-room or bedroom occupied formerly by the priest. There

DARTFORD FRIARY, NOW CONVERTED INTO A FARM-HOUSE.

are two windows in the bedroom, and tradition says that from them the priest was in the habit of blessing the pilgrims who crossed the river at this point on their pious journey to the shrine of St. Thomas at Canterbury. It is doubtful if there is any truth in the tradition.

The chantry-priest's rooms at Dartford present us with a most interesting and valuable example of

the simple suit of apartments occupied by a chantry priest in the fourteenth century. They are situated, as we have said, at the east end of the south chancel, and are only separated by a wall from the spot upon which the chantry-altar formerly stood, and from two slits or squints in the upper room it was possible to get a view of the high altar in the chancel, and probably the altar lights before the chantry altar. The rooms remain very much in their primitive condition, the original pine shutters, opening inwards, still remain in an almost perfect state of preservation after having done duty for upwards of five centuries and a half. The winding stone steps leading between the upper and lower rooms still remain as they were first built in the earlier half of the fourteenth century, and they are so narrow as to prove that the chantry priests must have been of somewhat slender proportions.

In taking leave of the town of Dartford, we cannot help feeling that much of value and interest from an archæological point of view remains to be unearthed by the excavator. The site of the Friary is particularly promising, and we feel convinced that many and important results would be discovered by a careful and systematic exploration of the locality.

Obituary.

MISS L. ELLIS, WIDMORE.

Widmore lost an old and highly respected resident, by the death, on Monday, July 18th, of Miss Louisa Ellis, of the Old Cottage, Widmore. The deceased lady, who was 63 years of age, was well known for her benevolence throughout the locality. She was the daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Flower Ellis, M.A., F.R.S., barrister-at-law, Recorder of Leeds, and Attorney-General for the Duchy of Lancaster. The funeral took place on the following Friday, at Bromley, the burial being in the family vault at the Parish Churchyard. The officiating clergymen were the Rev. J. O. Murray (Dean of Emanuel College, Cambridge), Rev. W. A. Carroll (Vicar of Bickley), and the Rev. A. G. Hellicar (Vicar of Bromley). A large number of beautiful wreaths were sent by relatives and friends, and the chief mourners were Mr. Horace Flower Ellis and Mr. Cecil Flower Ellis (nephews), Mr. M. F. Tweedie and Mrs. M. F. Tweedie (niece). A choral service in the church preceded the burial, and there was a large attendance of friends. Mr. J. Humerston, of East-street, Bromley, had charge of the funeral arrangements.

MRS. H. HURST, BROMLEY COMMON.

On July 9th, Mrs. H. Hurst, whose husband, Mr. Hugh Hurst, died a few months ago, also passed away at her residence in Homesdale-road, Bromley Common. The funeral took place on Tuesday, 19th July, at St. Luke's Cemetery, Bromley Common, when the mourners included Mr. Wyatt, Mrs. Butt, Mr. C. Wyatt, Mrs. Clarke, Mr. W. Wyatt, Mrs. Gammon, Mrs. Wormold, Mrs. E. Wyatt, Mr. and Mrs. Mead, Mrs. Field, Mr. Orger, and Mr. Gammon.

SIR J. SCOTT, K.C.M.G., CHISLEHURST.

The death occurred on the 29th June, of Sir John Scott, K.C.M.G., who had lived for some years at "Southholme," Kemnal-road, Chislehurst. At one time Sir John was a prominent figure in official life, having held the governorship of Labuan, Natal, and British Guiana, successively. He retired from the latter post in 1873, and his wife died sixteen years ago, leaving no children. The deceased gentleman had reached the advanced age of 83, and was buried on July 2nd, at the Kensal Green Cemetery.

MR. B. WEST, BROMLEY.

Mr. Benjamin West, who had resided in Bromley for a good many years, died on July 9th, at his residence, 10, Holwood-road, after a long illness. The deceased gentleman, who was fifty-one years of age, served for a long period in the Paymaster General's Office, and retired on a pension about two years ago. He had suffered greatly from locomotor ataxy, and he leaves a widow and five children. The burial took place at the Bromley Cemetery, on July 13th, the Vicar of Bromley (Rev. A. G. Hellicar, M.A.) being the officiating clergyman.

MISS E. DIXON, BICKLEY.

An old and highly respected resident of Bickley, in the person of Miss E. Dixon, of "Nymans," passed away on the last day of June, after a lengthy illness. Miss Emma Dixon, had lived in the parish for a very long period, and was in her ninetieth year. The interment took place on July 5th, in the family vault in St. John's Churchyard, Upper Norwood, the service being conducted by the Rev. W. Fleming, of Christ Church, Lower Camden, Chislehurst.

THE REV. J. H. WORSLEY.

The death occurred at Mount Lebanon on July 12th, of the Rev. J. H. Worsley, for some years chaplain of Bromley College. The reverend gentleman was appointed chaplain of the College at Bromley, in 1874, and resigned ten years later, to accompany Mrs. Worsley to the Holy Land, where they have since resided, having built a house for themselves on Mount Lebanon. The deceased gentleman had reached the advanced age of eighty-four.

Stone Coffin-Lid at Plumstead.—An article appears in the "Reliquary and Illustrated Archæologist" of last month from the pen of Mr. George Clinch, describing an interesting specimen of a stone coffin-lid standing in an upright position close by the path which leads to the south porch of Plumstead parish church. The stone is a massive slab of coarse lime-stone, and bears on one side some sculpture of curious and early character. From what can be judged of the stone in its present position—the lower end being inserted in the ground—it would appear to be not less than 4 feet 10 inches in length, 1 foot 6½ inches in breadth, and 6 inches in maximum thickness, but in its perfect condition it may have been 6 feet or more in length. An effort is being made to get the stone replaced in the church, where it would doubtless find a more fitting and safe resting-place.

Medals for Brave Men.—The Prince of Wales, in his capacity of Grand Prior of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England, on July 8th received in the saloon at Marlborough House six men, three of them police officers, who had distinguished themselves by gallantly saving life on land at imminent personal risk, and presented them with commemorative medals and certificates awarded by the Chapter-General. A bronze medal was presented, amongst others, to Thomas William Lewis, London, Chatham, and Dover porter, for rescuing a man who fell on to the line at Shortlands just as a train was rapidly approaching.

Bromley Palace has been let by Mr. Coles Child, J.P., to Mrs. Mackay, the widow of the American "Silver King," for a period of ten weeks.

"IVA KILDARE,"

By Mrs. L. B. Walford,

Author of "Mr. Smith," "Cousins," "Frederick," "A Mere Child," "The Baby's Grandmother," etc., etc.

CHAPTER XXVI.

"IVA IS SO VERY DISAGREEABLE."

She felt annoyed and perplexed, but she did not know the worst—did not suspect how sad and sore at heart poor Iva really was.

The quiet life pursued by the inmates of Tilbury Court, the absence of variety and of contact with the busy outer world, fostered brooding thoughts and magnified trifles. The little family jars, the petty friction which would have scarcely been felt amidst livelier scenes, were more and more ominously prominent as summer guests dropped off, and autumn deepened into winter; requiring all the cheerfulness and good-humour of an harmonious circle to banish dulness from the monotonous days and weeks.

Lady Tilbury and Iva had been a sprightly pair in former times; but somehow Iva's liveliness had dwindled, and it was not even so easy for her mother to be vivacious and garrulous as it had once been.

She could not talk away at random, feeling that there was a silence between the two who listened.

Either, if alone with her, would possibly have proved responsible enough; for, as we have said, there was something so artless and spontaneous about Lady Tilbury that no one, or scarcely anyone, could hold out against her; but the girls chilled each other, and neither would stir an inch to thaw the icy barrier between them.

Iva, with her sensitive nature, felt the situation in all its real misery. Hers was a temperament which could not thrive except under beneficent auspices. It required all the warmth and glow of lively affection to develop its best instincts: and these were too apt to shrink and wither—even to deny their own existence—beneath the breath of adverse winds.

A blight seemed now to have fallen upon her spirit.

And to herself it seemed as though not merely outward circumstances were at fault, but as if her own heart and soul had suffered deterioration.

She hated herself for the thoughts wherewith her bosom burnt. No wonder others found her unmanageable and intolerable; she had no hold upon her own beliefs, no control over her own emotions.

Then she would try to recall what she had been like before this trouble set in. When had it begun? How had it come on?

She found she had to look some way back before she could find herself a gay girl fluttering like a butterfly in the sun—fondly secure of all she most cared for, and finding it easy to be generous with the crumbs that fell from her plentiful board.

It was she who had had to intercede for the younger ones in those days; to remind her mother of their rights, and merrily scold her for not bestowing on Sir Thomas's daughters the same overflowing partiality which was extended to everything her Irish lassie said or did.

As a child she had thrust the lesser children aside, it is true, if, with the confidence of babyhood, they had clamoured for an equal share of attention and caresses from their elders: but later on she had tolerated Maud, Mabel, and Marianne—patronised them and been kind to them in a lofty, elder-sisterly fashion—and this had been sufficient. Their sluggish sensibilities demanded no more.

But now? Now all was different. It seemed as if the serpent had entered her Eden, whispering doubts, suspicions, backbitings. Whatever Iva did seemed to be wrong; whatever she said she was corrected for. Then she would let loose her own tongue and be sorry for it; but the mischief was done.

Life was all a puzzle and a torture.

Her very religion gave the poor child no comfort; nay, it seemed to sting her with its own especial shaft, for by it was she not most of all condemned? Often, after rising from her knees in prayer, the place whereon poor Iva had laid her head to sob, was wet with bitter tears. Why was she allowed to be so wicked? Did not even God love her?

. . . . . .

"Iva is so very disagreeable."

The speaker was Maud, and her audience consisted, as usual, of Mabel and Marianne. Maud had developed rapidly under Sophia Lossett's instructions, and now openly vented her grievances and proclaimed her independence. "It is all because I am Miss Tilbury, you know. Iva cannot endure my being 'Miss Tilbury,' which means of course that I, as a baronet's daughter, take precedence of her, whose father was a mere nobody. We all do, of course; we are in 'Burke' and 'Debrett'—Miss Lossett showed me our names in their old 'Debrett'—and she says it is quite ridiculous of mamma to try to hide our proper position from us. Mamma does it because of Iva; but Iva ought to have married out of the way before we grew up."

It was now no longer "I shall go about with mamma and Iva": Iva's very presence was resented by Miss Tilbury of Tilbury Court.

"All the neighbours are talking about it, Miss Lossett says," proceeded Maud, revelling in the thought. "They say it will be so difficult to know what to do if they have both of us at dinner. They cannot send in Iva before me, and it will seem rather unkind and awkward to send her after. They are quite puzzled; some of them have been asking Miss Lossett what she thought."

By such and such like fables did Sophia tickle the girl's credulous ear, and pay off her ancient and lately augmented grudge against Iva. Maud absorbed it all, said little, but came away from each interview heavy like a sponge: and at the first squeeze she poured.

Only Mabel and Marianne squeezed, since neither Lady Tilbury nor Iva suspected what was going on; and the mischief-maker was always careful to supply her visitor with various items of innocent interest wherewith to satisfy general inquiries.

"I do think you sometimes provoke Iva," said Mabel.

Mabel did at rare intervals throw in a dissentient word. She liked talk for talk's sake; it was exciting and delightful to hear what Miss Lossett had said, and to gloat over the idea that the world outside Tilbury Court was at variance with itself regarding their several claims on its notice; but she was not actively antagonistic towards her half-sister.

She had even an occasional twinge of pity for Iva. Once she felt sure that Iva had been crying. She said nothing about it to anyone.

"Provoke her? What do you mean? Provoke her?" cried Maud in sharp, vexed accents, as the above took her somewhat by surprise. "How do I provoke her?"

"You say nasty things with a face that pretends not to be saying anything."

"What nonsense! It is Iva who says nasty things to me—not I to her." After a pause: "I suppose she has been complaining to you? That

was why you took her part last night after you came in from your walk?"

"She never complained; she never said a word. We talked of other things altogether—of books and our favourites in them—and Iva was quite gentle and nice. She gave me that lovely ribbon afterwards."

"Bribing you!"

"That's a shame! You know she often used to give us ribbons."

"Her cast-off ribbons!"

"You were glad enough to get them. You used to be as pleased as anybody when Iva called us to her room after she had turned out her drawers. You are wearing a belt she gave you at this very minute!"

She was, and could not deny it. A spirited girl would have disposed of the awkwardness by throwing aside the gift; Maud contended herself with belittling it.

"That's nothing!" she said, contemptuously. "It's a ugly thing; and Iva did not care to wear it herself, so passed it on to me. I forgot it had ever been hers."

"And I remember how grateful you were for it," persisted Mabel. "You had to bore some fresh holes, because your waist is so much bigger than Iva's; and you flew to have them done."

"Well, well! what does it matter? What is all this rant about? You seem to be all on her side now, and I don't think it's fair; for we always agreed that we three were to stand by each other——"

"Oh, but we do."

"Not if you are going off with Iva, and saying that I provoke her."

Mabel was silent.

"Are you going to walk with her again?"

Now, it so chanced that the seventeen-year-old Mabel had been not a little elated by the unlooked-for promotion; and having enjoyed her ramble and Iva's genial mood, was looking forward to a repetition of the same. Iva had talked with her as an equal; while even Mabel had found a change from the one invariable topic agreeable.

Iva had said that she would ride in the morning of the following day, and be ready for a walk by three o'clock, when Mabel could leave the schoolroom behind, to be her companion.

"Why does she choose you and not me?" continued Maud, angrily. "If that's not favouritism——"

"But you drive with mamma."

"I needn't. Iva knows that. Or she could walk at some other time. Why does she choose the very hour when the carriage comes round?"

"Because I am not free before."

"It's all of a piece," said Maud. "Miss Lossett says so. Iva has been swaggering here as eldest daughter all these years, and now directly I grow up and that can't be kept up any longer, she is in the sulks all the time." She did not rest till she had forced the reluctant Mabel to promise that the walk should be abandoned.

"I'll ask mamma to take you with us in the carriage, if you like," she finally suggested, to clench the matter: anything was better than letting Iva and Mabel hob-nob as she and Sophia Lossett hob-nobbed. But alack! this was not put into words, or the phrase might have opened our young lady's eyes a little.

Iva, truth to tell, was quite as well pleased to be off her bargain as the two who had conspired against it. The proposal had been made from a sense of duty, and a dread lest her growing love of solitude might be misinterpreted. But to be voluntarily freed from the necessity of rousing herself from solitary musings—which, if not too sweet, were yet a sort of bitter luxury—for the purpose of talking, and talking *down*, to suit the comprehension of an unintelligent school-girl, was a let off. She was able to congratulate Mabel quite cheerfully on the luck of having a half-holiday and a fine day for her drive.

"If you are going to make calls, you had better borrow a pair of my gloves," she added.

But Maud turned sharply on her sister. "How can she make calls? You forget that Mabel is still in the schoolroom. *I* never was allowed to go calling."

Which was perfectly true, and more than Iva could answer. She had once been a great stickler for the proprieties, and of late had forgotten all about them. They had served her turn; in themselves they were of no consequence.

She saw the party off, and breathed a sigh of relief as she wandered off in the clear wintry afternoon, not in search of adventures—for adventures were not to be come by in that peaceful rural spot—but at least to call in the aid of open air and exercise towards cheering the mind and freshening the body. "I get so lazy nowadays," thought she. "A good walk will blow away the cobwebs."

"Good-evening, Miss Kildare."

It was Mr. Druitt on Ladybird: Mr. Druitt returning from a glorious run, and in the true fox-hunter's vein, dying to tell everyone about it.

Iva turned quickly. In another minute Mr. Druitt was walking alongside. He had slipped off his horse, not sorry to do so after being for so many hours in the saddle; and passing the bridle over his arm, was jovially prepared for conversation.

How rosy and healthy and kindly he looked! No cobwebs about *him!* No fretting, mean, miserable little worries. Oh, if she were only a man! And a man such as this—good, kind, replete with the enjoyment of life, yet unspoilt by fortune!

The village rang with tales of Mr. Druitt's goodness and benevolence. Even the Hodges, loyal as they were to Sir Philip and his heir, had been won over. Dr. Stevens openly exulted, his only regret being that he had never had a chance of *not* exulting over the fallen Reggie. He would have liked to show young Mr. Goffe that he could be generous.

In short, Mr. Druitt was beloved and respected by all, and only Iva, in a tart mood, had once observed: "Anyone could be kind and charitable with plenty of money, plenty of time, and no one to say a word, whatever one did," but she forgot to think of this now, with Mr. Druitt at her side.

Mr. Druitt was always at his best with Iva—that is to say, he came out of his shell entirely. Fears and doubts such as assailed him whenever he called to remembrance the maternal warnings of old were out of place, would have been preposterous, so far as Iva Kildare was concerned.

Such a nice girl! So unaffected—so natural and charming! He could say what he liked to her, behave as he liked with her, and have no nonsense thought.

To begin with, he was double her age (possibly rather more, but he was not eager to be exact), and to go on with, she was above him in social standing; and was furthermore a lovely girl, who was probably refusing offers by the dozen, waiting only for the survival of the fittest. She was not only wholly to be absolved from any suspicion of a design upon his freedom, but would rightly have been insulted by such. Oh, he could be very safe with Iva! Safe, merry, friendly—it was a delightful feeling.

What a beautiful evening it was—fit close for a glorious day. What had Miss Kildare been about?

Having exhausted his own doings, our fox-hunter, feeling half-ashamed of the expansion into

which he had been led by the joy of having an auditor, now drew away from his own concerns.

It was then that for the first time he noticed a shade on Iva's brow, a gravity in the full dark eyes which were upturned to his. Beautiful eyes they were; Jabez felt a little stirring of his pulses.

"Do you often walk alone?" he queried next, having elicited only vague responses to his former interrogation.

"I do—now." The hesitation, and some significance in the "now," struck Mr. Druitt. He began to perceive.

He shot a second and more searching glance.

No, he had not been mistaken; the fair oval cheek, with its rich, soft colour, on which the setting sun was casting a lingering beam, was not that of a happy girl, and at the very moment he was thinking so, an involuntary sigh burst from lips that, rosy and ripe as they were, drooped at the corners.

Iva was looking straight in front of her, but Jabez Druitt moved a pace nearer to her side.

CHAPTER XXVII.

"IT MEANS—WHAT IT MEANS."

"Dear me! Mr. Druitt here again! Why, this is the third time within a fortnight! Well, I am sure I am very glad to see him," quoth Lady Tilbury, who was always ready for a man in any shape. "Go down, Iva, and say I am coming. Shan't be a minute."

"I can wait for you, mother."

"Wait? Oh, no need. I am only going to take off my muddy boots; the roads were in such a state!—but you go down, and say I'm coming. Is tea up?"

"They were taking it up as we crossed the hall. I found Mr. Druitt on the doorstep, and brought him in. He's all right; I put him in the drawing-room and left him there."

"Is Maud coming down?"

"Not till dinner."

Maud was nursing a cold in her bedroom, and things had in consequence gone more smoothly for the past day or two. There had been a revival of the solitude *a deux*, which, possibly in conjunction with something else, had revived Iva's spirits, and she looked quite the Iva of old as she lingered in the room whilst Lady Tilbury put her hat straight and clasped her collar anew in front of the looking-glass. Suddenly she popped down upon the floor.

"Let me unloose your boots, mother."

"Thank you, love." A neat little hob-nailed boot was put out. No one had a prettier foot and ankle than Lady Tilbury, and she employed a Bond Street bootmaker even for the strong-soled, serviceable boots for country use.

"What a nice little foot you have!" said Iva, talking away. "It is smaller than mine, though none of the girls can get on my shoes."

"Sir Thomas was always proud of my feet!" The widow took a complacent peep, as the foot emerged from its covering like a kernel from its husk. "It was he who told me where to go for my boots. He always wore great clumsy things himself, fit only for a ploughman; but I had to show him my feet whenever I had on a new pair, and if they weren't just right he would fuss till they were."

"Where are your slippers?" said Iva, looking round.

"Over there. Oh, but it's nice to feel your dear little warm hands," said Lady Tilbury, patting her on the shoulder. "Oh, but my feet are cold!"

"They have no business to be cold when you have been walking." Still holding a foot in one hand, Iva stretched across the floor, and drew towards her the slippers which were within reach. "You should have changed directly you came in, madam mother, and not allowed your little toes to get cold. Now you're ready; now we'll go down," and she held open the door and stood back till Lady Tilbury, always rather disposed to drift about a room at the last, was fairly through the doorway; when, attaching her by the arm, the two proceeded downstairs.

Lady Tilbury, who was usually quick enough, did not notice anything peculiar; and if Mr. Druitt felt any disappointment at being left to his own company until both ladies were ready for it, he kept his feelings to himself.

He was standing by the window, looking out: and only turned, rather quickly, as the door opened.

Mr. Druitt, albeit not in hunting costume (for a frost had set in), looked nice enough in a well-made homespun suit with fitting accessories, and an experienced eye would have seen at a glance that he had not come to call on the ladies of Tilbury Court without being prepared to find them at home. He might have donned useful gaiters, but he had picked his way carefully through the mud, and there was scarce a speck upon his boots. He might be gloveless, but he wore his ring.

"I am afraid I become troublesome, Lady Tilbury. I told Miss Kildare I was ashamed to be found so soon again at your front door, and with no excuse for boring you with my society except the pleasure I have in yours."

Considering the number of times the little speech had been mentally rehearsed, it was delivered with a very creditable amount of spontaneity. Mr. Druitt had been making it up for the last four-and-twenty hours, and had only varied the formula by a trifle after meeting with Iva. Instead of going in straight with "I am ashamed to be found, &c.," he threw in "I told Miss Kildare I was." This to himself seemed to reconstruct the whole, and give it a new coat of paint.

New or old, it suited its purpose. "'Tis the best excuse a man could have," retorted Lady Tilbury, surprised and pleased; for she liked those sort of things to be said to her, and hitherto the speaker had not been lavish of them. "Who wants any better reason for a friend's dropping in than that the friend likes it?" continued she, gaily. "But I am afraid I kept you waiting. I had just gone up to take off my things——"

"What things?" wondered he. She had still on her hat, and looked charming in it.

"Iva tried to hurry me, but I am getting old and slow," proceeded Lady Tilbury, who knew that she was neither. "We have been on the tramp this afternoon," and she proceeded to enlarge.

Mr. Druitt, however, experienced a momentary thoughtfulness. Why had Iva been so anxious to hurry her mother? For his part, he had not seen the precise need for Miss Kildare's being her mother's messenger at all. A servant could have informed Lady Tilbury.

Was there anything beneath? Yet he and Iva had talked freely, had sauntered through the woods leisurely and parted—dare he think it?—reluctantly twice since that first accidental encounter.

The other meetings had not been accidental on his part. He had contrived them both; with prudence, of course and ingenuity—oh, he had taken every precaution not to set tongues a-wagging—still, he had managed to emerge from his farm buildings just as Miss Kildare tripped along towards the post-office on one occasion, and another time had followed her from afar until she was well within her own grounds, when a short cut brought him naturally, and, as he fancied, unremarkably, to her side. It had been so cleverly accomplished

that his request for an extension of the stroll did not seem too presuming.

Of this third meeting Iva had said not a word.

Neither would she go down alone to Mr. Druitt in the drawing-room.

(To be continued.)

Births.

Fincham.—On the 24th June, at Orpington, Kent, the wife of Francis Fincham, of a daughter.

Maude.—On the 23rd June, at 2, Cedars-road, Beckenham, the wife of Major Robert Maude, of a son.

Pembroke.—On the 3rd July, at Ivybridge, Chislehurst, the wife of Percy James Pembroke, of a daughter.

Rivers.—On the 1st July, at the Vicarage, Eltham, the wife of Rev. Elphinstone Rivers, of a son.

Marriages.

Gowing—Senior.—On the 22nd June, at St. Martin's Church, Haverstock-hill, by the Vicar, the Rev. T. H. Russell, Lionel Francis Gowing, of Linbank, Shortlands, to Florence, daughter of William Senior, of Parkhill-road, Haverstock-hill.

Handcock—Tulloch.—On the 9th July, at St. Luke's Church, Bromley, Kent, by the Rev. T. F. Morton, M.A., late Chaplain of H.M. Dockyard, Portsmouth, uncle of the bride, the Rev. Evelyn H. Morton, M.A., Rector of Foulsham, Norfolk, cousin of the bride, and the Rev. E. L. Colebrook, M.A., Vicar of St. Luke's, Henry William Handcock, Assoc.M.I.C.E., son of W. J. Handcock, of Highgate, to Sophie (Mimie), daughter of Major Hector Tulloch, C.B., Royal Engineers, late Chief Engineering Inspector of the Local Government Board, Bickley, Kent, and granddaughter of the late General John Tulloch, C.B.

Ozanne—De La Condamine.—On the 4th July, at St. John's, Bromley, Kent, by the Rev. P. Barker, Robert John Thorpe Ozanne, M.A. Oxon., son of the late John Ozanne, M.D., and Mrs. Ozanne, of Sausmarez House, Guernsey, to Stella Theodora de la Condamine, eldest surviving daughter of the late R. C. de la Condamine, Esq., and of Mrs. de la Condamine, of Haxted House, Bromley.

Rogers—Ionn.—On the 29th June, at All Saints' Church, Camberwell, by the Rev. T. J. Gaster, assisted by the Rev. Percy Gaster, Frederick Howard Rogers, fifth son of James Rogers, of Bromley, Kent, to Dora Marion Ionn, third daughter of Seymour Ionn, of Barry-road, E. Dulwich.

Simpson—Layman.—On the 9th July, at the Parish Church, Beckenham, by the Rev. Henry Arnott, Rector, Stanley Herbert, fourth son of J. H. Simpson, of Oaklawn, Beckenham, to Charlotte Maude, elder daughter of Charles Noel Layman, of The Firs, Beckenham, Kent.

Deaths.

Broun.—On the 17th July, at Parkhurst, Sidcup, Charlotte, daughter of the late General Herbert, and widow of the late Richard Broun, Esq.

Dixon.—On the 30th June, at Nymans, Bickley, Kent, Emma, the last surviving daughter of the late John Dixon, Esq., of Chancery-lane, and South Norwood, Surrey.

Ellis.—On the 18th July, at Widmore, Kent, in her 64th year, Louisa, last surviving child of the late Thomas Flower Ellis, Barrister-at-law, M.A., F.R.S., Recorder of Leeds, and Attorney-General for the Duchey of Lancaster.

Pamphilon.—On the 2nd July, at Abbotsleigh, Beckenham, Helen Sarah, wife of Alfred Pamphilon, aged 70.

Scott.—On the 29th June, at Southbome, Chislehurst, Kent, Sir John Scott, K.C.M.G., formerly Governor of Labuan, Natal, and British Guiana, in his 84th year.

Scott.—On July 20th, at Madras, Seth Peter Charles Scott, Superintendent Madras Police, formerly of the 48th Regiment, son of Colonel J. Scott, of Bromley, Kent, aged 47.

Stericker.—On the 21st June, at Kingthorpe, Orchard-road, Bromley, Thomas S. Stericker, aged 66, late of 49, Fenchurch-street, last surviving Partner of the Firm of William Stericker & Co.

Way.—On the 8th July, at Bath, suddenly, Emily Hemsley, the beloved wife of Ebenezer Way, of Ravenswood, Beckenham, aged 57 years.

West.—On the 9th July, at 10, Holwood-road, Bromley, Kent, Benjamin West, formerly of H.M. Paymaster-General's Office, Whitehall, in his 52nd year.

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

KENT, DOWNE.—Near to Luxted Farm.—The Growing Crop of Oats and Tares, and the Straw, on 17 acres.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER have received instructions from Mr. Robertson to Sell by Auction on the Premises, on Wednesday, August 3rd, 1898, at 5 for 6 o'clock p.m. precisely, the Growing Crop of Oats and Tares, viz.: Lot 1. The Crop of Oats and the Straw on acres. Lot 2. The Crop of Tares and the Haulm on 3 acres. Lot 3. The Oats and the Straw on 5 acres. Lot 4. The Tares and Haulm on 5 acres.

May be viewed and catalogues obtained at the Inns of the district, and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Auctioneers and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, BROMLEY.—Two exceptionally good Freehold Plots of Building Land, situate on a gravel subsoil, in the Sandford Road, each with a frontage of about 42ft., and a depth of 172ft. Immediate possession.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction at the Bell Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, August 4th, 1898, at 7 for 8 p.m. precisely, the above two plots of valuable Freehold Building Land, most admirably suited for the erection of medium-sized detached residences. Sandford Road is close to the L.C.D.R. Station, and the new Church on the South Hill Park Estate.

May be viewed, and particulars with conditions of sale, obtained of Messrs. Barraud and Co., 7, St. Mildred's Court, 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.—To Contractors, Carriers, Investors, and others.—The Freehold detached Dwelling-house, 48a, Stanley Road, Masons Hill, together with stabling for ten horses, and a large yard. The house is let, producing £35 2s. 0d. per annum; the stabling at present being in hand, but estimated to readily produce an annual rental of £25. The property forms a good investment, stabling in the district being difficult to obtain, or for a business man requiring a house with ample space and accommodation for horses, it is a chance seldom to be met with.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE & LEPPER will Sell by Auction at the Bell Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, August 4th, 1898, at 7 for 8 o'clock precisely, the above-described Dwelling-house and Stabling, being admirably adapted for various business purposes.

May be viewed, and particulars with conditions of sale obtained of Messrs. Todd, Dennes, and Lamb, Solicitors, 22, Chancery Lane, W.C., and Southend, Essex; at the place of sale; 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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AND AT

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

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BROMLEY RECORD

AND

MONTHLY ADVERTISER.

No. 482. SEPTEMBER, 1898. Price One Penny.

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BROMLEY.—In a high and healthy position. Handsome detached and double fronted residence, containing ten bedrooms, etc., large well-stocked garden. Price, £3,600. Freehold. Rent, £180. 14700.

CHISLEHURST.—Facing the Common. Charming residence. Seven bedrooms, two dressing rooms, bathroom, three sitting rooms. Capital garden with tennis lawn. Rent, £160 per annum. 14686.

FARNBOROUGH.—About 1½ miles from Orpington Station. Capital residence, with eight bedrooms, etc., three reception rooms, Charming well stocked garden. Stabling for two horses, coach house. Price, £800. Freehold. 14674.

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BROMLEY.—Seven minutes of Station. Capital detached old-fashioned residence, with large garden. Four bedrooms, bathroom, two reception rooms. Stabling. Rent, 50 guineas per annum.

SHORTLANDS.—In a very good position. Detached and double-fronted residence. Six bedrooms, three reception rooms, bath, etc. Capital garden with tennis lawn. Price, Freehold, £1,600, or rent £80 per annum. 14301.

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

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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; and Gymnastic Classes in School Gymnasium.

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The Head Mistress will be at the School to see parents on Wednesday and Friday, September 14th and 16th, from 2.30 to 4.30.

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Statement of Accounts of

THE UNION BANK OF LONDON, Limited,

On 28th MAY, 1898.

LIABILITIES.

Dr.	£	s.	d.
Capital and Reserve Fund ...	2,555,000	0	0
Deposits and Current Accounts,	15,317,784	18	4
Acceptances and Liabilities by Endorsement	1,981,458	18	2
Other Liabilities	359,222	3	7
	£20,213,466	0	1

ASSETS.

Cr.	£	s.	d.
Cash in hand and at Bank of England	2,654,339	19	2
Money at Call and Short Notice,	3,193,000	0	0
Investments—including Reserve Fund	2,941,958	2	5
Discounts, Loans, and other advances	8,847,027	6	7
Liability of Customers on Acceptances and Endorsements ...	1,981,458	18	2
Bank Premises and other Assets,	595,681	13	9
	£20,213,466	0	1

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.

The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

SEPTEMBER, 1898.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

4th.—*Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.*

5th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—The original comic opera entitled "Kitty," at the Bromley Grand Hall, by Mr. George B. Phillips' company, and on the two following nights.

6th.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council, at the Council Offices, East-street, Bromley.—Annual cricket match between Bromley Police and Tradesmen, followed by dinner at the "Bell" Hotel.—Lord John Sanger's circus at Plaistow Green, Bromley.

8th.—Revision of Voters' Lists by Mr. W. P. Eversley, at Bromley Council Offices.

9th.—Meetings of the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board, and the West Kent Main Sewerage Board, at 96, High-street, Bromley.

11th.—*Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.*

12th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board, at the Offices, Haxted-road, Bromley.—Revision of Voters' Lists by Mr. W. P. Eversley, at Beckenham.

15th.—Audit of the Bromley Urban District Council's accounts, at the Council Offices, East-street, by Mr. G. Cox, assistant district auditor.

18th.—*Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.*

19th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

20th.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council, at the Council Offices, East-street, Bromley.

25th.—*Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.*—Hour of sacred music at St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common.

26th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board, at the Offices, Haxted-road, Bromley.—Adjourned licensing sessions at Bromley.

28th.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter Payne and Lepper, of Live and Dead Farming Stock, at Gravel-Pit Farm, Orpington, at noon.

30th.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter Payne and Lepper, at the Mart, City, at 2 o'clock, of family residence, "Glenmore," Rectory-road, Beckenham.

The Bromley Urban District Council held no sittings during the month of August.

THE BROMLEY GAS COMPANY.— Mr. A. Dickson (chairman), presided over the half-yearly meeting of the Bromley Gas Consumers' Company, at the "White Hart" Hotel, Bromley, on Thursday, August 11th, when a very satisfactory report was presented by the Directors and approved. It showed an increase of six million cubic feet in the quantity of gas made, as compared with the corresponding period of last year, and there was a balance on the profit and loss account of £7,673 7s. 8d. After providing for the usual dividends—of £11½ per cent. upon the ordinary 10 per cent. shares and £8½ per cent. upon the ordinary seven per cent. shares per annum—there remained a balance to be carried forward of £1,610 17s. 8d. The Chairman pointed out that the warm and bright winter months had had an adverse effect on the consumption of gas, but he considered the result of the half-year's working very satisfactory, as the dividends had been earned without any increase having to be made in the price of gas, such as the largest gas company in the world had had to do in order to maintain its current dividend rate.

BROMLEY CYCLING CLUB'S FIFTY MILES' RACE.—The cycle track at Catford was the venue, on August 10th, of the fifty miles' championship race for the "Vivid" Challenge Cup, in connection with the Bromley Cycling Club. There were five competitors, and C. L. Newland (the donor of the cup) gained an easy victory, arriving home three miles in front of the second man, his time for the fifty miles being 1 hour, 56min. 47 1-5sec. L. G. Jezzi, who was second (and was awarded the cup, by the donor), accomplished the task in 2 hours, 5min. 29 2-5sec. S. O. Owen secured third place, and T. E. Record was fourth and last, J. Steer (the holder of the cup for the past year), having retired after covering forty miles.

CONSERVATIVE CLUB CONCERT.—On Wednesday, August 10th, an enjoyable open-air concert, under the auspices of the Bromley Conservative Club, was held on the lawn in front of the Club premises. Mr. G. Dayrell Reed presided over a large audience, and a lengthy programme of vocal and instrumental music was successfully performed, under the direction of Mr. E. M. Garner. The grounds were tastefully decorated for the occasion, and the concert was acknowledged to be one of the best that the concert committee of the Club has yet arranged.

WORKHOUSE INMATES ENTERTAINED.—Through the kindness of Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., the inmates of the Bromley Union Workhouse, to the number of about 250, spent a very enjoyable day on August 3rd, in the grounds of Sir John's residence, "High Elms," Downe. Mr. C. W. Gedney admirably arranged the outing, and a capital dinner was served to the visitors in the park, followed by games of various kinds. Sir John Lubbock was present during the afternoon, and the pleasure of the outing was added to by the performance of the Orpington brass band. Tea was also provided, and Mr. Gedney, with the Master and Matron of the Workhouse (Mr. G. H. Gregory and Mrs. Grimsey) and a number of friends from Bromley, assisted in promoting the happiness of the party.

There are no alterations in the local train service for September.

RAMBLES IN SURREY.

BLETCHINGLEY.

In a small series of tracts recently published on "Bye Way Places," the village of Bletchingley was the first locality to be dealt with. It must be confessed that the circumstances quite justified the selection, for this village lies quite out of the beaten track, and away from the railway.

Bletchingley, or Blechingley, as its correct orthography is said to be, lies on the road between Redhill and Godstone. The village street is wide and contains a large number of picturesque and more or less ancient buildings. Cottages, with picturesque gables and chimney-stacks, slumber in the sunshine, and seem to belong to a period widely separated from the end of the nineteenth century. There is a certain sleepy, peaceful feeling about the place which is very attractive to those who prefer quietude to noise, and rest to excitement. Altogether Bletchingley is quite a model place for a quiet reflective ramble, and those who bend their steps thither in search of the picturesque and antique will not be disappointed.

Photo by] BLETCHINGLEY CHURCH, SURREY. *[G. W. Smith.*

Bletchingley may be reached by taking the train (S.E.R. and L.B. & S.C.R.) to Red Hill Station. A walk of about four miles, through the pretty village of Nutfield, with its fullers' earth quarries and charming villa residences, leads by a fairly straight, but hilly road, to Bletchingley.

The general style and appearance of the place are suggestive of ancient importance, although few visitors would imagine that Bletchingley was once a borough returning members to Parliament from the time of Edward I. until within a few years of the accession of Queen Victoria. Yet this actually was the case, and Bletchingley was not disfranchised until the operation of the first Reform Act of 1832.

Popular tradition credits this village with the possession in former times of seven churches, but this probably refers to the number of the altars which may have once existed in the church.

The more interesting points in Bletchingley historically and architecturally, are to be found only by research and close acquaintance. Before we proceed to notice these in detail, it may be convenient to give a few particulars as to the early history of the place.

A Roman hypocaust (an underground heating chamber), was discovered some time ago in a field adjoining the fine old mansion called Pendell, or Pendhill. This is probably the earliest evidence we have of the place being inhabited.

At the time of the Norman conquest, the manor or rather manors, of Bletchingley (for there were more than one), formed part of the possessions of Richard de Tunbridge, a man of very great importance in his day, and as we have had frequent occasion to mention his name in our series of articles on "Kentish Castles," and elsewhere, the following brief particulars of his life may be not altogether uninteresting.

Richard Fitzgilbert, alias de Tunbridge and de Clare, was one of the Norman warriors who aided Duke William in the conquest of England. He was the son of Gilbert Crispin, Earl of Brionne, who was son of Jeffrey, natural son of Richard I. Duke of Normandy, great-grandfather to the Conqueror. His mother was Harlotte, mother also of the Conqueror, to whom, therefore, he was half-brother by his mother, and second cousin by his father. He went by the name of Richard Fitz Gilbert at the time of the conquest. The first place of his residence in England was Benefield, Northamptonshire.

After obtaining the town and castle of Tunbridge from the Archbishop of Canterbury, in exchange for Brionne, he assumed the name of Richard de Tunbridge. His descendants were known by the surname of Clare; the manor of Clare, in Suffolk, being part of his possessions. He together with William de Warrene was left justiciary of the realm during William the Conqueror's absence in Normandy.

The great influence of Richard de Tunbridge may be imagined from the enormous wealth of his possessions. Besides large possessions in other counties, he had the following manors in Surrey:—Civington and Bletchingley, Chelsham, Tanbridge, Tillingdown, Titsey, Farley, Warlingham, Chip-

sted, Beddington, Walton, Mitcham, Ditton, Maldon, Tooting, Epsom, Molesham, Stoke d' Abernon, Betchworth, Effingham, Bookham, Oakley, and Banstead. This is a bare list of his possessions in Surrey. Space does not permit a list of manors held by him in other parts of the kingdom. He was slain in Wales about the year 1100.

Gilbert de Clare, a descendant of the above, was also associated with the history of Bletchingley. In 1264 he joined Simon de Montford and the other barons then in arms against the king. After the victory of Lewes, Bletchingley Castle was demolished by the king's forces under the command of Prince Edward, afterwards Edward I. Nothing definite is known about the date and builder of the castle at Bletchingley, but popular tradition asserts that it was at one time in the possession of Earl Godwin, who is said to have had a palace at Bletchingley, whither he retreated after his lands in Kent had been swallowed up by the sea. The manor of Bletchingley was held by Edward, Duke of Buckingham, K.G., Lord High Constable of England. He was the first of the many illustrious victims in the reign of Henry VIII., and on his execution for alleged high treason, his manor of Bletchingley became forfeited to the Crown. It was next granted to Sir Nicholas Carew, of Beddington, and he also as is well-known incurred the displeasure of his sovereign. In 1539 he was charged with being engaged in a conspiracy with the Marquis of Exeter, and others to set Cardinal Pole on the throne. He was beheaded on Tower Hill, and thus the manor became again forfeited to the Crown.

In 1541, Henry VIII. settled this manor on his late wife, Anne of Cleves, for life, if she should so long remain in the kingdom. It is interesting to find from the parish register that her residence here attracted several Dutchmen to Bletchingley.

Upon the death of the divorced Queen in 1557, the manor came into possession of Sir Thomas Cawarden, who in 1545, had had a grant of the manor of Hextalls in Bletchingley, together with Squerries, in Westerham, and the collegiate church of Lingfield, and who seems to have farmed the manor of Bletchingley during the life-time of Anne of Cleves.

Sir Thomas Cawarden was a very important personage in his day. He was descended from an ancient Cheshire family, and filled numerous offices under Henry VIII., including those of a Gentleman of the Privy Chamber, Master of the Revels, and Keeper of the King's Tents, Hales, and Toyles. He was knighted at the seige of Boulogne in 1544, was High Sheriff of Surrey, 1547, Member of Parliament for Bletchingley in 1542 and 1547, and Knight of the Shire in 1552 and 1558. He was strongly attached to the reformed religion, and acted as a Commissioner to enquire into Chantries.

On the accession of Queen Mary, his position at Court was considerably altered. He was charged with complicacy in Wyatt's Rebellion, and it was on that occasion that his armour and munitions of war at Bletchingley castle were seized by Sir Thomas Saunders, Sheriff of Surrey, and carried off to the tower of London. These arms, etc. were valued at two thousand pounds, and their transit to London required the use of seventeen large wains. Sir Thomas Cawarden died in 1559, and his tomb in Bletchingley Church forms one of the most interesting monuments therein. It is a handsome altar-tomb of stone, bearing on each side two large roses deeply cut in separate panels. At the base of the arch over the tomb is an angel holding an escutcheon with a chevron upon it. There was formerly a stone canopy over the tomb.

A brass plate inscribed with some curious lines in praise of Sir Thomas Cawarden was found some years ago in an old chest at Loseley. This had evidently been prepared for Cawarden's tomb, and was probably provided by his executor, Sir William More. It has been fixed upon the upper part of the monument at Bletchingley for some years. Another monument of some importance is that to the memory of Sir Robert Clayton and Dame Martha, his wife. Sir Robert was Lord Mayor of London, and his effigy shows him in the robes and with the ensigns of that high office. There are also several monumental brasses.

Near the pulpit, the original hour-glass stand still remains, and there are numerous points worthy

THE "WHITE HART," BLETCHINGLEY, SURREY.

of note in the architecture of the church, the earliest parts of which date from the beginning of the thirteenth century. The flight of stone steps which once led to the rood-loft still remain.

Above the spacious south porch is a parvise chamber in which probably the sacristan had his residence. Unfortunately, the chamber is not now accessible, as the external staircase by which it was formedly reached has been destroyed.

The tower is massive and embattled, and the whole building is an imposing and handsome structure.

There are many quaint little bits of cottage architecture about Bletchingley, and a comfortable looking old-fashioned inn—the "White Hart"—with an elegantly wrought iron sign-post surmounted by a gilded bunch of grapes.

MUSICAL GOSSIP.

The shortening days, which are already curtailing the opportunities for out-door enjoyment, remind us that very soon preparations must be made for the coming winter's engagements, and several more or less formal conferences have been held among those who are responsible for the efficient conduct of our musical societies.

No definite arrangements can yet be announced, but it is certain that both those who desire to improve their musical training, and those who only care for the enjoyment of the public concerts, will be at least as well catered for as in former years.

The work done by the Bromley Musical Society under the care of Mr. F. Lewis Thomas, is too well known and appreciated to need comment, and the Bromley Philharmonic Association, though more modest in its aims, will make special efforts to increase its influence and usefulness. It will confine its work mainly to the cultivation of part singing; and under the guidance of Mr. F. Fertel, who has accepted the post of conductor, will give at least one concert before Christmas, and one after.

In both these societies we understand there are vacancies for fairly competent vocalists, and both offer excellent facilities for self improvement, as well as opportunity for much enjoyment.

Mr. Norman Bath, whose concert of chamber music was so much enjoyed last winter, has decided to repeat the experiment during the coming season, with competent professional assistance, and his detailed announcement will be anticipated with much interest.

In connection with the Harvest festivals in the various churches, several works of interest are in preparation, particulars of which will be duly announced.

CHILD'S BODY FOUND IN A TRAIN.—An inquest was held at Bromley on August 2nd, touching the death of a newly-born female child, whose body, enclosed in a card-board box, was found in a carriage of a train from Swanley at the Bromley (L.C.D.R.) Station, on the previous Saturday. According to the medical evidence, the infant had died through neglect at birth, but there were also marks of attempted strangulation. The child had been dead from thirty-six to forty-eight hours when found, and there was nothing to give any clue to the parentage of the infant. A verdict to the effect that death was due to neglect at birth was returned by the jury.

Mr. Justice Bruce, who started on a yachting cruise, after the vacation, experienced very squally weather, and his yacht Auriga was towed into Blyth harbour with her jib-boom carried away.

Obituary.

MR. F. W. FREESE, CHISLEHURST.

An old and resepcted resident of Chislehurst—Mr. Frederick William Freese, of Granite Lodge, Cubbock-road—passed away on August 5th, aged sixty years. The deceased gentleman had been in failing health for some time, and took a voyage to the Holy Land last year to recoup his strength, but on his return he began to fail again. From early youth he was a warm supporter of home and foreign missions, and was actively interested in the London City Mission, and the Association in aid of Moravian Missions, of which latter society he was chairman for many years, and the local hon. sec. for Chislehurst. Mr. Freese was present at the consecration of Christ Church, Chislehurst, about 25 years ago, and had ever since manifested an active interest in the work of the church; and in company with the late Mr. James Hogarth, he started the Christ Church Sunday School. The funeral took place at the Parish Churchyard, Chislehurst, on August 8th, and was largely attended by relatives and friends. The mourners were the immediate family circle, the chief mourner being the eldest son, the Rev. F. E. Freese, vicar of St. Andrew's, Whittlesea. The Rev. W. Fleming, of Christ Church, officiated, assisted by the Rev. J. F. Twist, and the Rev. S. Ryder; and many beautiful floral tributes were sent by relatives and friends, and from institutions with which the deceased gentleman had been connected.

MR. W. H. DARBY, BROMLEY.

The death occurred at Bromley on Saturday, August 20th, of an old resident in the person of Mr. W. H. Darby, who carried on a stonemason's business on land adjoining the S.E.R. Station, and lived at 4, Park Grove. Mr. Darby, who was 50 years of age, had spent thirty years of his life in Bromley, but for several years had largely left the management of his business to his sons. He had been in failing health for some eight months, and died at one o'clock on August 20th, leaving a widow and six children. The funeral took place at the Bromley Cemetery, on Thursday, August 25th.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE IN COURT.—A sensational scene took place at the Penge Petty Sessions on Tuesday, August 2nd, when a prisoner named Morris Abrahamovitch, who had been sentenced to three months' imprisonment for attempted pocket-picking at the Crystal Palace, made an attempt to commit suicide by swallowing some poison. Medical aid was quickly forthcoming, and an emetic administered. In a short time the prisoner recovered, and was subsequently removed to undergo his sentence.

THE DOWAGER COUNTESS OF DERBY.—We are glad to hear a more satisfactory report of the health of the Dowager Countess of Derby. Her Ladyship's general health is good, and she is able to be out of doors for three or four hours daily, and to enjoy short drives in the grounds of Holwood. Dr. Blake, of West Wickham, is her medical attendant.

We have received a copy of the third volume of the Proceedings of the Woolwich District Antiquarian Society. The principal paper of the session was one by the Society's president, Mr. W. T. Vincent, on the ever-green subject of Deneholes. The booklet contains several illustrations.

Mr. W. Joynson-Hicks, son of Mr. Hicks, of Plaistow Hall, Bromley, has been selected as Unionist candidate for North Manchester, at the next election. The seat is at present held by Mr. C. E. Schwann, a Liberal member.

RECORD PORTRAITS.

NO. XXVIII.—MR. ALDERMAN AND SHERIFF F. P. ALLISTON.

We are pleased this month to be able to add to the list of local celebrities hung in the Bromley Record Portrait Gallery, Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Frederick Prat Alliston, who, in addition to being a well-known resident of Beckenham, is a prominent figure in Corporation circles in London.

Born in the Isle of Thanet in the early thirties, Mr. Alliston attributes to its bright and sunny climate his spirit of cheerful optimism. His parents, who were previously London business people, had gone to live, upon their retirement, in that part of Kent. When he had reached the age of eight, however, they removed to the island of Jersey, with their family, and it was there that he received his modest, but practical education. The master of the school he attended —a Mr. Handcock—had been a non-commissioned officer in the Army, and was an earnest member of the Wesleyan body. From him the boy learnt the living meaning of "Mens sana in corpore sano," which has proved to him an invaluable lesson. At fifteen, he was placed in a Manchester house in Friday-street, Cheapside, and it is of interest to note that in May last Mr. Alliston celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his introduction to that narrow but busy street. He commenced operations on his own account in 1858, so that the house of Alliston and Company is in its forty-second year, and two of his sons — Mr. Paul Alliston, and Mr. Clement Alliston—being now full and active partners with him, it would appear to have entered on a new lease of existence. The business was founded in the first instance for the sale of Foreign cotton dress goods, but after the Franco-German war in 1870, its scope was extended to the same class of British manufactures also, and the house has since acquired one of the best known reputations in the trade.

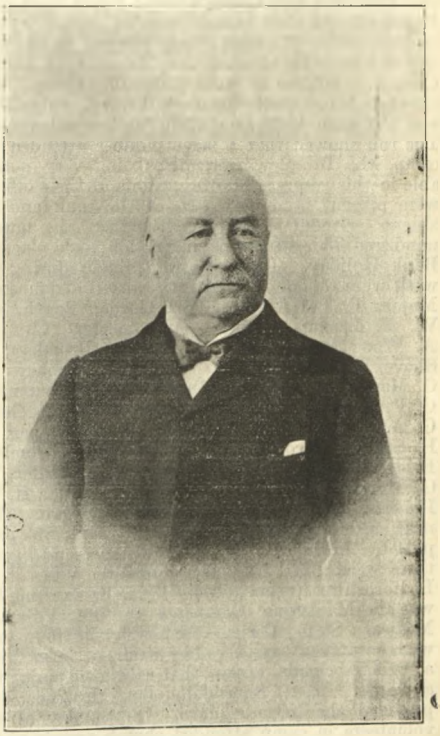
Mr. Alliston began his public career as a member of the Court of Common Council for the Bread-street Ward in 1878, filling a vacancy created by the death of Mr. Deputy Hawtrey. From that time up to the present day he has taken an active interest in City and Metropolitan affairs, especially in the management of the Markets, of which committee he was chairman for three years, and also in the management of the Bridge House Estates, the City Lands, and the Irish Society, of which he was the deputy-governor during 1887-1888. It was on Mr. Alliston's motion that the Marquis of Dufferin was admitted to the freedom of the City of London on his return from India, and that Mr. Lidderdale enjoyed a like distinction for his action, as Governor of the Bank of England, during the Baring crisis.

In 1895, the Ward unanimously elected Mr. Alliston as its Alderman in succession to the late Sir William Lawrence, and on Midsummer-Day of this year, he was, with similar unanimity, elected by the Livery in Common Hall to be Sheriff of the City of London for the ensuing year. As may easily be imagined the local administrative and magisterial duties of an Alderman keep the holder of such an office fairly well occupied, while with the executive and social duties of a Sheriff in addition, the whole year, it will be readily seen, must be really given up to public engagements, so that if Beckenham does not see much of Mr. Alliston during the next twelve months, the reason will not be far to seek.

Mr. Alliston is also a member of the Livery of the Cordwainers' Company, and in recognition of his official position they recently elected him to be an honorary member of the Court, a distinction he enjoys in common with only one other person, the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain. Another official appointment he holds in London is that of churchwarden of St. Mildred, Bread-street.

Turning from his municipal to his philanthropic activities, we find that Mr. Alliston is chairman of the Committee of the City Dispensary, a member of the Board of Management of the Royal Hospital for Incurables, at Putney, and a governor of the Hospitals of St. Bartholomew, St. Thomas, Bridewell and Bethlehem; while in a different direction, mention must be made of a very interesting and useful experiment made by him in the erection of some model dwellings in Hoxton, which have proved a great success.

As a Freemason, he owns the parentage of the Hervey No. 1687 lodge, but he is also a Past Master and founder of the Beckenham Lodge, No. 2,047.



MR. ALDERMAN AND SHERIFF ALLISTON.

At Beckenham, Mr. Alliston is a member of the School Board, having always been an ardent educationalist, and he also finds time to follow with much interest the doings of the other local governing bodies. He has several times offered valuable suggestions and criticisms on the aims and scope of the Urban District Council, of which authority, however, he has never yet been a member. In politics he is an enthusiastic Liberal, and is an original member of the National Liberal Club and one of the founders of the Beckenham Liberal Club.

All sports that do not involve any betting have always claimed Mr. Alliston's cordial support, notably cricket. For many years he has been a member of the Surrey County Club, and Beckenham Cricket Club, and in early times was one of the City Amateurs. He has keen recollections, as a Kentish boy, of seeing those heroes of the cricket field, Fuller Pilch, Alfred

Mynn, and A. Felix play for their county at Canterbury.

The above are some of the chief features of a lengthy and honourable business and public career —a career which has been characterised throughout by a sturdy manhood, and which has been cheered and directed, as Mr. Alliston is quick to acknowledge, by the unfailing counsel of Scripture, and by such inspired voices of the Great Supreme as Shakespeare, Wordsworth, Tennyson, Ruskin, Emerson, and many others, not forgetting the ever-open book of Nature.

Mr. Alliston, we may add, in conclusion, has been twice married, and for some years past has resided at "Kamesburgh," Copers Cope-road, Beckenham.

LOCAL VOLUNTEERS' ENCAMPMENT.

During the first week in August, the 2nd Volunteer Battalion (the Queen's Own) Royal West Kent Regiment held their annual training, under canvas, at Shorncliffe, the camp being pitched on the east side of a large field immediately behind old Cheriton Church, a mile or so from Shorncliffe Camp. The advance party went down on Friday, July 29th, and the main body arrived the following evening. The roll showed that a large number attended the camp, the Bromley companies being very noticeable in this respect, as the whole of their officers were present, and only two of the rank and file absent without leave. Altogether, the muster numbered 730, when the inspection took place on Bank Holiday. The officers present during the week were Colonel E. Satterthwaite (in command), Majors E. Latter (Bromley), Gordon Smith, and W. K. Lemon (Acting Quarter-master), Captains A. Wood Martyn, B. H. Latter (Bromley), P. Shove, T. Marchant, M. Taylor, G. Morphew, M. C. Matthews (Bromley), D. Dinwiddy, Lieutenants C. F. Hitchins, A. C. Chauncey, C. S. Marchant, G. A. Ridley, A. B. Pembroke, W. F. Soames, T. H. Stringer (Bromley), R. Lynch White (Bromley), E. J. Dolphin, T. N. Dinwiddy, R. F. Miller, W. G. Morris, and A. Pownall, Surgeon-Major H. W. Roberts, and Surgeon-Lieutenant Fegan. The next section of the field on the left flank was occupied by the 1st V.B. from Maidstone, and beyond them were the 1st (Hertfordshire) V.B. of the Bedfordshire Regiment, while on the extreme left was the Maidstone Company of the Volunteer Medical Staff Corps. Although the four units were encamped together they were not formed into a regular brigade, except that a brigade-major was appointed from Shorncliffe, but the 2nd V.B. provided the brigade-guard. On Sunday all the volunteers in camp attended church parade at the Garrison Chapel, where a shortened service, with an appropriate sermon, was conducted by the Rev. W. D. A. Grafton, vicar of Standon, Herts., acting chaplain of the Bedfordshires, who was with his battalion during their stay in camp. Bank Holiday was set apart for the annual inspection by Colonel W. H. Bayly, commanding the depot of the Royal West Kent Regiment at Maidstone. The battalion fell in at 1.30, and the companies having been sized for ceremonial drill, marched off to the parade ground, where the inspecting officer was received with a general salute. Having passed down the ranks Colonel Bayly took up his position at the saluting base, to witness the march-past, which was carried out in a highly creditable manner. At the conclusion, Colonel Bayly addressed the battalion, and complimented it on general steadiness and smartness. He also drew attention to the fact that although the boots worn were generally satisfactory, there were a few exceptions, and he expressed a hope that all ranks would avail themselves of the opportunity of procuring proper boots, which were now supplied from the Quartermaster's store. Although, he added, it might seem hard that the men should have to provide that portion of their equipment out of their own pockets, they would find that if they provided themselves in that way the boots would be equally useful as boots of any other pattern for them as civilians. He congratulated Colonel Satterthwaite on being in command of such an efficient Battalion, which he (Colonel Bayly) had for some few years had the pleasure of inspecting. The Battalion then marched back to their parade ground, where Colonel Satterthwaite expressed his gratification at the result of the inspection. At dinner in the evening (it being guest night) the following guests were entertained by the officers:—Major-General H. Hallam-Parr, C.B., C.M.G., A.D.C., commanding the Shorncliffe garrison, Lieutenant J. B. Thomson, A.D.C. to the General and Provisional Brigade Major, Colonel Henderson, Lieutenant Colonel Williams, and Major F. Pine, of the 1st V.B. Amongst others present was Surgeon-Lieutenant E. F. Bindloss, medical officer of the 1st V.B. Bedfordshire, who was an old officer of the 2nd V.B., the Queen's Own. Tuesday's proceedings commenced with a bathing parade, which was well attended; and some instructive field manœuvres formed the chief feature on Wednesday. There was a general field-day on Thursday, all arms—both of the regular forces and the volunteers—taking part in the operations, and the General subsequently expressed his pleasure with the behaviour of the troops. On Friday General Sir William Butler held a brigade inspection, and made a very satisfactory report thereon. The camp broke up on Saturday, and on their arrival back at Bromley Captain Latter expressed his satisfaction with the "E" and "F" Companies, stating that the men had done their best, and enhanced the reputation of the Bromley detachment. The camp was a decided success, and for the most part the weather was favourable.

WILL OF THE LATE MR. G. W. F. LOFTUS.—Mr. G. W. F. Loftus, a former resident of Bromley, who died at Hastings in June last, left personal estate of the net value of £13,678 17s. 8d. He bequeathed certain pictures to Uvedale Corbet Singleton, eldest son of the late Capt. Loftus Singleton, and devised his freehold house and premises at Bromley Park, and all his furniture, plate etc., to his wife for life, and after her death to Mr. Uvedale Corbet Singleton, absolutely. He directed that his trustees should pay £200 to his wife within one month after his death, and bequeathed a legacy of £500 to Frederick Charles Taylor, and the following charitable bequests:—£200 each to the Bromley Cottage Hospital, the Norfolk and Norwich Blind Asylum, Aged Freemasons' Institution, Boys' Freemasons' Institution, and the Girls' Freemasons' Institution. The deceased gentleman also directed the investment of £100, the income therefrom to be paid to the Bromley Bowling Club for the purpose of purchasing two bowls, to be known as the "Loftus Bowls," and to be competed for annually by the members.

Mr. R. B. Martin, M.P., who has resided at Chislehurst for some years, and formerly lived at Bickley, has removed to Overbury Court, Tewkesbury, Worcestershire, where his late father lived for many years. Mr. Martin's house on Chislehurst Common has been taken by Mr. E. H. Joynson, of "Ravenshill," Chislehurst.

The new church of St. Mark, Bromley, is to be consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury, on Wednesday, October 12th.

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DIARY OF AUGUST.

July.

30th.—Annual sports in connection with Holmby House School, at the Widmore-road cricket ground.

31st.—Monthly service of sacred music at St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common.—Demonstration by the United Builders' Labourers' Union, at the "White Hart" Field, Bromley.

August.

1st.—Annual show and sports, under the auspices of the Alexandra (Beckenham) Horticultural Society, at Newlands Park.

2nd.—Bromley Volunteers' encampment during the week at Shorncliffe.

3rd.—Downe Horticultural Society's annual exhibition.—Treat to the Bromley Union Workhouse inmates in the grounds of Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., "High Elms," Farnborough.

5th.—Forty-third annual general meeting of the Crystal Palace Company.

10th.—Open-air concert at the Bromley Conservative Club.—Bromley Cycling Club's fifty miles' championship race at Catford.—Cricket match between coachmen and gardeners at Beckenham; and a match between single and married coachmen at Chislehurst.

11th.—Half-yearly meeting of the Bromley Gas Consumers' Company at the "White Hart" Hotel, presided over by Mr. A. Dickson.—Annual excursion of the P Division Metropolitan Police (including Bromley) to Ramsgate, Margate, and Canterbury.

13th.—Cricket match between Beckenham and M.C.C. at Beckenham, the result being a draw.

16th.—Opening of a new Police Court at Jasmine Grove, Penge.

17th.—Bromley Volunteers' shooting competitions for Tradesmen's prizes.—Annual flower show in connection with the Farnborough Horticultural Society.—Annual meeting of the Bromley Swifts' Football Club.

24th.—Annual licensing sessions held at Bromley, when five applications for fresh licences were made and refused.

AWARDS TO LOCAL HOSPITALS.—Out of the total sum of £34,304, collected this year for the Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund, the following local institutions have benefited to the extent stated:—Bromley Cottage Hospital, £63 15s. 0d.; Chislehurst, Sidcup, and Cray Valley Cottage Hospital, £30; Beckenham Cottage Hospital, £37 10s. 0d.; Sidcup Cottage Hospital, £27 15s. 0d.; and the St. Mary's Convalescent Home, Shortlands, £11 5s. 0d.

THE WILL OF MR. LYNCH-WHITE.—Personal estate of the net value of £44,219 18s. 9d. was left by Mr. Lynch-White, junior, of Homefield, Bickley, and of the Thames Bank Iron Company, of Upper Ground-street, Blackfriars, who died in May last, aged 46 years. The executors of the will and three codicils, the will bearing date November 10th, 1892, and the last codicil being dated October 8th, 1896, are his widow, Mrs. Alice White; Arthur John Gale, of 34, Streatham Hill, architect: and Hiliary Gordon Poland, of Greenlands, Caterham, underwriter. Probate has been renounced by the testator's father, Mr. Lynch-White, senior, also named as an executor of the will. The testator left a legacy of £100 to his wife, to be paid to her within one month after his death, and to each of his executors who proved his will a legacy of £100. He bequeathed all his furniture and household effects, horses, carriages, jewellery, and plate to his wife absolutely, and the income of his residuary estate to his wife during her widowhood; but in the event of her re-marrying such income to be reduced to £200 a year, and subject to Mrs. White's interest, the trustees are to hold the residuary estate in trust for the testator's children.

THE FAIR WEATHER BARD.

When the wintry wind is dumb
And the flowery spring is come
And the bee is on the hum
I am heard.
Singing of the month of May
And the flower upon the spray
And the octopi at play,
Like a bird.

When the bud is on the tree
And the sun is on the sea,
Into rhythmic rhapsody
Loud I burst,
Fired by inspiration's glow
In a sweet spasmodic flow.
Sometimes loud but mostly low
Just at first.

When the first faint flush is gone
And the muse is fairly on,
Bolder strings I harp upon
As I play.
Broken heart, and rankling curse;
Till the readers, feeling worse
Wish my unoffending verse
Far away.

But when summer skies are past
And the cold is come at last
And the leaves before the blast
Die and drop;
When the autumn's golden wain
Carries off the ripened grain
And the snows return again,
Then I stop.

What though callous critics carp
Making observations sharp
Touching my perennial harp:
They are wrong.
Still my effervescent trill
Haunts the Heliconian hill
And the gentle muse is still
Going strong.

They are wrong, and year by year
My effusions shall appear
Till the nations lend an ear
To the trump;
Till the world is but a word
And destruction has interred
Tree and hill and festive bird
In a lump.

C.B.

LOCAL FLOWER SHOWS.

PENGE.

The Alexandra Horticultural Society held its annual exhibition in Elm Grove Meadow, Newlands Park, Penge, on Bank Holiday, and was very largely attended. The exhibits, generally, were wonderfully good, and were more numerous than in previous years. Mr. O. C. Davies won the medal for the best amateur exhibit; and in the professional class the silver medal of the R.H.S. was awarded to Mr. F. G. Cogger. A programme of sports was carried out during the afternoon.

DOWNE.

The fifteenth annual show in connection with the Downe Horticultural Society was held on Wednesday, August 3rd, and proved very successful. Just before the opening, a tent, containing a number of exhibits, was blown down by the high wind, but otherwise the proceedings passed off satisfactorily. Some splendid groups of flowers were a special feature, Mr. E. S. Wiles being awarded the first prize, while the second prize fell to Mr. A. A. Dunmall, the secretary of the show. Mr. Wiles also took the prize for the best exhibit. The judging was carried out by Mr. Pascoe (gardener to Capt. Torrens), and Mr. Beal (gardener to Mr. E. A. Hambro, J.P., of Hayes), and the show committee consisted of Messrs. G. N. Murton (chairman), Mitchell, Wiles, Pound, Gatland, Blundell, Chillman, Harris, Seymour, Solman, Sawyer, Barham, and Crane, with Mr. A. A. Dunmall (honorary secretary). Sports were held during the evening.

FARNBOROUGH.

The village of Farnborough was quite en fete on the occasion of the Horticultural Society's annual exhibition, which was held in a meadow adjoining "Beechwood," by permission of Mrs. Fox, on Wednesday, August 17th. The show was a decided success, the entries being double the number recorded in the previous year, and some of the exhibits were exceedingly fine, while those not for competition added greatly to the interest of the proceedings. A large number attended during the day, and some capital sports took place in the evening. Mr. J. Downer won the bronze medal for the best exhibit in the show with an elegant window-box. Mr. Clatworthy running him very close with a similar exhibit. The sports prizes were distributed by Mrs. Hamilton Fox, who was cordially thanked for her services on the proposition of Mr. H. F. Priter (chairman of the committee). The secretarial duties were efficiently discharged by Mr. W. H. Morter.

BECKENHAM DOCTOR COMMITTED FOR TRIAL.—The Bromley magistrates, at the Petty Sessions on Monday, August 8th, committed David Wallace, medical practitioner, of Beckenham, for trial at the Assizes, on charges of assaulting Elizabeth Alice Clara Warrilow, a dressmaker, and of performing an illegal operation on her. The accused put in a lengthy statement in writing, in which he denied both charges, and stated that his treatment of the girl for her illness had been perfectly proper, and that an instrument was used in a legal manner. He had never been aware of the girl's real condition, before informed by the mother of what had happened.—Bail was allowed, the prisoner in his own recognisances of £1,000, and three sureties of £500 each. The Assizes take place at Maidstone in November: and according to present arrangements, Mr. Justice Hawkins will be the judge on that occasion.

BROMLEY SCIENCE AND ART SCHOOLS.

The following is an analysis of the results of the examinations held last April and May, in connection with the science and art classes held at the Bromley School compared with those of the preceding session:—

ART SUBJECTS.

	1897-98.	1896-97.
Students in attendance ...	219	201
Students examined	138	133
Number of passes	117	108
Percentage	84	81

SCIENCE SUBJECTS.

	1897-98.	1896-97.
Students in attendance ...	108	119
Students examined	45	50
Number of passes	28	23
Percentage	62	46

Miss Ethel Willett, daughter of Mr. A. E. Willett, won the bronze medal offered by the Science and Art Department in the National competition, for an excellent group in water colours.

THE RIVER CRAY.—At a meeting of the Bromley Rural District Council on Friday, August 5th, some discussion took place respecting a proposed loan of £1,000 for cleansing the river Cray, for which the Rural Council had made application.—Mr. W. B. Howard, of Orpington, wrote objecting to any of the cost being charged on that parish, stating that the part of the river in the parish had recently been cleaned out, and that it flowed entirely through private property, the owners of which should be held to be responsible. It should, he said, be ascertained whether the smallness of the flow was not due to the action of the Water Company.—The Clerk said the application to the Local Government Board for permission to borrow the £1,000 contained the stipulation that the cost should be charged to the five parishes and spread over ten years. He stated that the cost upon the parishioners concerned would amount to only a little over ¼d. in the £.—The necessary steps for spreading the cost over the five parishes concerned were ordered to be taken.

THE RAINFALL.—The rainfall for July measured at Widmore-road, Bromley, amounted to 0·62 inch. Rain fell on six days, the largest amount registered in one day being ·24 inch, on the 22nd. For the corresponding month last year the fall was ·92 inch, in 1896 1·84 inch, and in 1895 3.38 inches. For the first seven months of the year the total rainfall has only reached 9·15 inches, while for the same period last year it amounted to 15·89 inches.

NEW COURT-HOUSE AT PENGE.—The Penge Justices held the weekly Petty Sessions for the first time on August 16th, in the new Court-House, erected in Jasmine Grove. The building, which is of red brick, with white stone dressing, contains a spacious Court Room, with a raised Bench for the magistrates, and reserved accommodation for solicitors, the press, and the police, while there are also private rooms for the Justices and their Clerk, and a consulting room for solicitors and their clients, as well as an apartment for prisoners.

Dr. Scott Tew has been re-appointed as medical officer to the West Kent Combined Sanitary District, which includes the rural portion of Bromley, for another term of five years, with an increase of his salary of £200.

"IVA KILDARE,"

BY MRS. L. B. WALFORD,
Author of "Mr. Smith," "Cousins," "Frederick," "A Mere Child," "The Baby's Grandmother," etc., etc.

But with her mother present the young lady was gay, at ease, intimate. She did not scorn to know that Mr. Druitt liked his tea well sugared, and preferred brown bread and butter to cake. These items had been learnt long before; our bachelor had been entertained many times, and at meals of various kinds, since becoming Lady Tilbury's near neighbour and very good friend. As the trio now sat together in the witching firelight, for only a few scattered lamps supplemented the blaze of flaming logs, Mr. Druitt's only wonder was that, having been so often thus encircled, he had not been so oftener still.

He had certainly neglected his opportunities.

"You will be quite thrown out of employment if this frost lasts long, Mr. Druitt."

"Oh, I have always plenty to do, Lady Tilbury."

"You won't find it necessary to dash up to Town, as most foxhunters do?"

"To Town? No, indeed! I have no love for Town."

"Nor have I—in winter. Still, hunting men do find themselves grievously at a loss when they can't get out after the hounds."

"They have time for us," said Iva archly. "They make up their arrears in the calling line; don't they, Mr. Druitt?"

"To be sure," added her mother readily. Then with a gay laugh: "We shall have Mr. Puddington here to-morrow, and Mr. Hinderton the next day——"

"And Mr. Druitt again on the third."

"Must he wait till the third!" said Mr. Druitt, turning boldly on the last speaker. "It is very lonely up at the Hall. If Mr. Druitt finds himself unable to resist the temptation of having Tilbury Court so near, will his presumption be pardoned, Lady Tilbury, even though the third day seem a long way off—too long to wait for?"

He addressed the mother, but his eye rested on the daughter. Iva rose hastily, and adjusted a neighbouring lamp which, she said, smoked.

No one else had seen it smoke.

"I hear you have a wonderful workshop, Mr. Druitt," observed his hostess, next. She had accorded the above sally a light answer, frank and gracious, but not more than the occasion merited, and was now ready for a fresh topic.

So apparently was he. The workshop was enlarged upon; it was one of his hobbies, he had three apprentices, Jem and Giles Hodge, and his groom William. If Lady Tilbury liked to let any of the youths in her establishment join, he would be happy to enlist them.

"Shall I send Robert, Iva? It is a capital idea," said Lady Tilbury, warmly. "Robert is a nice boy—our second footman, Mr. Druitt; and only yesterday the others were lamenting that he was so hopelessly unmusical he could take no part in their evening performances. They have quite a concert in the servants' hall in the evenings. Three or four of them play on different instruments. Our butler is a wonderful hand. But poor Robert is rather out of it, and if you really would have him——?"

"By all means."

"He would be too thankful to go, don't you think, Iva?"

But not a word was to be got out of Iva.

"You began by absolutely flirting with Mr. Druitt," cried Lady Tilbury afterwards. "Turning the poor man's head with your 'third day' and all—almost asking him to come—and then all at once you flew off at a tangent, and were barely civil. Too bad of you, Iva. I think he is a dear man, and I won't have him maltreated."

"Maltreated? Who talks of maltreating him? Not I. I told you he was a dear man long before you found it out for yourself. But as for flirting—I'm sure you flirt with him far more than I do."

"Tut! That's nonsense—sheer, silly nonsense! As if Mr. Druitt——"

"Oh, Mr. Druitt knows a fine woman when he sees her! So does Mr. Puddington; ditto Mr. Hinderton. As for the dean——"

"You goose!"

"What it is to be overshadowed by such a mother!" cried Iva, throwing up her hands. "What a fate for a poor young daughter! Two husbands has she had already, while I can't get one! All the men are at her feet, while nobody wants poor Iva."

"You storyteller! Oh—oh!"

"Lossett, V.C., would be number three to-morrow if you held up your little finger. Puddington, M.F.H., curses his luck——"

"You strange girl! Don't talk like that." Lady Tilbury, looking a little frightened, put her hand on Iva's shoulder and shook it gently. Iva was laughing a strained, unpleasant laugh.

"Mayn't I have one little shot on my own account?" she cried. "Mayn't I see what it is to be? A fair field and no favour, that's all I ask. Let us start fair."

"Iva, Iva! How can you? What's wrong with you, Iva? Iva mavourneen, you're not yourself at all! Oh, don't be vexed with your own Molly—your own mother! See, then, I'm not vexed with you, darling. I know—I understand. It was only a joke, wasn't it? Just one of your own old little jokes?" But Iva did not respond to the caress.

There was a cold silence.

At last: "Now, what does this mean?" said Lady Tilbury, straightening her back and fixing a steady eye upon her daughter. "Iva, I ought to know; what does this mean?"

"It means"—Iva stiffened also; the ugly smile left her lips, but she stood her ground, and reared her head with a proudly defiant gesture—"it means," she said deliberately, "what—it—means."

CHAPTER XXVIII.

AMOS AND HIS APPENDAGES.

Mr. Druitt also thought that it meant what it meant, and found the thought intoxicating.

Good Heavens! Was he to meet his fate at last? Was this to be the end of his long bachelorhood? It looked like it—looked prodigiously like it: the more he turned the matter over in his mind, the more did it look as if—he took off his hat, cold and dark though the night was—as if this strange venture in his life, which had already proved so great a success, were to be crowned in a manner the most extraordinary and unlooked for.

He had always admired Iva Kildare, looking upon her as a bright particular star, destined to shine one day in more exalted spheres; and beneath this conviction (which had not troubled him in the slightest) had allowed free vent to his admiration.

Never until the day when it dawned upon him as a revelation that her lot was not the radiant one he deemed it—nay, that she looked sad, subdued, tremulous; almost coveting the pity and sympathy with which all at once his bowels had been stirred—never before then had he bestowed upon her a

thought which might not have been known to the whole world.

But the emotion, once awakened, soon found abundant food whereon to feed.

Iva was young, impulsive, imprudent, as we know; also she was keenly unhappy; it soothed her ruffled spirit to be with a gentle and tender companion who was for the time being all her own.

Without exactly complaining, and certainly without any sense of treachery, she let it be seen that division and discord had penetrated her beauteous home, so fair to outward view; and often silence more than words laid bare to the sympathetic eye of her new friend the discontent, the dull dissatisfaction of her soul.

Obviously she took pleasure in his society, seemed cheered by it, was almost lively at the close of each interview.

And it must be remembered that Jabez was by no means ill-looking. Even in his office clothes, hideous now to memory, he had presented a marked contrast to his brother; while his own present appearance presented an almost equally great one to the past. His proportions, if somewhat minute, had capabilities, which were now made the most of. He might be pardoned for not considering himself either debarred by age or exterior from entering the lists for a fair one's favour, supposing the glove were thrown to him.

Had the glove been thrown? He thought it had.

There was one drawback to all rosy dreams, however; and for a while our bachelor jibbed at this like an uncasy horse, who prefers not to take a hedge without knowing the width of the ditch behind. The drawback was Amos—Amos, with all his appendages.

So far these had never been seen at Tilbury Court, not a little to the chagrin of the lady, who had arrived for her first visit to Old Cary Hall armed to the teeth with dinner-dresses and head-dresses, and who would not have despised a tea at the doctor's rather than be going nowhere.

Her host, however, had his brother's express wishes to fall back upon, and carried them out to the letter. 'You are not to be worried to go anywhere," he would say cheerfully on each occasion; whereat Amos would emit a contented grunt, and confide in private that although he had been forced to bring his evening suit to satisfy *her*, he had no intention of taking it out of his portmanteau, where it lay snug and ready to travel back again.

In consequence, Mrs. Amos, who, if she could not get into Tilbury Court, would have put up with any sort of excuse for bedizening herself, found the hints with which she had come prepared thrown away. She had argued that there was no need for her husband to go where he did not wish, or do what he did not like; but that was not to hinder Jabez from taking her about to different fine houses where he had been forced to own he visited. Why should he not drive her about in phaeton or brougham, while Amos was let loose to walk down his fat about the nice healthy country roads?

If she were not introduced to Jay's friends, how could they take any notice of her?

And though Amos was so lazy and boorish about meeting strangers, Jay need not have taken him so strictly at his word as never to have *anyone* at the Hall

It would have been such an opportunity for Jay to return hospitalities. She would have headed his table with pleasure.

This, however, could not very well be impressed by letter upon a person out of range, when the lady was penning her acceptance of the annual invitation; and by the time she was fairly installed within her tapestried bedroom at Old Cary Hall (she always had the best bedroom; it was a compliment easily paid), it was too late for anything to be done.

There had accordingly been three visits as to which, had the lady been a sportswoman, she would have said the covers were drawn blank.

But it is the unforeseen which always happens.

In mid-January, just in the nastiest part of the nastiest month of the year, according to Amos Druitt, there appeared a most unusual summons from the south. Not only was it addressed to the wife instead of to the husband as previously, but it contained the most startling information. The writer was about to issue cards for a dinner-party, and would his sister-in-law engage to do the honours? If it were not asking too much, would they both come to the Hall on the following Wednesday?

The pair looked at each other in amazement, and the letter dropped upon the tablecloth, where no one troubled to pick it up.

"Oh, don't bother about stupid Uncle Jay," said a girl. "Do give us our tea, and you and papa can talk later."

But neither papa nor mamma heeded her.

'Here's a rum go!" quoth he, staring with open mouth round upon everybody.

"My word! What next!" cried she, starting back.

Both then attempted to inform the young people, and inspire curiosity and interest; but in vain. John wondered who would be fool enough to go a couple of hundred miles for a "spread"; while Cecilia thought all dinner-parties detestable, and added that if her uncle had had any sense he would have asked her and her sister for his Hunt Ball. What was a stupid old dinner-party?

The parents, therefore, had all their excitement to themselves; and at the first Mr. Amos Druitt, albeit owning to the impeachment, protested that it was occasioned merely by such an unwonted departure on his brother's part. He had no notion of going—not he! It was all very fine for Jabez. Jabez meant to do the civil, no doubt; but hang it all! it was a great deal to ask of any man. Jay had a cool cheek to take for granted that he had only to put pen to paper to have them both at his beck and call.

To all of which did Mrs. Amos listen in silence, biding her time. Her green satin with the apple-blossom border? Or her black lace over the white moire, if she chose to be for the occasion in slight mourning? Which? The girls said she looked best in black, and, to be sure, the moire was a handsome dress; but the rooms at Old Cary Hall were dark, and the apple-blossom satin would show off finely against the massive oak panelling on the walls.

She must get a new plume for her top-knot, however, and not forget to use her diamond crescent at its base. Which fan would she take? And was Tubbins sure of the new way of dressing her hair?

"Hey, you're mighty silent!" cried Amos at last. "You think you're to go, I suppose, and sit up at the head of that great table, with grandees on both sides of you? And where, pray, am I to sit? You and Jabez would run the show between you, I don't doubt; but where I come in I don't see at all. Not that I'm going," he added hastily. 'Don't you think it! It is too far—and in such weather; and what hindered his getting up this fine dinner-party for us in October? There would have been some sense in that (not that I care to be bothered with anything of the kind; plain folks and plentiful fare for me; none of your lords and ladies and kickshaws), but you have always been hankering and hinting; how was it you did not

manage to pull it off at the proper time? October—there would have been some sense in October; partridges, pheasants, venison—and grapes and peaches in the garden. Now you have to buy everything—and it's bad at the best. Those grapes at Bowwater's last night might have been turnips; great coarse flavourless things; can't think how Bowwater could put such trash on his table! But he always goes in for size; and they looked well enough. If we do go to Jay's, I know what I should do; I'd get him to let me have the ordering of his fruit, and I'd select it myself from White's, and take the hamper in the carriage with us—eh, Mrs. Amos?"

"That would be the thing to do," assented she, spying daylight—"if you could be sure fruit would travel so far," she subjoined, with wily dubiousness.

"Travel? I'll engage it should travel. I'd see it packed myself. I'd speak to White this very day. He is the only fellow one can trust—and he couldn't cheat me, anyhow. And I say, Polly, what about a refrigerator? Down at that outlandish place, their only chance of ices would be making them in a refrigerator. Should we lend him ours, hey? I know how it is worked—could work it myself if it bothered Mrs. Grindle. Good old soul, Grindle; she wouldn't mind."

"Never minds anything you do, Amos. You are such a favourite."

"Ah, well, they are a very decent couple. Jay was in luck to get them. We always have our joke together, Dame Grindle and I. I tell her she's getting a bit thin on the thatch, and all her big caps can't hide it; but she makes up by putting on a double allowance of fat everywhere else—ho, ho, ho! We're old chums, she and I, and she likes a bit of chaff."

"That kind must certainly be pleasant!" muttered Cecilia, sarcastically.

Cecilia's mother, however, laughed; she would have laughed at less to keep things working towards the desired end; and she now saw that the end would be achieved by only a very little further diplomacy.

"Jabez ought to be grateful to you, I must say," cried she. "He never would think of things like that. I'm sure the dinners at Brookfield—— Shall I say anything about the refrigerator? They might like to know beforehand."

"Aye, you'd better. Tell them to have plenty of cream—good, sweet cream—and I'll see to the rest. And see here, if I'm to cater for the dessert, I won't have it spoilt and messed up by inferior articles shoved in at the last. I'll do it all, or nothing. Mind you make that clear."

"You're going, then?" Cecilia arched her eyebrows impertinently. Her mother frowned, but it was too late.

"Humph!" bounced Amos, and slammed the door behind him.

He crept back when his wife was alone, however. "Those girls for their impudence!" cried he. "What is it to them whether we go or stay? It's none o' their business, confound them! They're savage because they're not asked, I suppose. Look here, missis, we'll go and have our jaunt, if we please. And as I see you're set upon it—hey?"

"I must own I would like to go, Amos."

"Well, well, and why shouldn't you? You're a good lass, and if it pleases you, I don't see that I'm bound to take your daughters' opinions. Let them mind their own business. You write and say we'll go. We'll go on Wednesday, and stop till Saturday. Don't ask me to stop over Sunday."

"Oh, dear! I should never think of such a thing. It is very kind of you to give so long," joyously.

"I must be at the office first thing o' Monday morning. And night travel doesn't suit me. So if you're willing to quit on Saturday——"

"Certainly. I should say we must leave after breakfast on Saturday."

"Aye, do; that will get us back in decent time. After all, if Jay has a mind to be brotherly, and likes to see his own folks about his table, 'tis only fair to meet him half way. But make it clear about the fruit," added he, pausing in the doorway to consider if there was anything else. "I suppose you've got as many diamonds as you want?" suddenly burst out.

What woman has ever as many diamonds as she wants? Certainly not a rich merchant's wife, with an ample person whereon to spread them.

"Dear me, Amos!"

"Had a haul last week, and didn't bring you anything out of it, old lady. Meet me at Elkington's at four o'clock. And I say," returning the beaming salute with one in kind—a splashing smack it was, but affection sanctified it—"I say, mum's the word. Don't you let the cat out of the bag, or I shall have them all upon me like a set of harpies. It will be time enough to show anything we get at Elkington's when we come back from Old Cary Hall."

CHAPTER XXIX.

THE SECRET OF THE LETTER.

And this was how the invitation was received which it cost Jabez so much to send.

Ah, what tales could such a little note or even its mere envelope sometimes tell, if it might say its own say. It speeds upon its mission, bearing upon its surface the commonplace message, the bald fact, or the bitter lie—and of the reluctant fingers which hung over the page, of the quivering pulses which rested on it, of the hot breath which burnt and scorched it—not a word!

No ones ever knew the secret of Jabez Druitt's missive, which was not worth lifting off his brother's tablecloth.

It was calm, formal, fraternal; it begged a simple favour in simple fashion; and who was to guess that it had been written, re-written, torn to bits, and commenced afresh time after time, ere it irrevocably passed from the writer's hand and vanished from his sight?

After all, what was it he had done? He had acted the part of an honest man—that was all.

A little thing to do, dear reader? Wait till you and I are tried, and see if we will do it.

Oh, it is not until we ourselves are confronted with that moment of dismay, when our struggling sensibilities shrink from the straight high-road that leads to honour, and every bye-path looks more smooth and tempting, that we find out what poor mean-spirited cowards we are!

Jabez Druitt had come face to face with such a moment, when considering whether he were justified in asking Iva Kildare to be his wife without ever bringing her into contact with his nearest of kin.

Until now he had seen no need—no need whatever—for obtruding these upon a world which cared nothing about them. Possibly the world he meant was fully aware that they existed, as relations always do exist who are best kept in the background; certainly he had never been asked an inconvenient question.

But now it was different. His people must be in a measure his wife's people. Amos was only a half-brother, it was true; but he would have to be accepted as such, together with all his belongings, young and old; and if, despite natural affection and old association, there were times when this brother, familiar from infancy, still touched a raw

nerve, awakening an irrespressible twinge, how would it be with one to whom Amos in his full panoply of vulgar egotism and blatant self-assertion would come with all the shock of a novelty?

Was Iva not already condescending sufficiently in deigning to look kindly on himself? Was he not far, far beneath her as it was?

And neither Amos nor any of his family had ever shown the slightest sense of any distinction existing between them and others in a higher rank. They would be very well pleased that he would marry into a baronet's family, as they would phrase it; but he could already hear the pert Cecilia contradicting Lady Tilbury on her own ground, or John boldly chaffing the younger girls.

He pictured his brother's bow; Amos would salaam like a tradesman.

After all, would not Lady Tilbury prefer ignorance to revelations which might only work mischief? Lady Tilbury herself, if report spoke truly, had connections who were barely up to the Tilbury level. He wondered vaguely whether Sir Thomas in his courting days had come across any of these, and if not, and if they had been kept out of sight, how had Sir Thomas felt about it?

Had Lady Tilbury meant to give himself a friendly hint on the subject one day, when it chanced that the discussion turned on ties of blood, and her ladyship, with a somewhat raised colour, had delivered herself of views which were not perhaps strictly orthodox, but which had found a ready echo in his breast. "We choose our friends—we cannot choose our relations, Mr. Druitt," she had concluded, with an emphasis which left him wondering.

Certes, he had not chosen Amos.

And yet he knew—knew for a truth, which argument he could not reason away—that he would never be able to look himself in the face again if he yielded to the temptation of securing Iva Kildare's promise before revealing to her the (do not laugh at him) skeleton in his cupboard.

But no one, we repeat, ever guessed how much it cost Jabez to arrive at this conclusion.

He now went and came at Tilbury Court with all the confidence of a favoured suitor. Several weeks had elapsed since the day on which Iva would not go down to be with him alone in the drawing-room, and if there did happen to be any little demur of the kind now, it was so plausibly explained away that, with all his modesty and anxiety, he could not feel himself an intruder.

Once or twice he had been on the point of speaking—no, of writing; it would be easier to write than to speak—but things were very pleasant as they were, and there was always the arriere pensee of Amos.

So terrible was the latter, and so agreeable the former, that "Really Mr. Druitt is rather a slow man," said Lady Tilbury once, with a smile.

Having taken in the astonishing fact that she was to have Mr. Druitt for a son-in-law—a fact which required a good deal of swallowing, but sat kindly on the stomach once fairly gulped—the volatile creature was now all agog to have matters settled, and announce the engagement. It might not be all she had once expected for Iva, but it had its good points; undeniably it had some very good points.

Mr. Druitt might be five-and-forty years of age, and might have made his fortune in a Manchester warehouse; but the fortune was there, and Mr. Druitt himself was a man of whom no one need be ashamed.

Furthermore, he lived close by, and lived at the finest place in the neighbourhood. What if it had not belonged to his ancestors—it was his own. Sir Philip Goffe had inherited broad acres and could not keep them; Mr. Druitt owed no man a "Thank you," but reigned royally over the land he had rescued from destruction. Which was the better man?

"I shall give out that the match has my fullest approbation," concluded she, and beamed on Mr. Druitt in a way that pleased Mr. Druitt very much. He liked Lady Tilbury amazingly. He admired her little less than Iva. When he had either the one or the other to talk to he was almost equally happy, and a seat between the two, with no one else to interrupt and distract, was Paradise.

If only he could have been sure that Iva would be of her mother's mind, when he must needs spring upon them Amos!

CHAPTER XXX.

MR. DRUITT'S DINNER-PARTY.

Thursday evening—the evening of Mr. Druitt's dinner-party—had arrived, and if only old Father Stevens had been alive to see it, how his eyes would have gloated over the bustle of preparation, the hurrying to and fro of important-faced domestics, the many lights, the general joyous din within and without the mansion!

But the old doctor had passed away very shortly before, and there was no one now to peep from the hole in the wall, where the grass had grown long and rank, hiding it even more securely than before from the ken of passers-by.

Only Iva now and again cast a glance towards the spot where she and Reggie had once stood together, the while he pointed to this and that upreared turret and rugged outline, with his light laugh and careless jest—which had yet in it a wistful undertone, depriving her of all desire to join in the merriment.

Had Reggie forgotten the broken wall? He had said when he left that he should never see it again; but such sayings are not meant to be recorded. They are but the cries of pain from a sufferer whose wounds are fresh—and, the wound healed, would not the exile be amenable to reason?

"He would come if *I* asked him," reflected Iva, looking up at the grey pile, as the carriage conveying her and her mother to the dinner-party rolled loudly over the cobbles.

Iva was shivering with excitement, her eyes glittered, and there was a bright patch on either cheek. She would have preferred not to speak, but Lady Tilbury simply could not hold her tongue.

It was a great night for Lady Tilbury, and she had done honour to the occasion; Iva's delicate cream-tinted robe, with its rosy sprays and garlands, was not more suited to the lovely wearer, not more charming in itself, than her mother's pearl satin veiled in opal gauze.

"We must be at our best, Iva," Lady Tilbury had said early in the day.

"Why must we?" Iva, rather inclined to be captious and contradictory, had snapped round at this.

"Well, for the *house*," laughed Lady Tilbury. "To tell the truth, I feel as though Old Cary Hall itself had issued this invitation, not being able to endure its own solitude any longer. It is very wise of Mr. Druitt not to have attempted entertaining before. He has waited till he has made us all frantic with curiosity and eagerness, thinking we are never going to be asked. He has whetted our appetites for the feast. If he had begun by inviting people directly he had got the place into order, and before he had shown the sort of man they were to find, they would either have refused point-blank or gone to stare and criticise. They would have said it was simple 'cheek.' Oh, you needn't start, my dear!"—coolly—"you needn't

take up the cudgels on Mr. Druitt's behalf; I am quite as fond of him as you are; all I meant was that having come, as you know he *did* come, from nowhere, it behoved him to wipe out the Goffe sympathy, and neighbourly prejudice, and all that, before he could venture to hope for a hearing on his own account. I am lauding Mr. Druitt for his wisdom and patience and prudence."

"I don't believe Mr. Druitt ever thought of all that."

"If he did not, he hit on the right thing to do by instinct, which is better still," nodded Lady Tilbury, not to be put down. "Come, Iva, don't be silly! There is nothing to be cross about. We are going to enjoy ourselves to-night, you and I; and those huge gloomy rooms—though I daresay they will be lit magnificently—still, our best dresses will not look too grand."

Like Mrs. Amos Druitt, she took into account the dark oak pannelling; and, like her also, Lady Tilbury loved to be fine—on occasion. The difference between the two lay in this, that what with one was a normal with the other was an occasional passion. Mrs. Amos would have shuddered had she been asked to wear Lady Tilbury's favourite garden hat and skirt—but then perhaps Lady Tilbury would not herself have admired Mrs. Amos in them.

"Very well; I don't mind," said Iva, after a pause, during which she had looked from the window thoughtfully. After a moment's hesitation she crossed the room, and came and stood behind her mother's chair.

"I suppose it is all right?" she said in a low voice. "You know what I mean. I do like him; I think I could be happy with him. He is both good and pleasant; and if he cares for me"—her eyes filled and her voice trembled—"I have so few to love me—and oh, mother, you don't *know* how I long to be loved! Yes, dear"—in answer to an instant embrace—"*you* do; but I don't mean you." She sighed, and could not go on.

What could not be said was that the fond partiality of a widow who had already had two husbands, and who it was quite on the cards might have a third, or even a fourth—for why stint her? it was only wonderful that Sir Thomas had not already found a successor—that was hardly the precious gem so coveted, longed for, yearned for.

Lady Tilbury did not, it is true, fritter away her affection in driblets. Iva had the lion's share of what she had to give; but was it the poor woman's fault if the well from which the fountain flowed were a trifle shallow?

It was at any rate pure, sweet, and wholesome—and only of late had Iva found it insufficient.

"I know you were happy with Sir Thomas!" murmured she, inquiringly.

"That was I, honour bright, Iva."

"Yet you did not love him as you loved my father."

"Your father didn't deserve the love I gave him," said the widow, promptly. "He would have broken me heart if——"

"I know, but you loved him."

"Oh, I loved him—more shame to me."

"So. You loved him and were not happy with him—and you did not love Sir Thomas and *were* happy with him. 'Tis a queer world," said Iva, with a queer little quavering smile.

"So it is, darling; don't you worry about it. There's nothing so crooked but it pulls straight at last. But if you have any feeling *against* Mr. Druitt—any kind of 'grue'—do you dislike him to touch you?" demanded the mother suddenly.

"Oh, not at all. No indeed. It rests me to feel him near. I like to look into his kind eyes and feel the clasp of his kind hand. Mother, if I felt like *that*—as you say— if he woke any kind of repulsion in me——"

"That's it; one ought to be sure of that, Iva."

"But I don't. Oh, you can't think I would be so cruel to him, so false to myself, as to dream of marrying him with any feeling of that sort between us? You can't think that of me?" cried Iva, withdrawing her fondling arms and stepping back a pace. "How hateful—how wicked you would make me!"

Whereupon Iva's mother, with joy at her heart, protested and explained; and, in reality, was glad that the outburst had taken place and cleared the air.

For Iva was presently chatting away quite brightly and cheerily—having herself, for all her intenser moods, a touch of the mercurial Celtic blood—and as she ran upstairs after a while to give orders about her evening attire, the snatch of a song floated down behind her, and Lady Tilbury, peeping in upon the consultation later, found the bedroom all bespread with finery, and laughed to herself, well pleased, as she passed on.

Maud was not to go to the dinner, whereat Maud was very wroth; but the other two were of one mind on the occasion.

"Here we are, and here we go!" whispered Lady Tilbury, stepping into the carriage gay as a child embarking on a frolic. "Up with the windows, Iva, or we shall take cold, when we are both so excited—and I could not bring myself to heap on a fur cloak over these lovely sleeves—nor could you, I see." She had on a delicate summer opera cloak.

"We must take our chance," proceeded the lively lady, shrugging her shoulders. "I hope the rooms will be well warmed—but of course they will. He is not the man to neglect anyone's comfort, and we poor things in our low necks would be killed by draughts—Iva, where was it we were so miserable because the electric light had just been put in, and they had not reckoned on its being so cold?" And she prattled on.

A carriage was turning in at the gate, and another was passed in the avenue, returning empty from the front door.

"Isn't it fun?" cried Lady Tilbury. Perhaps the dean's wife would have reverted to her first impression had she heard. She never could be quite sure yet that Lady Tilbury, in spite of her "kind heart," was not rather a silly woman. Certainly, for a middle-aged lady of position, she had quite a ridiculous amount of animal spirits.

She now cleared the window pane from its trickling dew with a whisk of the carriage rug, and strained her eyeballs to see what she could see. "It looks like a place in a fairy tale, Iva—so weird and ancient, yet so gay. Who would ever have thought of seeing Old Cary Hall like this? There are—who *are* they? I wish I could see better. Who can those people be?"

Iva did not care who they were; her thoughts were otherwise engaged.

This beautiful place, these romantic halls, were they to be her home? Her present home was also beautiful and stately in its own way; but not like this. Tilbury Court had no vast recesses, no mystic archways, no historic memories.

She hoped—she did hope—Mr. Druitt would not look out of place in their midst.

It seemed a cruel hope, and one that ought not to have arisen. Had not Mr. Druitt already shown that he appreciated to its fullest extent the romance of such a dwelling? Had he not in quiet confidences betrayed the gentle enthusiasm with which it inspired him? She need not be afraid, and she shook off the passing shadow ere it had even been perceived.

(To be continued.)

Births.

BOORNE.—On the 8th August, at Hazelmere, Bromley, the wife of Herbert Huntley Boorne, of a son.

CUBITT.—On the 20th July, at Woodbury, Durham-avenue, Bromley, Kent, the wife of H. G. Cubitt, of a daughter.

HAMMER.—On August 6th, at Clock House-road, Beckenham, the wife of W. Hammer, of a daughter.

JENNINGS.—On the 3rd August, at Wanstead, Cedars-road, Beckenham, the wife of Cecil F. J. Jennings, of a son.

LOVELL.—On the 27th July, at St. Arvans, Grasmere-road, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Edgar Lovell, of a daughter

MOORE.—On the 16th August, the wife of Thomas William Moore, of Glen Aber, Bromley, of a daughter.

READY.—On the 5th August, at Chislehurst, the wife of Oliver G. Ready, of Hankow, China, of a daughter.

SPEYER.—On the 2nd August, at Timaru, Shortlands, the wife of Arthur A. Speyer, of a daughter.

STERN.—On the 22nd August, at Maythorn, Shortlands, the wife of Edmund Stern, of a daughter.

STURGES.—On the 16th August, at 25, Maple-road, Anerley, the wife of the Rev. M. C. Sturges, of a son.

VALENTINE.—On August 11th, at Whitcliffe, Grove Park, Kent, the wife of Charles R. Valentine, of a daughter.

WELLBY.—On the 20th August, at 96, West-hill, Sydenham, the wife of Howard Wellby, of a daughter.

Marriages.

ATKINSON—SECRETAN.—On the 5th August, at Holy Trinity, Anerley, Edward Hall Atkinson, to Marian Wade Secretan, eldest daughter of William Charles Secretan, of Anerley.

CHALMERS—THEOBALD.—On the 21st July, at St. Mary's, Lasham, Hants, by the Rev. F. Theobald, uncle of the bride, Kenneth Edlmann, younger son of Frederick Chalmers, of Bickley, Kent, to Agnes Jane, youngest daughter of the Rev. Charles Theobald, Rector of Lasham, Alton, Hants.

FURLONG—FINE.—On the 3rd inst., at the Parish Church, Beckenham, by the Rev. F. J. Hammond, brother in-law of the bride, John Richard Sheldon Furlong, Brynhyfryd, Dolgelly, N. Wales, only son of the late surgeon General Furlong, A.M.D., to Isabel Mary, third daughter of the late Robert and Annie Fine, of Maidstone, and Trottiscliffe Court, West Malling, Kent.

LEETHAM—BOWER.—At St. Giles-in-the-Fields, Bloomsbury, recently, by the Rev. Canon Benham, D.D., rector of St. Edmund King and Martyr, Lombard-street, assisted by the Rev. Hubert C. Green, M.A., St. Paul's, Beckenham, Herbert Rowe, second surviving son of William Leetham, J.P., Thanet College, Margate, to Phœbe, only daughter of the late W. G. Bower, of Upper Marine-terrace, Margate.

PARKER—FRAY.—On the 13th August, at St. Andrew's Church, Streatham, Ernest Samuel Parker, youngest son of the late Walter Parker, of the Parade, Beckenham, to Dorcas Amy Fray, daughter of Thomas Fray.

PFAEHLER—VAN ZELLER.—On the 20th July, at the Marienkirche, Hamburg, George, eldest son of Emil H. Pfaehler, of Beckenham, to Lilla, daughter of Consul-General Francisco van Zeller, of Hamburg.

STURGES—ELLIS.—On the 27th July, at St. Michael's, Brixton, by the Rev. Charles Sturges, brother of the bridegroom, Gerald B. Sturges, youngest son of Dr. Sturges, of Beckenham, to Ada, fourth daughter of the late Thomas Ellis, of Great St. Helen's, E.C.

Deaths.

BRIDGMAN.—On the 4th August, at Woodmore, Beckenham, William David Jones Bridgman, D.C.L., in his 88th year.

FELTOE.—On the 16th August, at Parkside House, Southend road, Beckenham, Francis Feltoe, aged 77.

GAINSFORD.—On the 25th July, at Keston, Mary Ann, wife of Joseph S. Gainsford, of Keston common, Kent.

HARDY.—On the 13th August, John Charles Hardy, of 23, Bush-lane, London, and of Milverdale, Bromley, Kent, aged 58 years.

HORNE.—On the 26th July, at Walden, Chislehurst, Kent, Mary Kirby, widow of the late Rev. William Horne, Minister of Dreghorn, Ayrshire.

MANN.—On the 2nd July, at Liverpool, Sydney, New South Wales, Kenneth, second son of the late Richard Mann, of Bromley, aged 34 years.

SMYTHE.—On the 12th August, at Woodside, Highland-road, Bromley, Pattie (nee Willoughby), wife of Francis Vernon Smythe.

WORSLEY.—On the 12th July, at Mizpah, Mount Lebanon, Rev. J. H. Worsley, aged 84.

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

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THE

DEPTFORD FUND.

GRAND CONCERT

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF

H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY,

GRAND HALL, BROMLEY,

Thursday Evening, November 3rd, 1898.

ARTISTES:

Madame BERTHA ROSSOW.

Madame SANDON.

Mr. CHARLES CHILLEY.

Signor FOLI.

Miss HENRIETTA MURKENS,
(Violin).

Mons. J. HOLLMAN,
(Violoncello).

Mr. F. LEWIS THOMAS,
(Pianoforte).

TICKETS: Numbered and Reserved 5/-. Reserved 3/-. First few Rows of Balcony 2/6. Admission 1/-.

Plan of the Hall may be seen and Tickets secured at Messrs. E. Strong & Sons, "Chronicle" Office, 14, Market Square, Bromley, Kent. Telephone Bromley 17.

Bromley Musical Society.

NINETEENTH SEASON.

Conductor - - - Mr. F. LEWIS THOMAS.

Leader of Orchestra - - - Mr. NORMAN BATH.

THIS Society will commence its Nineteenth Season on MONDAY, OCTOBER 10th, for the CHORUS, and on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11th, 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.	Artistes.
26th Nov., 1898.	Symphony No. 1 in C ... ... *Beethoven* Aria in D (Strings) ... ... *Bach* Hungarian Dances ... ... *Brahms* Ballet Music "La Reine de Saba" *Gounod* Suite for Flute ... ... *Godard* Overture, "Oberon" ... ... *Weber*	Mr. BANTOCK PIERPOINT. Miss AUKETT (Harp). Mr. ALBERT FRANSELLA (Flute).
20th Dec., 1898.	"Messiah" ... ... *Handel*	Madame CLARA SAMUELL. Madame EMILY HIMING. Mr. WILLIAM GREEN. Mr. BERTRAM H. LATTER.
4th March, 1899.	Overture "Egmont" ... ... *Beethoven* Pianoforte Concerto in G minor *Mendelssohn* Eligie (Strings) ... ... *Tschaikowsky* Gipsy Suite ... ... *German*	Miss GRAINGER-KERR. Mr. B. PATTESON PARKER. Miss READ (Solo Pianoforte).
25th April, 1899.	"Walpurgis Night" Dramatic Cantata ... ... *Mendelssohn* Overture "Jessonda" ... ... *Spohr* Part Song "Homeward" ... *Leslie* Dervish Chorus (male voices) *Beethoven* Choral Ballad "The Vikings" *Eaton Faning*	Mr. HERBERT GROVER. Mr. BERTRAM H. LATTER.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

ORCHESTRA .... £1 1s. CHORUS .... 15s.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE CONCERTS OF THE SEASON 10s. 6d.

The Seats for the Concerts are distributed amongst the Subscribers by ballot.

Full particulars with Programmes of Concerts and lists of Members and Subscribers, can be obtained from the Hon. Sec., EDWARD LATTER, Esq.,
Pixfield, Bromley, Kent.

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The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

OCTOBER, 1898.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

2nd.—*Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.*—Harvest thanksgiving services at the following places of worship:—Bromley Parish Church; St. George's, Bickley; St. John's, Bromley; Parish Church, Beckenham; Christ Church, Beckenham; Parish Church, Chislehurst; Church of the Annunciation, Chislehurst; and St. John's Mission Church, Chislehurst.

3rd.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court-House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board, at the Offices, Wharton-road, Bromley.—Meeting of the St. Luke's Burial Board, at St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common.

4th.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council, at the Council Offices, East-street, Bromley.—Annual meeting of the Chislehurst Gardeners' Mutual Improvement Association, at St. Mary Hall, Chislehurst West.—First evening lecture by Mr. H. E. Malden, M.A., on "The Local History of the South-Eastern Counties," at the Parish Room, West-street, Bromley, under the auspices of the Bromley Centre of the London Society for the Extension of University Teaching.

5th.—First meeting for the season of the Bromley Naturalists' Society, with microscopes and exhibits (ladies' evening).

6th.—Commencement of an afternoon course of ten lectures by Mr. Arnold Mitchell, F.R.I.B.A., on "English Architecture," illustrated by lantern slides, at the Parish Room, West-street, Bromley, in connection with the Bromley Centre of the London Society for the Extension of University Teaching.

7th.—Meetings of the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board and the West Kent Main Sewerage Board, at 96, High-street, Bromley.

9th.—*Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.*—Harvest thanksgiving services at the following local churches:—Beckenham Congregational Church; Elm-road Baptist Church, Beckenham; Holy Trinity Church, Lennard-road, Beckenham.

10th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the Beckenham Urban District Council, at the Offices, Bromley-road, Beckenham.

11th.—Opening of the Southborough Mission Room, Salisbury-road, Crown-lane, Bromley Common, in connection with the Bromley Common Baptist Church.

12th.—Lecture by Professor Flinders Petrie, D.C.L., LL.D., etc., professor of Egyptology, University College, on "Excavating in Egypt and its results," etc., at the Grand Hall, Bromley. The Right Hon. Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., in the chair, on behalf of the Bromley Literary Institute.—Special sermon by the Rev. Ossian Davies, at the Bromley Congregational Church, in connection with the Bromley Temperance Society.

13th.—Meeting of the Bromley Bible Flower Mission, at Ebberlee House, West-street, Bromley.

16th.—*Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.*

17th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board, at the Wharton-road Schools.

18th.—Meeting of Bromley Urban District Council at the Offices, East-street, 7.30 p.m.—Monthly sitting of the Bromley County Court, at the Court House, Bromley, before His Honour Judge Emden.

19th.—Christian Endeavour "Rally," at the Bromley Congregational Church.—Performance of "Our Regiment" at the Bromley Grand Hall, by the Bromley Amateur Dramatic Society.—Meeting of Bromley Naturalists' Society, when a paper will be read by Dr. Elijah Brown.

20th.—"Quiet Day" at Chislehurst Parish Church.

22nd.—Consecration of the new Church of St. Mark's, Bromley, by the Bishop of Dover, at 3 p.m.

23rd.—*Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.*

24th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

27th.—Concert at Camden House, Chislehurst.—Meeting of the Bromley Bible Flower Mission at Ebberlee House, West-street, Bromley.

30th.—*Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity.*

31st.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

This Authority resumed its fortnightly meetings after the summer vacation, on September 6th, and met again on the 20th. On both occasions there was a good deal of business on the agenda paper of a miscellaneous character.

Mr. Coles Child Claims Compensation.—At the meeting on September 6th, a letter was read from Messrs. Radcliffe, Cator and Hood, refusing, on behalf of Mr. Coles Child, the Council's offer of £20 for an easement through Mr. Child's land, for drainage purposes, and requesting the Council to communicate with Messrs. Baxter, Payne, and Lepper, upon the question of compensation.—The Surveyor was instructed to report upon the matter.—At the next meeting the Council dealt with the appointment of an arbitrator on their behalf, in committee.

Recreation Grounds and Gateways.—Some discussion arose upon a recommendation of the Recreation Ground Committee, dealing with the question of gateways on to the Whitehall Recreation Ground. It appeared that in several instances entrances on to the ground had been made from adjoining houses, and the Committee recommended

that unless the tenants paid the nominal sum of one shilling per year for the privilege, the gateways should be closed, after due notice.—Mr. Nye drew comparisons between cases of the White Hart Field and the Whitehall Ground. It was, he said, an invidious thing that an example should be made of poorer people, when richer persons and members of the Council were allowed to go free.—Mr. Lawrence agreed with the principle laid down in the recommendation, but considered that payment should be made by the owners of property and not by the tenants.—After more debate, the matter was referred back to the Committee, for further consideration.

Suggested Taxation of Ground Rents.—In a lengthy letter from Mr. H. H. Pain, of Pinewood, Highland-road, Bromley, the Council were urged to give its support to the movement in favour of taxing ground rents and land values. Mr. Pain pointed out that the ratepayers of Bromley had constantly to pay for the widening of thoroughfares and other improvements which enhanced the value of land in the locality, and he requested the Council to follow the example of the Bromley Board of Guardians in passing a resolution in favour of presenting a petition to Parliament for powers to rate for purposes of local taxation, not only ground rents, but also land values generally. A large proportion of the acreage of Bromley, he pointed out, was in the market for building purposes, and £600 per acre, he stated, would probably be a low estimate of its average selling value. Five per cent. on the money equalled £30 per acre per annum, but in the meantime until the owner could get his speculative price, the land was either held out of cultivation, or let to local dairymen and farmers at a rent of 30s. or thereabouts, the consequent result being that land-owners virtually escaped taxation, or, at any rate, nineteen twentieths of the taxation which the rest of the community had to pay. He added that resolutions favouring the proposal had been passed by over 250 Corporations, and Urban and District Councils.—The question was discussed at some length on September 20th, when Mr. Nye moved a resolution to the effect that, in the opinion of the Council, the incidence of taxation for imperial and local expenditure should be revised with a view to including ground rents and land values. Mr. Nye contended that it was only fair to the ratepayers that local governing bodies should be empowered to tax ground rents and land values, which were really due to the ratepayers as the result of their efforts and capital expenditure. The taxation of land values, whether the land were fully or partly used, or not used at all, would tend to compel the owner to put it to its best use, and would thus quicken industry in all directions.—Mr. Lord seconded the resolution.—Mr. Lawrence believed the proposal, if adopted, would tend to do away with the cursed system of leaseholds, under which land-owners reaped the benefit of tenants' industry, without paying anything.—Mr. Worley considered that land and land values might be left alone, as they were already taxed for imperial purposes. He was, however, in favour of the taxation of ground rents for local rates.—Mr. Dickins opposed the motion for several reasons. He considered it a matter outside their purview as a Council, and submitted that the proposal to levy a tax on ground landlords in opposition to covenants, which had been fixed under a solemn agreement between the lessee and lessor, was a very unfair one. The taxation of land values would, he said, only run up the value of land and the amount of ground rents. The only cure, to his mind, would be to alter the Poor Law Assessment Act, so that not only the value a property was let for from year to year could be taken into account, but also the value if the land were let for any ground rent period.—Mr. Hutchings expressed his personal belief in the principles of the taxation of ground rents, but considered it a matter outside his province as a member of the Council.—Mr. Grinsted said it was a political and imperial question with which they, as an Urban Council, ought not to meddle.—Mr. G. H. Payne was in favour of taxing ground rents, but failed to see how the taxation of land values would work.—The Chairman (Mr. W. R. Mallett), endorsed Mr. Grinsted's view, remarking that the Council was entrusted with the carrying out of certain Acts of Parliament, and not with the advising of the Government in the promoting of other measures. Land, he said, already bore the burdens of the country, while personalty was free from rating.—Upon the resolution being submitted, it was defeated by a majority of one, the voting being as follows:—For, Messrs. Nye, Lawrence, Lord, and Hutchings (4); against, Messrs. Dickins, Grinsted, D. Payne, Peill and Worley.

Mr. T. Davis Again Abroad.—Mr. T. Davis, one of the members for the Sundridge Ward, informed the Council, by letter, that he had had to undertake a second trip to Australia, and would, therefore, be absent until nearly Christmastide. He mentioned that two visits to the colonies within twelve months involved more wandering than he cared for, but he trusted that that would be the last time he would have to trespass on their forbearance.—The Chairman remarked that he was sure they all wished Mr. Davis a safe and prosperous journey.

An Employee's Position Simplified.—Upon the recommendation of a special committee, the Council decided, with reference to the conditions of employment of Mr. J. Attwood in connection with the work of inserting sewer junctions, to terminate the present arrangement, under which Mr. Attwood acted both as employee and contractor, and to engage him at a weekly wage of £2. He would have to devote all his time to the service of the Council and make the sewer connection in the Council's time.—Mr. Nye remarked that he was glad such an unsatisfactory system had been ended.

Light Railway Dropped.—The Council was officially informed, by the promoter's solicitors, that the London Southern Light (Electric) Railway Scheme had been abandoned, owing to opposition. If the feeling in the district became more favourable the application to the Light Railway Commissioners would be renewed at a future date.—Mr. Lawrence said the district had expressed no feeling whatever; it was merely that of the Council who did not know the needs of one half of the inhabitants.

Public Baths Proposed.—In a letter to the Council, Mr. H. A. Vallings, of Bickley, suggested the building of swimming baths in Bromley. He thought it would be an extremely popular undertaking, and of great benefit to all classes, and also that the interest on the expenditure and the annual cost of maintenance would be covered by the takings.—Mr. Nye remarked that there were only one or two public baths which were paying.—The matter was referred to the Sanitary Committee.

The High Street Fountain.—The Council acceded to a request from the Metropolitan Drinking Fountain Association to take over the maintenance of the drinking fountain in the High-street, Bromley, the Association having incurred a debt of £6,000 which necessitated a curtailment of expenses.

The Upper End of the High Street.—At the meeting on September 20th, the Highways Committee recommended the Council to acquire a piece

of land on the premises of Mr. Ferris, of 104, High-street, for the widening of the road at that point, and suggested the appointment of an arbitrator to act on their behalf.—It was stated that Mr. Ferris was about to re-build his premises; and Mr. Nye submitted that in that case Mr. Ferris would have to adopt the building line followed in the re-building of the "Star and Garter." In any case he thought the matter might be settled without recourse to arbitration.—In the course of a discussion, Mr. Grinsted supported the Committee's recommendation, stating that such matters were always better settled by arbitration.—The Chairman remarked that it would be unwise to lose the opportunity of widening that part of the High-street; and eventually the Committee's report was adopted, an amendment by Mr. Nye, in favour of the matter being referred back to the Committee, being rejected.

The Electric Lighting Chimney Shaft.—A letter was read at the meeting on September 20th, from Mr. W. A. Dickinson, of Aylesbury-road, stating that a petition against the erection of the chimney shaft at the Electric Lighting Company's Works in West-street, would shortly be presented to the Council. It was a most unsuitable site, and would, he said, be a great nuisance.—In reply to Mr. G. H. Payne, the Clerk stated that if the shaft were built in accordance with the byelaws, the Council had no power whatever to prohibit the erection of it.—Mr. G. H. Payne remarked that he hated the notion of a shaft being erected at the spot, but he did not anticipate any danger from it.

Miscellaneous.—Mr. E. G. Stray, of Kingston-on-Thames, was appointed as second assistant to the Council's clerk, at a salary of £50 per annum. —The Kent County Council intimated to the Council that they could not take any action towards securing land for allotments in the Shortlands Valley district.—The sum of £47 5s., it was announced, had been fixed by arbitrators as damages payable by the Council in connection with the carrying of a sewer through Turpington Farm.—Mr. Matthew Bates was re-appointed Inspector of Nuisances at a salary of £235 per annum, subject to the sanction of the Local Government Board.—Messrs. Rickett, Smith and Co.'s tender for the supply of house and steam coal and coke was accepted by the Council.—The question of providing a properly equipped ambulance for the town is to be brought forward at the next meeting by Mr. G. H. Payne.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

Since our last issue this Board has met on three occasions,—August 29th, and September 5th and 19th.

Land for Allotments.

Mr. Judd, at the meeting in August, proposed that the plot of land adjoining the Raglan-road Schools should be fenced in and let for allotment gardens.—This was seconded by Mr. F. Packham, and supported by the Chairman (Mr. C. W. Gedney), who remarked that allotments taught people thrift and did good in every possible way.—The Rev. R. Silvey feared the cost of fencing in would be too great, estimating that it would amount to between £150 and £200; and eventually Mr. Judd agreed to let the question of fencing stand over. The other part of his resolution was carried unanimously.

Bad Behaviour of Children.

The bad behaviour of the boys and girls of Bromley was drawn attention to at the same meeting by the Chairman, who suggested that the teachers in the schools might be requested to bring before the children the importance of behaving properly both in and out of school.—Mr. Judd feared that home influence had a good deal to do with the children's conduct.—Mr. Weeks referred to the frequency of complaints, but said it was a very difficult question to grapple with.—The Rev. R. Silvey thought the greatest trouble was with children who had left school.—The Chairman expressed a hope that they would be able to devise some means of mitigating, if not altogether removing the evil.

School Painting.

The tender of Mr. A. Maskell amounting to £168 10s. for the painting and repair of the Raglan-road school was accepted, and for similar work at the Aylesbury-road school, Messrs. Crossley and Son's tender for £37 was chosen.

Scholars' Attendance.

At the Board's meeting on September 5th, the School Attendance Committee reported upon the unsatisfactory attendance of children at all the elementary schools, after the summer holiday, the summary showing a percentage of only 81.—At the following meeting the Clerk reported that the attendance at the Board Schools for the week ending September 16th, was 80 per cent., as compared with 81 per cent. in the voluntary schools.—The Chairman commented upon the difficulty experienced in dealing with irregular scholars, in cases where the parents preferred paying the fines to sending their children to school, and he advocated vigorous prosecution in such cases.

Evening Continuation Classes.

Upon the recommendation of the School Management Committee, the Board decided to make application to the Technical Education Committee of the Bromley Urban Council for a grant, upon the basis of the revised regulations of the Technical Education Committee of the County Council, towards the cost of the evening schools. It was decided, at the same time, to re-open the usual evening classes for girls at the Wharton-road schools, and for boys and girls at the Raglan-road schools.

The Half-Yearly Rate.

The Board adopted, on September 20th, the Clerk's estimate for the rate for the half-year ending Lady-Day, 1899, the amount required from the Overseers being £3,350—equal to a rate of 4¼d. in the £. The summary of the estimated expenditure was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Administration				330	0	0
Maintenance:—						
Salaries	2086	0	0			
Books, etc.	280	0	0			
Fuel, etc.	370	0	0			
Rates, etc.	75	0	0			
				2811	0	0
Loans and Interest				1008	13	7
Miscellaneous				220	6	5
				4370	0	0
Deduct Assets				1020	0	0
Required				£3350	0	0

Dearth of Training Colleges.

Considerable discussion took place at the Board's meeting on September 20th, upon the subject of a petition—a copy of which had been received—which the London School Board had addressed to the Education Department, pointing out the great deficiency of training school accommodation, especially for women. Figures were quoted in support of the statement, and reference was also made to the fact that the accommodation in residential colleges was mainly denominational, and that the restrictions on admission resulted in

serious evils, which induced many students to conform to Church practices, not from conviction, but because of the advantages during training. They made a number of recommendations, such as the establishment of colleges under public management, the admission of students in order of merit, and the provision of a conscience clause for the protection of students at college.—The Chairman remarked that the memorial was a sweeping condemnation and it appeared that they were subsidising a condition of things which was a reproach to the country.—Miss Heppel said the Church paid for colleges, and had a right to appoint the students in them.—The Chairman said the Church did nothing of the kind; the capitation grant went to the maintenance of the colleges.—Mr. Weeks said if there were to be colleges provided out of the public funds, then they ought to be open and free, but if denominations contributed a certain proportion of the cost they had a right, in his opinion, to make a certain amount of selection.—Miss Heppel agreed that there ought to be more training colleges and undenominational ones.—The Rev. R. Silvey pointed out that the amount contributed by any denomination was an exceedingly small fraction of the cost, the bulk of which was borne by the State, and yet the Committee, who had control of the college, had the exclusive right of selecting students, and could reject the highest student in the first class in favour of the bottom-most candidate in the second class. In regard to the Church training colleges, it was, he said, a sine qua non that a man must either be a Churchman to gain admission, or must consent to be christened and confirmed.—Mr. Weeks thought they might petition in favour of more training colleges without condemning existing means for training teachers.—Mr. Amos did not see why the conscience clause should be excluded. It meant that a man with very little conscience would consent to be confirmed in order to gain admission, while a conscientious man would stand on one side and forego the advantages of the training. He was, he said, prepared to propose the sending of a petition in the terms of the one drawn up by the London School Board.—It was eventually agreed to adjourn further consideration of the subject, in order that the Clerk might get full statistics dealing with the matter.

The New Regulations.

Upon the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Judd, the new regulations made by the Board were formally adopted, and all previous rules rescinded. Copies of the new laws and other particulars had been printed in book-form at a cost of £6 15s. 0d.

MUSICAL GOSSIP.

In the inimitable "Biglow Papers" the Rev. Homer Wilbur is made to excuse himself for giving a long list of the "Literary, Learned, and Scientific Societies of which he was a (prospective) member" on the ground that a reader "is willing to trust himself more entirely to an author who writes under the fearful responsibility of involving the reputation of such bodies as the *S. Archæol. Dahom.*, or the *Acad. Lit. et Scient. Kamtschat.*" The passion for adding titles to one's name, which Lowell thus satirised appears in no wise to have diminished during the 30 years which have elapsed since he wrote, and judging from some paragraphs which lately appeared in "Truth," and correspondence in the Musical Magazines, it would seem that some members of the musical profession have caught the infection rather badly, and are in the habit of putting a row of initials after their names which signify little or nothing.

Bromley professors have hitherto been honourably free from this meanness; but the custom is spreading so widely, that it may not be out of place to suggest that any such titles which are not perfectly familiar, should be traced to their origin, and due weight given to them in judging of the probable merits (or demerits) of the wearer.

The announcement that the Bromley Musical Society will give a performance of the "Messiah" in December, will be heartily welcomed, for though familiar to all, Handel's masterpiece can never become hackneyed, and there are not a few for whom it has a charm not equalled by any other work. Among the more important orchestral compositions in preparation by the same society may be mentioned Beethoven's Symphony No. 1 in C, the overture to Jessonda (Spohr), which has not been previously heard in Bromley, and Gorman's Gipsy Suite.

The Bromley Philharmonic Society have in rehearsal for their first concert of the season the "Ode to the North-East Wind," and the "Wreck of the Hesperus"; a selection which suggests that Mr. Fertel has considerable confidence in the ability of the choir whose leadership he has undertaken.

Under the direction of Mr. F. Lewis Thomas, a concert will be given in the Grand Hall in November, on behalf of the Deptford Fund, for which a very attractive programme is promised.

The Meister Glee Singers will take part in the Phillips Hospital concert (on November 3rd), at which Madame Alice Gomez and other favourite artistes will also appear.

We understand that the occasional week night recitals at Bromley Parish Church will shortly be resumed; and the monthly musical service at St. Luke's will be continued as usual during the winter.

Cycling Accidents.—During the month of September, several serious cycling accidents occurred in this neighbourhood.—On Friday, September 2nd, Miss Alice Grant, aged 18, of 54, Brownhill-road, Catford, was killed in the Bromley-road, Southend, by being run over by a brewer's dray; and at the inquest held before Mr. E. N. Wood, deputy coroner, at the Lewisham Cemetery, on Tuesday, September 6th, a verdict of accidental death was returned.—Glass Mill-lane, Bromley, was the scene of a shocking bicycling mishap on Monday, September 12th, when Miss Lily Venning, aged 15, living with her parents at 24, Bromley-grove, Shortlands, received most serious injuries to her head. She lost control of her bicycle, and on reaching the bottom of the hill, was dashed against a lamp-post, her head and face being severely cut, but she is now recovering. —Several other accidents to cyclists were reported.

Death of Bishop Jenner.—The death took place on September 19th, at the age of 78, of Bishop Henry Lascelles Jenner, a member of the well known Chislehurst family, and himself a familiar figure in the parish. He was in his day a famous cricketer, and was appointed in 1866 to the See of Dunedin. He had held the living of Preston-cum-Wingham, near Canterbury, for a number of years.

The fortnightly meetings of the Beckenham Urban District Council were resumed, after the summer vacation, on September 26th. It was mentioned that the public baths, which are to be erected, would not be ready for use before the spring of 1900, at the earliest.

A new organ, estimated to cost about £2,000, is to be presented to the Bromley Congregational Church, by an anonymous friend.

KENTISH MONASTIC REMAINS.

BOXLEY ABBEY.

Of the once famous Abbey of Boxley, situated just under the North Downs near Maidstone, scarcely one stone remains on another. Unfortunately, the documentary sources of information as to the history of the place are almost equally scanty. What is lacking, however, in architectural remains and written records is abundantly atoned for by a wealth of traditions which have been popularly associated with this famous religious house. The history of Boxley Abbey occupies an important place in the annals of those monastic institutions of Kent which we have marked out for occasional notice in these columns.

Boxley Abbey is said to have been founded in the year 1144 by William de Ipre, Earl of Kent. According to some accounts, however, the date of foundation was 1146. The original inhabitants were Cistercian monks from the Abbey of Clare-

CHAPEL OF ST. ANDREW, BOXLEY, KENT.

valle in Burgundy. William de Ipre, the founder, afterwards became a monk himself at Laon, in France. King Richard I., in the first year of his reign (1189) gave to the Abbey the manor of Boxley with its appurtenances. This gift was confirmed by Henry III., who also granted a weekly market at Boxley. Upon the occasion of Pope Nicholas's taxation, in 1291, the value of the possessions of this Abbey was declared to be £62 14s. 7d. Five times during the reign of Edward I. the Abbot of Boxley was summoned to Parliament, an honour which was not repeated in any subsequent reign.

The rule of the Cistercian Order, to which this Abbey belonged, was originally the strictest of all the monastic orders. The Statutes of the Order tell us in detail the kind of life the monks were required to live, and it is possible to realise from them what were the occupations and daily routine of life of the Boxley monks. From a very early hour in the day until late at night a succession of duties had to be scrupulously performed, and on no excuse, save that of illness, was any part of them ever relaxed or modified. The brethren rose before day-break, attended the various canonical "hours," meditated, engaged in private devotions, and were not permitted to break their fast until about 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The food then provided was of the plainest and simplest character. Coarse brown bread and a few cabbages or other greens boiled in water without fat of any kind constituted their dinner. The addition of fat to the mess of greens was a luxury permitted only in the case of invalids.

The Cistercian family was divided into two distinct parts, the *monachi* and the *conversi*. All were equally monks in that they had taken the three monastic vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience, but only the former class were called monks. They spent their time in the church and cloister, and never left the precincts of the abbey except in cases of necessity. The conversi were employed in the manual work connected with the establishment, and in looking after the granges or outlying farms. These granges were governed by obedientiaries or officers chosen from amongst themselves. Many of the conversi lived at the various granges to which they were attached. A conversus could never become a monk, and it was absolutely forbidden to teach him letters. In short, the conversi were the working part of the community, the servants of the abbey, and the agents of the great establishments of which they formed part, transacting the purely commercial and secular business of the abbey.

The dress of the Cistercian (shown in the accompanying illustration) consisted of a white robe of the nature of a cassock, with a black scapular and hood. This was girt with a black woollen girdle. In choir they wore a white cowl, and over it a hood, with a rocket hanging down round before to the waist, and in a point behind to the calf of the leg. When they went abroad they wore a cowl and a large hood, all black. So much for the Cistercian Order in general.

To return to their Abbey at Boxley, one of the most remarkable features in the Abbey Church was a rood to which the brethren attributed many superstitions and marvellous virtues. The rood, it may be remarked, was a figure of our Lord crucified, and was generally accompanied by figures of the Blessed Virgin and St. John the Divine, one on each side. It was made of a large size and was so placed that it might be seen with ease from all the western

parts of the church. We still possess in many of our old churches the rood-screen (as at West Wickham, and Lullingstone, for instance), and in some examples the rood-loft, and the winding stone stairs giving access to it still remain.

The purpose of the rood-loft has been somewhat misunderstood, and popular ideas upon the subject have become somewhat confused by the numerous conflicting explanations which have at various times been offered by those who are supposed to know something about ecclesiological matters.

Probably the simple explanation is that the rood-loft was built for the convenience of those whose business it was to attend to the lights which were placed about the rood upon the occasions of festivals. It is also known that the rood-loft sometimes served as a gallery for the musicians who assisted in the services of the church.

The rood at Boxley Abbey, which created so much stir and attracted so many ignorant worshippers, was known as "The Rood of Grace"—a name which was given subsequently to the Abbey itself.

According to the account given in Lambarde's *Perambulation of Kent*, taken down on the testimony of the monks themselves, it seems that the rood was brought to the Abbey by a horse which had strayed from its owner. The monks allowed

A MONK OF BOXLEY ABBEY, KENT.

the animal to enter the church, whereupon he stopped beside a pillar, and there the rood was subsequently placed. When the owner overtook the horse and attempted to lead him out of the church no power could induce him to move, and the rood was so firmly rooted to the place that the united efforts of the monks were insufficient to move that also. The monks then persuaded the owner that this was a miracle, and induced him, by means of a gift of money, to go his way and leave the rood behind.

It appears that the figure on the rood had been very cunningly made by a French carpenter. It was constructed of wood, wire, paste, and paper, so as to be made to simulate, by means of secret mechanicisms, every variety of gesture. By means of this and other species of trickery the numerous pilgrims on their way to Canterbury were imposed upon, and induced to make gifts which greatly added to the riches of the Abbey. It was not until after the doom of the monasteries was really sealed that these disgraceful frauds were detected and exposed.

No register of the Abbey exists, so far as can be ascertained at present, and the following is only an imperfect list of the Abbots:—

Lambert, said to have been the first Abbot.

John, prior of Robertsbridge, was made Abbot in 1216.

Richard Shepey received the benediction as Abbot February 9th, 1415.

Robert Rayfell was Abbot in 1494.

John Dobbs, the last Abbot of Boxley, surrendered his house to the King on Jan. 29th, 1537. At the dissolution he had a pension of four marks; six had £4 each; and one £2 13s. 4d. The five last pensions were still paid in 1553.

It has been mentioned that the Abbey buildings at Boxley have been destroyed. This is literally true, for, although possibly the plan of the place might be recovered if the site were excavated and the foundations laid bare, nothing is now visible above the surface of the ground except the brick-faced piers of a stone gateway leading into a walled enclosure of about 15 acres, and a large barn.

There is one building still existing, however, which is worthy of note, although it never formed a part of the Abbey proper. This is the little wayside chapel of St. Andrew, which once stood close by the walls of the Abbey, and was designed for the use of devout pilgrims on their way to Canterbury. For many years past this building has been desecrated. It now forms two cottages, and the necessary partitions and staircases which have been added, in the process of adaptation for domestic use, have done much to conceal the architectural features of the interior. On the outside, however, there yet remain some doorways of mediæval date in a good state of preservation.

BROMLEY MUSICAL SOCIETY.

We would draw our readers' attention to the fact that the Bromley Musical Society starts its nineteenth season on Monday, October 10th for the Chorus and on Tuesday, October 11th for the Orchestra. Four concerts will be given during the season on the following dates:—November 26th, December 20th, March 4th, and April 25th. We have many times in the past laid stress on the most excellent 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. Those who are old residents in Bromley, are fully aware of how worthy the Bromley Musical Society is of their support, but we should like to especially emphasize the society's claims on all new comers. The neighbourhood is so largely increasing that the Bromley Society should be second to none in the provinces for numbers and efficiency. Madames Clara Samuell, Emily Himing-Aukett, Grainger-Kerr, Messrs. Herbert Grover, William Green, Bantock Pierpoint, Bertram H. Latter, and Patteson Parker are announced as soloists; Mr. Norman Bath being once more leader of the orchestra and Mr. F. Lewis Thomas for the nineteenth season, the conductor. 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. We should mention that seats unallotted to subscribers may be booked at the office of this paper, for fourteen days before each concert.

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DIARY OF SEPTEMBER.

3rd.—Bromley Football Club commenced the season by defeating the Metropolitan Railway Football Club at home.—Members of the Bromley Association of Elementary School Teachers were entertained at High Elms, Farnborough, by the Rt. Hon. Sir J. Lubbock, Bart., M.P.

4th.—Annual Church Parade in connection with the Chislehurst Oddfellows, at the Church of the Annunciation, Chislehurst.

5th.—Twenty-fourth appropriation, of £300, in connection with the Bromley, Beckenham, and District Mutual Building Society, secured by Mr. Deadman, of Farwig-lane, Bromley, at the rate of £29 per £100.

6th.—Annual cricket match between Bromley tradesmen and police, won by the former, and followed by a dinner at the "Bell Hotel, Mr. D. Grinsted presiding.

7th.—Recognition meeting at the Bromley Wesleyan School Room, to welcome the new ministers:—Rev. J. W. Simister, to Beckenham, and the Rev. G. R. Forde, to Widmore.—Open-air concert at the Bromley Conservative Club.—Garden Fete at "The Hall," Beckenham-road, Beckenham, in connection with the Alexandra Horticultural Society.—Inauguration meeting of the Beckenham Cycling Club, at the Church House, Beckenham.

8th.—Revision of the Voters' Lists for Bromley, Chelsfield, Chislehurst, Farnborough, and Mottingham, by Mr. W. P. Eversley, barrister, at the Urban Council Offices, Bromley.

11th.—Death of the Rev. F. J. Kelly, M.A., LL.B, vicar of Farnborough.—Special sermons on behalf of the East London Church Fund, preached at St. John's Church, Bromley, by the Rev. A. B. Winter, chaplain to the Bishop of Stepney.

12th.—Revision by Mr. W. P. Eversley of the Voters' Lists for Beckenham, Hayes, West Wickham, and Keston, at Beckenham.

13th.—Public meeting, presided over by Sir G. Williams, in celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Bromley Common Iron Room, Great Elms-road, when the founder, Mr. M. H. Hodder, was presented with a carved chair and stool, a clock and framed text, by the congregation.

15th.—Annual audit of the Bromley Urban Council's accounts, by Mr. W. G. Cox, assistant district auditor, at the Offices, East-street, Bromley.

18th.—Harvest thanksgiving services at the Bromley Baptist Church, Beckenham Wesleyan Church, the Wesleyan Church at Widmore, and the Salvation Army Barracks, Bromley.

21st.—Presentation and "welcome home" at the Farwig Wesleyan Mission, Bromley, to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Gibbs, upon their marriage, the gift consisting of a handsome grand piano.

22nd.—Local Government Board Inquiry at Bromley, into the Urban Council's application to borrow various sums of money for widening the culvert at Homesdale-road, constructing an underground convenience in the Market Square, and surface water drainage works.

23rd.—Annual dinner of the Snowflakes Cricket Club, at West Wickham.

25th.—Harvest festival services at St. Mark's and Christ Church, Bromley, Congregational Church and Wesleyan Church, Bromley, and the Farwig Wesleyan Mission.—Monthly Musical Service at St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common.

RUFFIANISM AT BROMLEY.—A serious case of ruffianism came before the Bromley Bench, on Monday, September 12th, when George Harris, a dairy-farmer, of Hayesford Farm, Bromley Common, charged Augustus F. Castle, of Havelock-road, Bromley Common, with assaulting him at Masons Hill, Bromley, on the previous Saturday night.—From prosecutor's evidence, it appeared that he was going home, in company with his brother-in-law, on the night in question, when they were surrounded by about thirty or forty young men, who knocked them down and kicked them. The only reason the prosecutor could give for the assault was that he had discharged a man from his employ.—The brother-in-law corroborated; and the Bench sentenced Castle to one month's hard labour.—On Tuesday, September 13th, Henry Beecroft, of Havelock-road, Bromley Common, was bound over by the Bromley Bench to keep the peace, himself in £10, and one surety for £5, for six months, he having used threats towards Mr. George Harris.

BREWSTER SESSIONS AT BROMLEY.—The annual Brewster Sessions for the Bromley District were held on Monday, August 22nd, at the Courthouse, when a memorial was presented to the Bench by a deputation on behalf of the Bromley District Temperance Union, urging the justices to consider the question of taking steps to reduce the number of licensed houses in such congested districts as Bromley Common, Masons Hill, High-street, and Market Square, and to specially consider such houses as supplied drink to young children, and as had little accommodation for travellers and had back door entrances, so increasing the difficulty of police supervision.—The Chairman said the Bench were unable to take any action in the direction suggested on that occasion, but they would take great care to see that the law was carried out.—Three applications for new off-licences on the Birkbeck estate, Beckenham, were made and refused, as was also a similar application by Mr. J. Goodwin, of Orpington.—On Monday, September 26th, the adjourned licensing sessions took place, when there were four applications for new licenses. Mr. J. Flanagan applied for an off-licence at Avenue-road, Beckenham; Mr. J. E. White asked for a similar licence, also at Beckenham; Mr. W. L. Fox, of Beckenham, made a like application; while Mrs. Brown, of Bromley Common, applied for an extension of her beer-on to a full licence.—In the end all the applications were refused.

"A BUNCH OF VIOLETS."—Mr. W. Morton, lessee of the Bromley Grand Hall, has arranged for a performance of the Haymarket success entitled "A Bunch of Violets," at Bromley, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, October 13th, 14th, and 15th.

Obituary.

THE HONBLE. MRS. WILDE, BROMLEY.

On Friday, September 23rd, an old resident of Bromley, in the person of the Honble. Mrs. Emily Wilde, passed away, after an illness of some months' duration. The deceased lady, who was 76 years of age, was the widow of the Honble. Thomas Montague Carrington Wilde, and she had lived in Bromley for the past fifteen years. The sad event occurred at her residence, Egerton Lodge, Park-road, and the funeral took place on the following Tuesday at Lee Cemetery, the officiating clergy being the Rev. Broughton Leigh, and the Rev. W. Hodgson. The mourners were Lord Truro (son), Mr. J. H. Stringer, Miss Harriet Chapman, Mrs. Chalk, Miss Hannah Chapman, Mr. Montie Chapman, Miss Nellie Chapman, the deceased lady's nurse, Mr. and Mrs. Dolling Smith, Mr. Steadman, and Mrs. Winter and others. The coffin, which was covered with a number of beautiful floral tributes, was of polished oak, with massive brass furniture, with breast plate and a Latin cross, the inscription being as follows:—

Honourable Mrs. Emily Wilde.
Born 3rd February, 1822.
Died 23rd September, 1898.
Requiescat in pace.

MR. J. BATEMAN, BROMLEY.

Another Bromley resident of long-standing passed away at the end of the past month, in the person of Mr. John Bateman, who for some years past had lived with Mr. J. E. Walker, his son-in-law, at "Ravenswood," Ethelbert-road, Bromley. The deceased gentleman was 68 years of age, and his death took place on September 26th.

MR. G. DE VINS WADE, CHISLEHURST.

Mr. George de Vins Wade, the father of Dr. Wade, of Chislehurst, passed away on September 5th, at the advanced age of 94 years. The funeral took place on September 9th, at Chislehurst Parish Churchyard, amid every manifestation of sympathy. The principal mourners were Dr. Wade and Mr. W. Wade (sons), Mr. de Vins Wade, Mr. Armige Wade, Dr. Leonard Grant, Colonel Chrystie, Mr. Henry M. Pryor, Mr. Boucher-Clarke, and the servants at Ivy Lodge. A large number of beautiful wreaths were deposited on the coffin. The interment was made in the grave of the deceased's wife, who pre-deceased him on December 18th, 1895.

THE REV. F. J. KELLY, M.A., FARNBOROUGH.

The death occurred somewhat suddenly on Sunday morning, September 11th, of the Rev. F. J. Kelly, M.A., LL.B., vicar of Farnborough, who was staying, at the time, at the residence of Mr. Ballard, Farnborough. Mr. Kelly had been unwell for some time, but his indisposition was not regarded as serious, and on the day before his death he paid a visit to Bromley. Early on the Sunday morning, however, his wife was awakened by his heavy breathing, and he passed away before medical aid arrived, the cause of death being failure of the heart's action. The reverend gentleman was in his 53rd year, and for thirteen years had faithfully laboured as Vicar of Farnborough. He was the son of a clergyman of the Church of England, and commenced his education at St. Paul's School, London, afterwards entering Trinity College, Dublin, where he took his degrees. After practising for six years as a solicitor in London, he was admitted to Holy Orders by the Bishop of Lichfield, and ordained to a curacy at Keele, Staffordshire, afterwards accepting the curacy of Orpington, where he laboured for several years before being presented to the living of Farnborough. On taking up his new charge, he found things at a very low ebb. The services at the church were only occasional, while there were no parochial organisations of any sort. He thus found plenty to do, and under his guidance, Sunday Schools, a lending library, penny bank, clothing, shoe, and coal clubs, reading and recreation club, mothers' meetings, parochial guild, Bible classes, and other useful institutions were called into existence. He was instrumental in the building of the present chancel at a cost of £1,100, and also had a good deal to do with the erection of the Parish Room. He was an assiduous member of the Board of Guardians for many years, and subsequently acted as a member of the Rural District and Parish Councils, when those bodies were established, but he withdrew at the last election, when his return was challenged for the first time.

The funeral took place on Wednesday, September 14th, at Farnborough churchyard, amid every sign of respect and sorrow. The mourners were the widow and son, Mr. F. G. M. Kelly, Mr. and Miss Dines, brother and sister of the widow, and Mr. Turner. There was a large attendance of parishioners and others, and the burial service was impressively conducted by the Rev. E. R. Parr, vicar of Chertsey, Surrey—a lifelong friend of the deceased—Rev. A. J. Pulling, of Keston (formerly curate at Farnborough), and the Rev. P. H. Percy, chaplain to the Workhouse. Many beautiful floral tributes were sent by sorrowing relatives and friends.

MRS. CONSTABLE, KNOCKHOLT.

Mrs. Constable, a very old resident of Knockholt, died suddenly last month, at her residence, Strawberry Cottage, Knockholt. An inquest was not deemed necessary.

A Chislehurst Sensation.—The village of Chislehurst was somewhat startled by some shocking revelations made at an inquest held by Mr. Deputy Coroner E. N. Wood, and a jury, at the Chislehurst Village Hall, on September 13th, touching the death of a poor woman named Margaret Wickens who had died under very distressing circumstances, at 8, Camden Flats, Chislehurst, on the previous Sunday. It transpired that the deceased had been shockingly neglected and was in a filthy condition, as was also the house, and application had been made to the relieving officer (Mr. H. L. Hodsdon), to give an order for the woman's admission to the Workhouse, but this was refused on the ground that it was not a case of destitution, the woman's husband and son earning together 38s. weekly. The Coroner strongly commented on the relieving officer's action, and the jury, in returning a verdict to the effect that death was due to pleuro-pneumonia, added a rider censuring the husband for his reprehensible conduct in neglecting his wife, and ordering the relieving officer's action to be reported to the Guardians, while a neighbour, Mrs. Adams, was commended for the assistance she had rendered to the deceased.—The Bromley Guardians subsequently held an exhaustive inquiry into the relieving officer's action, and while expressing their regret that he did not personally visit the case, after receiving a report, stated that they were unable to agree with the Deputy Coroner's strictures on his conduct, and accordingly exonerated Mr. Hodsdon from all blame.

Mr. T. Davis, a member of the Bromley Urban District Council, has started on a second visit to Australia.

NEW LOCAL WESLEYAN MINISTERS.

On Wednesday evening, September 7th, a recognition meeting to welcome the Rev. J. W. Simister to Beckenham, and the Rev. G. R. Forde to Widmore, was held at the Bromley Wesleyan Schoolroom. There was a large attendance, and interesting addresses were given.—The Rev. J. Walthew Simister, the newly-appointed minister of the Beckenham Wesleyan Church, began his ministry in Liverpool as a colleague of the Rev. Charles Garrett. Having spent three years in that city, he removed to the Deptford and Brockley circuit, after which he spent nine years in Yorkshire—in Leeds (Oxford Place), Harrogate, and Scarborough. From there he went to Clifton, Bristol, and came direct from there into this district.—The Rev George R. Forde, who is stationed at Widmore, was born in Belfast. He was trained at Richmond College, and on leaving there went out to the Transvaal, where he laboured for nearly two years, but had to return on account of ill-health. After acting as temporary supply at Eastbourne and Dorking, he was appointed Wesleyan Chaplain to the Brigade of Guards at the London garrison, which appointment he relinquished in order to come to Bromley.

NOTABLE COMING EVENTS.

The eminent Egyptologist, Professor Flinders Petrie, will give a lecture entitled "Excavating in Egypt and its Results," at the Bromley Grand Hall, on Wednesday, October 12th. Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., will preside. For particulars see advertisement.

A grand concert, on behalf of the Deptford Fund, is to be given at the Bromley Grand Hall, on Thursday, November 3rd. The artistes will include Madame Bertha Rossow, Madame Sandon, Mr. Charles Chilly, Signor Foli, Miss Henrietta Murkens, Mons. J. Hollman, and Mr. F. Lewis Thomas. The concert is under the distinguished patronage of H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany.

A highly interesting evening is promised for Friday, November 11th, when that well known scientist, Dr. Dallinger, F.R.S., is to lecture on "Spiders: their work and their wisdom," with a glance at mind in animals, at the Grand Hall, Bromley. The lecture will be illustrated by original transparencies from nature prepared by the lecturer. Further particulars in our advertising columns.

INTERESTING PRESENTATION CEREMONIES.

The twenty-fifth anniversary meeting at the Bromley Common Iron Room, Homesdale-road, on Tuesday, September 13th, was the occasion of an interesting presentation to Mr. M. H. Hodder, the founder and superintendent of the Mission. Sir George Williams presided, and on behalf of the members of the Mission, presented Mr. Hodder, with a handsome carved oak chair, with stool attached, a clock, and a framed text, in recognition of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the opening of the Mission.

On Wednesday evening, September 24th, a social gathering was held at the Farwig Wesleyan Mission, Bromley, the object of which was to "welcome home" the esteemed honorary secretary, Mr. William J. Gibbs, and Mrs. Gibbs, after their marriage. The gathering, at which there was a very large attendance, was marked for its heartiness and cordiality, and during the evening a presentation was made to Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs. The gift, which took the form of a handsome upright iron grand piano, by Ibach, in ebony, had been subscribed for by members and friends connected with the Mission, and it was inscribed as follows:—"Presented to William James Gibbs, from the members and scholars and friends of the Farwig Mission, on the occasion of his marriage, September 6th, 1898."

Mr. Wells made the presentation, and representatives of the different religious agencies connected with the Mission, also addressed the meeting.

NEW VICAR OF ORPINGTON.

The Rev. W. D. May, M.A., was on Monday, September 26th, instituted, by the Primate, to the Vicarage of Orpington, in the place of the Rev. F. Chevenix Trench. Mr. Walter Dunstan May, lately vicar of Brabourne, St. Mary, with Monks Horton, St. Peter, Kent, was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, ordained deacon in 1884, and priest a year later in the Bath and Wells diocese. He was curate of Yatton, Somerset, from 1884 to 1887, and for the next three years was at the Church of St. Michael and All Angels, Paddington. After a further term of three years as curate of All Saints', Acton, he was appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, vicar of Brabourne in 1893, resigning that position last year. The Brabourne living is of the annual value of £300 with vicarage, and the population of the combined parish about nine hundred. Orpington All Saints' with St. Andrew's is a much larger parish, the population being over four thousand. The net value of the living is £420 per annum, with a vicarage, and a portion of the income is paid by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, subject to the employment of one or more curates. The late vicar, Rev. H. F. Chevenix-Trench had two curates.

MODERN ART CULTURE.

Mr. Frank Spenlove-Spenlove, R.B.A., and Principal of the "Spenlove" School of Art, "Yellow Door" Studios, Beckenham, will, on October 5th, deliver an important address before the Art Society, Free Library, Belfast, the subject being "Modern Art Culture, and Appreciation of Decorative Art in our Industrial Centres." The chair will be taken by the Lord Mayor of the City.

Bromley Tradesmen and Police.—The annual cricket match between the Bromley Tradesmen and Police was played on the Plaistow cricket field on Tuesday afternoon, September 6th, and a very pleasant game resulted in favour of the tradesmen by 219 runs to 171. In the evening the annual dinner took place at the Royal Bell Hotel, Bromley. Mr. Daniel Grinsted presided, and the vice-chair was occupied by Detective-Inspector Fox. A capital repast was provided, and this was done full justice to by the company who numbered over 150. The usual toasts were afterwards proposed, and responded to, and an enjoyable programme of vocal and instrumental music was carried out by local artistes.

The Rev. H. A. Curtis was formally inducted into the living of Cudham, on Saturday, September 17th. The formality of induction was conducted by the Rev. Canon Murray, of Chislehurst, Rural Dean, in the absence of the Archdeacon of the Diocese.

Pickhurst Wood on Fire.—A rather serious outbreak of fire occurred at Pickhurst Wood, Hayes, on the morning of Sunday, September 11th. The Bromley Fire Brigade were called at about one o'clock, and immediately proceeded with the manual to the scene of the outbreak, which was found to be in that part of the wood adjoining the residence of Mrs. Devas. The brigade quickly got to work, and after extinguishing the small fire in a meadow close to the wood, directed their efforts to subduing the outbreak in the wood, which was fast assuming large proportions. The flames had secured a good hold of the peaty soil, and it was not until about seven o'clock in the evening that the flames were extinguished, and the Fire Brigade able to return to Bromley. The firemen were greatly assisted in their work by a body of men under the superintendence of Mr. Stokes, of Coney Hall Farm.

The South-Eastern and London, Chatham, and Dover Railways' Joint Committee have appointed Mr. John Morgan and Mr. Charles Sheath as joint secretaries. The committee have also appointed Mr. Alfred Willis as the general manager; Mr. William Forbes the assistant general manager; Mr. Percy C. Tempest the engineer; Mr. R. Barker, the assistant engineer; and Captain George F. Dixon the marine superintendent.

The Bromley Amateur Dramatic Society gives its next performance on Wednesday, 19th October, when they will present "Our Regiment," a bright, pretty, and amusing comedy, at the Bromley Grand Hall.

Mr. Justice Hawkins will preside at the Autumn Assizes of the South-Eastern Circuit, at Maidstone, where the case of Dr. Wallace will be tried.

Mr. R. B. Berens, J.P., and Mr. E. H. Joynson have given a site for a new fire station at St. Mary Cray, which is to be erected at a cost of £550.

The date of the consecration of the new church of St. Mark, Bromley, has again been altered. The ceremony will now take place on Saturday, October 22nd, and will be conducted by the Bishop of Dover.

Alderman and Sheriff F. P. Alliston, of Beckenham—whose career was sketched in our last issue—was on Monday, September 26th, at the Cordwainers' Hall, presented with a handsome chain of office, as a testimonial from the Bread-street Ward, which he has represented for twenty years on the Court of Common Council.

The death took place last month of Mrs. Eden, widow of the late Canon Eden, of Sedgefield, Durham, and mother of the Bishop of Wakefield (formerly Bishop of Dover). She expired after a short illness at Belvedere Vicarage, where, with her son, the Rev. F. N. Eden, she had resided for the past six years.

Bromley Hockey Club commenced the season with a match against the Crystal Palace on Saturday, October 1st, at Bromley.—At the annual meeting, held on September 14th, Mr. P. R. Earnshaw was elected captain of the first team. The financial report showed a balance in hand of £12 10s. 10d.

The electric lighting works at West-street, Bromley, are making good progress, and it is expected that the new illuminant will be on supply towards the end of this month. Two huge boilers arrived a few days ago, and the greater part of the machinery is now in the works.

The Dowager Countess of Derby, who has been ill for some time, has during the last month made steady though somewhat slow progress. Her ladyship is stronger, and has been able to enjoy walking and carriage exercise for longer periods at a time.

Sir J. Lubbock and Bromley Teachers.—On Saturday, September 3rd, Sir John and Lady Lubbock entertained the members of the Bromley Teachers' Association at High Elms, Farnborough. The party numbered about one hundred, and a very enjoyable time was spent in inspecting the grounds, and a fine collection of curios, which were shown by Sir John. Tea was provided on the lawn, and before the gathering broke up, Mr. Churchill (headmaster of Bromley National Schools), addressing Sir John and Lady Lubbock, expressed the teachers' appreciation of the hospitality shown to them.—In reply, Sir John Lubbock referred to the pleasure it had given Lady Lubbock, his children, and himself, to see them all present. There was, he said, a tendency observable to migrate from the country to the town, but if people had their eyes open they would not want to do anything of the kind. The burden and responsibility of teaching was not easy, although he was glad to see on looking round that it did not seem, so far, to have affected their health. (Applause.) It had given them great pleasure to see the teachers there that afternoon. (Applause.)

Presentation to Mr. H. W. Soutter.—At a meeting of the teachers of the Bromley Wesleyan Sunday School, on Friday evening, Sept. 30th, the Rev. T. H. Whitamore presiding, Mr. H. W. Soutter, who has held the position of afternoon superintendent for the past 14 years, handed in his resignation in view of his departure in a few days for South Africa. On the motion of Mr. F. J. Hughes, a resolution was passed thanking both him and Mrs. Soutter for their valuable services, and the former was also made the recipient of an address, and an album containing the photographs of all the teachers.

Mrs. Mackay, the American millionairess, has terminated her stay at Bromley Palace, which she rented from Mr. Coles Child, J.P., for about ten weeks.

The Rev. F. Y. Orlebar, M.A., was on September 26th, licensed by the Archbishop of Canterbury to the Curacy of St. George's, Bickley.

Sir William Hart Dyke, M.P., has given nine acres of land adjoining Swanley Junction Station to be used as a recreation ground.

Owing to pressure on our space we are compelled to hold over the story of "Iva Kildare" until next month.

Births.

Balme.—On the 6th September, at Inglewood, Chislehurst, the wife of Nettleton Balme, of a daughter.

Chater—On the 3rd September, at Blackmore, Shortlands, the wife of Frank K. Chater, of a daughter.

Clay.—On the 5th September, at Fairlea, Beckenham, the wife of Charles B. Clay, of a daughter.

Havelock—On the 2nd September, the wife of Richard Havelock, 27, Wheathill-road, Anerley, of a daughter.

Graty.—On the 4th September, at Collingtree, Cambridge-road, Bromley, the wife of Thomas D. Graty, of a daughter.

Lees.—On the 15th September, at Ambleside, Croydon-road, Beckenham, Kent, the wife of Arthur J. Lees, of a daughter.

Walthew.—On the 31st August, at Barming, Tennison-road, South Norwood, the wife of Fredk. H. Walthew, of a son.

Marriages.

Chambers — Helby. — On September 14th, at St. George's, Bickley, Kent, by the Rev. Canon Damell, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Rice and the Rev. F Orlebar, Leonard Drysdale, third son of F. D Chambers, Esq., of Alton Lodge, Carshalton, Surrey, to Kathleen Maude, fourth daughter of J. T. Helby, Esq., of Glengarriff, Bickley, Kent.

GIBBS—ROSE.—On the 6th of September, at Mildmay Park Wesleyan Chapel, by the Rev. Thomas Cook, William James, eldest son of John Gibbs, of Campbell House, Bromley, Kent, to Ada, daughter of the late G. E. Rose and Mrs. Rose, 1, Kelross-road, Highbury New Park, N.

HUGHES—SULLIVAN.—On the 10th September, at The Priory, Haverstock-hill, Sidney Baldy Hughes, of Beckenham, to Kate Sullivan, daughter of the late John Sullivan, of Westminster.

ILOTT—HVISTENDAHL.—On September 15th, at St. Mary Magdalene's, Enfield, by the Rev. George Passand Turner, vicar, Montague, youngest son of the late Mr. James William Ilott, of Beechfield, Bromley, Kent, to Barbra Helene Due, fourth daughter of Herre Johan Christian Hvistendahl, of Burötangen, Kragero, Norway.

LAYNE—CONDY.—On the 7th September, at St. John's, Penge, by the Rev. W. Smyly, M.A., assisted by the Rev. G. Martin, M.A., Charles Edward Layne, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, to Annie, daughter of P. J. Condy, of Anerley.

PETYT—HAMMERTON.—On the 8th September, at the Parish Church, Beckenham, Kent, by the Rev. W. St. John Field, M.A., Allan 1. Petyt, M.A., M.B., B.C. (Cantab), L.S.A. (Lond.), of Loughton, Lancs., to Kate, second daughter of Thomas Moy Hammerton, "Hollington," Beckenham.

SIMPSON—WARD.—On the 25th August, at Holy Trinity Church, Anerley, by the Rev. J. Kyle, Frank Moncreiff, son of the late Archibald M. Simpson, of Nellore, Madras, to Mary Elizabeth, youngest daughter of John Ward, of 1st Fairholme, Northallerton, and niece of Robert S. Malkin, of Croydon-road, Anerley, S.E.

SIMPSON—WARD.—On the 25th August, at Holy Trinity Church, Anerley, Frank Moncreiff Simpson, to Mary Elizabeth Ward, niece of Robert S. Malkin, of Croydon-road, Anerley.

THORPE—RAY—On Sept. 15th, at St. Catherine's, Hatcham, by the Rev. J. K. Hawker, Chaplain of Croydon Infirmary, Edwy Frank Thorpe, only surviving son of the late Fredk. Thorpe, of Gravesend, to Lizzie, youngest daughter of the late James Ray, Esq., of Bromley, Kent, and 38, Upper Thames-street, E.C.

WALKER—SIMM.—On the 3rd September, at St. Augustine's, Honor Oak Park, by the Rev. Percy White Collard, M.A., the vicar, James Walker, of West-hill, Crystal Palace, to Florence Emily, second daughter of William George Simm, of Wood-vale, Honor Oak, S.E.

Deaths.

BRYCE-BROWN.—On the 29th August, at Herne Bay, Lionel Bryce, infant son of James Bryce and Edith Bryce-Brown, of Anerley, aged 6 weeks.

CAYLEY.—On August 29th, at Holmdene, Bickley, Kent, Clara Louisa Cayley, wife of John Cayley, Esq., of same place.

HANDS.—On August 27th, at Ramsgate, after a short illness, Margaret, widow of the late George William Hatton Hands, of 29, Oakfield-road, Penge.

HARRISON.—On the 25th August, at Brighton, Charles William Harrison, of Whitmores, Beckenham, in his 62nd year.

KELLY.—On the 11th September, at Farnborough, the Rev. Frederick Jessop Kelly, Vicar of Farnborough, Kent, aged 52 years.

LEETE.—On the 31st August, at Rosedene, Howden-road, South Norwood, Warren, second son of Joseph Leete, of Eversden, South Norwood Park, aged 36 years.

RISHWORTH.—On the 26th August, at 22 Penge-road, South Norwood, Sherwin Rishworth.

THORNE.—On the 10th September, at the Grange, Beckenham, Alfred Thorne, late of Paterson, New Jersey, and American representative of L.C. and D. Railway, ag 56.

WADE.—On the 5th September, at Ivy Lodge, Chislehurst, the residence of his son, G. Herbert Wade, George de Vins Wade, aged 94 years.

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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Statement of Accounts of

THE UNION BANK OF LONDON, Limited,

On 28th MAY, 1898.

LIABILITIES.

Dr.	£	s.	d.
Capital and Reserve Fund ...	2,555,000	0	0
Deposits and Current Accounts,	15,317,784	18	4
Acceptances and Liabilities by Endorsement	1,981,458	18	2
Other Liabilities	359,222	3	7
	£20,213,466	0	1

ASSETS.

Cr.	£	s.	d.
Cash in hand and at Bank of England	2,654,339	19	2
Money at Call and Short Notice,	3,193,000	0	0
Investments—including Reserve Fund	2,941,958	2	5
Discounts, Loans, and other advances	8,847,027	6	7
Liability of Customers on Acceptances and Endorsements ...	1,981,458	18	2
Bank Premises and other Assets,	595,681	13	9
	£20,213,466	0	1

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PROFESSOR FLINDERS PETRIE,

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THE

DEPTFORD FUND.

GRAND CONCERT

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF

H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY,

GRAND HALL, BROMLEY,

Thursday Evening, November 3rd, 1898.

ARTISTES:

Madame BERTHA ROSSOW.

Madame SANDON.

Mr. CHARLES CHILLEY.

Signor FOLI.

Miss HENRIETTA MURKENS,
(Violin).

Mons. J. HOLLMAN,
(Violoncello).

Mr. F. LEWIS THOMAS,
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UNITED

Foreign Missionary Convention,

GRAND HALL, BROMLEY,

☛ NOVEMBER 16th, 17th, 18th & 19th.

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 16th.

UNITED PRAYER MEETING,

EIGHT p.m.

Chairman - - - Rt. Hon. Lord Kinnaird.

ADDRESS by Rev. C. G. MOORE,
Keswick Conference Council.

THURSDAY, Nov. 17th.

MISSIONARY MEETING,

7.30 p.m.

Chairman - - - - - Sir W. Lee-Warner.

Speakers—

Rev. H. E. FOX,
Hon. Sec. Church Missionary Society.

Rev. ARNOLD FOSTER,
(China) London Missionary Society.

Rev. W. WRIGHT HAY,
(India) Baptist Missionary Society.

FRIDAY, Nov. 18th.

LADIES' MEETING,

3 p.m.

President - - - - Mrs. Theodore Howard.

Speakers—

Miss MORLEY.
Zenana Bible and Medical Mission.

Miss HOSKINS,
(China) Church Missionary Society.

FRIDAY, Nov. 18th.

MISSIONARY MEETING,

7.30 p.m.

Chairman - - Robinson Souttar, Esq., M.P.

Speakers—

Dr. DOUTHWAITE,
China Inland Mission.

Dr. H. SOLTAU,
Supt. of London Medical Mission.

JOHN JACKSON, Esq.,
London Secretary Leper Mission.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19th, at 3 p.m.,

GREAT CHILDREN'S DEMONSTRATION

Chairman - - - - - R. WHYTE, Esq., Jun.

Speakers: Rev. G. R. FORDE (late of Africa), Minister of Widmore Wesleyan Church, and J. K LANGRIDGE, Esq., Hon. Sec. of "John G. Paton" Mission.

Bands of Children will take part in the Meeting, representing nine different Countries.

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The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

NOVEMBER, 1898.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council, at the Offices, East-street, Bromley.

2nd.—Visit of the Clifford Essex Pierrots, assisted by Mr. Alfred D. Cammeyer, at the Grand Hall, Bromley.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter Payne and Lepper, of live and dead farming stock, at Sundridge Hall Farm.

3rd.—Grand Concert, under the patronage of H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany, at the Grand Hall, Bromley, in aid of the Deptford Fund.

4th.—Meeting of the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board, and the West Kent Main Sewerage Board, at the Offices, 95, High-street, Bromley.

6th.—*Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity.*

7th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Annual sale under the auspices of the Church Missionary Society, at the Grand Hall, Bromley, and following day.—Meeting of the St. Luke's Burial Board at the St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common.

8th.—Sales by Messrs. Baxter Payne and Lepper of nursery stock at the Westerham Nurseries, and of cows and farm implements at The Farmery, Beechfield, Widmore-road, Bromley.

9th.—Seventh annual exhibition of chrysanthemums, under the auspices of the Bromley and District Chrysanthemum Society, at the Grand Hall, Bromley. — Entertainments at the Bromley Presbyterian Church, by a choir of orphan boys from Spurgeon's Homes, at 4.30 and 7.30.

10th.—Meeting of the Bromley Bible Flower Mission, at Ebberlee House, West-street, Bromley.

11th.—A lecture entitled "Spiders; their work and their wisdom," with a glance at mind in animals, by Dr. Dallinger, F.R.S., at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

13th.—*Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity.*

14th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board at the Offices, Haxted-road, Bromley.—Mr. Bert Harris's Bohemian concert at the Grand Hall, Bromley.—Audit of accounts of the Bromley School Board at the Offices, Haxted-road, Bromley.

15th.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council, at the Offices, East-street, Bromley. —Mr. Albert Chevalier's annual visit to the Grand Hall, Bromley.

16th.—A United Foreign Missionary Convention, at the Grand Hall, Bromley, and during the three following days.

18th.—Monthly sitting of the Bromley County Court, at the Court-house, Bromley.

20th.—*Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity.*

21st.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

23rd.—The seventh annual exhibition organised by the West Kent Ornithological Society, at the Drill Hall, Bromley, and on the following day.

24th.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter Payne and Lepper, of 61 plots of freehold building land at Bromley, at the "Bell" hotel, 8 p.m.—Meeting of Bromley Bible Flower Mission, at Ebberlee House, West-street, Bromley.

26th.—Concert by the Bromley Musical Society, at the Drill Hall, East-street, Bromley.

27th.—*Advent Sunday.*

28th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court-house, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board, at the Offices, Haxted-road, Bromley.

29th.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council, at the Offices, East-street, Bromley. —Bazaar at the Elm-road Baptist Church, Beckenham.

30th.—Grand concert, in aid of the Phillips' Memorial Hospital, at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

This Council met twice during October, on the 4th and 18th, when several matters of importance, notably the widening of the upper part of the High-street, were considered.

REPORT ON THE AUDIT.

At the meeting on October 4th, the Assistant District Auditor (Mr. W. G. Cox) presented his report on the audit of the Council's accounts for the year ending March 31st, 1898. In it he drew attention to the borrowing of a large sum from the Yorkshire Penny Bank a considerable time before the necessity for spending it arose, and while he allowed the payment he impressed upon the Council the need of avoiding any unnecessary outlay for interest. Several other suggestions with reference to the method of keeping various accounts separately, were made; and the report was referred to the Finance Committee.

THE TAKING OVER OF SUNDRIDGE ROADS.

The question of doing something for the Orchard-road and Sundridge Avenue, which had been before the Council very frequently, was again introduced at the meeting on October 4th, when Mr. Peter Dollar inquired what work the Council required to be done before the roads were taken over, and Mr. J. Howard Moore, in a lengthy letter, urged the Council to seriously consider the matter, and to settle it in a reasonable manner once for all.—Messrs. Nye, McIntyre, and Mayne agreed that it was time the Council did something in the matter, and after some discussion the Surveyor was instructed to report on the work required to be done, to the Highways Committee.—At the next meeting this Committee recommended that upon the carrying out of various works the Council should adopt the whole of Orchard-road, and also that portion of Sundridge Avenue extending from Widmore Green to the junction of Marvelstone-road; and this recommendation was adopted.

Disputed Footpath at Bromley Common.

Upon the suggestion of Mr. Lawrence, the Surveyor was instructed to look up any maps and old records bearing upon the question of a right-of-way near Scrubbs Wood, Bromley Common, which had been disputed and had been the subject of proceedings before the magistrates.—Mr. Grinsted did not consider it a matter in which the Council should take action, but other members pointed out that the Council were the authority to look after such matters. — At the following meeting the Surveyor submitted a plan embodying the results of his inquiries, and the consideration of it was referred to committee.

Assessment of Water Mains.

The Council's attention was drawn by Mr. E. S. Harris to the valuation of water-mains belonging to the Kent Water Works Company, which he alleged was insufficient, and at a later meeting the Council, who had communicated with the Union Assessment Committee on the subject, were informed that the property in question had recently been re-valued.

White Hart Field and Cycling.

Some discussion took place at the meeting on October 4th, upon a proposition by Mr. Dickins to the effect that the Surveyor should report as to the suitability of the proposed pathways in the White Hart Field for cycling.—The proposal did not meet with any support, and was rejected by a large majority.

Taxation of Ground Rents.

The decision of the Council at a previous meeting, against the adoption of a resolution in favour of the taxation of ground rents and ground values was referred to in a letter from Mr. H. H. Pain, who had introduced the question. He hoped, he said, at a future date to submit for the Council's consideration some facts and figures which would lead them to reverse their decision.

The Late Mr. Hugh Tweedy.

Before the business of the meeting on October 18th was commenced, the Chairman (Mr. W. R. Mallett) alluded in feeling terms to the regretted death of Mr. Hugh D'Oyly Tweedy, who had been one of the first members of the Urban Council. The town, he said, had lost one of its most worthy and useful inhabitants, and instead of Mr. Tweedy being, as they had hoped, one of the chairmen of that Council, his name would be handed down as the first departed member of the Council. He moved a resolution expressing the Council's regret at the death of Mr. Tweedy, and condolence with the widow and family.—Mr. Grinsted seconded the resolution, which was supported by Mr. McIntyre, and carried unanimously.

The New Half-Yearly Rate.

Upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Council decided upon a General District Rate of 1s. 8d. in the £ for the next half-year, and arranged to give the statutory notice that they would make the rate on November 1st.—Mr. McIntyre said the Committee were unable to make any reduction.—Mr. Nye alleged that if it were not for extravagant waste a rate of 1s. 6d. would cover all necessary expenses.

To Welcome Royalty.

The Council agreed, upon the suggestion of Mr. F. Griffith, honorary secretary to the Bromley Committee of the Deptford Fund, to officially receive and present an address of welcome to H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany when she visits Bromley on December 6th, to open the grand bazaar on behalf of the Deptford Fund.

The Lighting of Bromley.

In connection with a communication from the secretary to the Bromley Gas Company, referring to the experiments for the improved lighting of the town, which were undertaken some twelve months ago, the Council, after some discussion, decided to consider the whole question of lighting at a meeting in committee, before holding a conference with the directors of the Company respecting future arrangements.—Mr. Lawrence remarked that there was no reason why a portion of the town should not be lighted by electric light, if it could be obtained on reasonable terms.—Mr. Nye pointed out that a report which the Surveyor had prepared showed that the incandescent light had been a great success.

Widening of the High Street.

By far the most important scheme of street improvement which has confronted the Urban Council, was brought forward at the meeting on October 18th, when, in accordance with notice, Mr. Grinsted moved a resolution to the effect that application be made to the Local Government Board for a Provisional Order to put in force the compulsory powers of the Lands Clauses Acts under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1875, with the view of widening the High-street, and authorising the Clerk and Surveyor to take the necessary steps in the matter. In an interesting speech, Mr. Grinsted remarked that the necessity for widening the upper part of High-street became more and more evident every day, and complaints about the congestion of traffic there were constantly made. The lower part of High-street had, he said, been admirably widened, and ratepayers in the upper portion naturally felt that it was hard upon them that their property should be allowed to deteriorate by better facilities for shopping being provided in the lower part of the street. The old Local Board had had a plan prepared for carrying out the work, but as the new Act of 1894, abolishing Local Boards, was talked of at the time, nothing further was done in the matter. A tracing, prepared in 1892, showed alternative plans—for widening the western side, and for widening the street by taking portions of the frontages off both sides, and the design laid down in the latter plan had up to the present been followed. The "Bell" hotel and the new shops standing on the site of Dr. Morgan's old residence, had been set back, together with the "Star and Garter," and the adjoining shop; and when Mr. Ferris's premises had been set back the old plan would have been carried out in its entirety, with reference to the eastern side. The plan proposed, in dealing with the western side, to start in a direct line from Messrs. Covell and Harris's premises to Mr. Collings's gateway, in order to make a forty-foot road right through, and that plan had the approval of the Surveyor to the County Council, which body would bear a proportion of the cost. In carrying out that improvement twenty properties would be affected, some being of considerable value, while a good many were of small value. The cost would, of course, be considerable, and he could give no accurate estimate. Mr. Grinsted pointed out that the Council would be able, under the Order, to also deal with the crossing in front of the White Hart Hotel, the present condition of the pathway there being a disgrace to the town. Reverting to the question of cost, Mr. Grinsted proceeded to show that the widening carried out at the "Bell" corner would prove a profitable undertaking, for although £800 was paid for the land the new properties erected had largely increased the rateable value, the total net rateable value of the "Bell," with the Bank, and Mr. Taylor's premises, amounting to £744, as compared with £120 net rateable value of the old premises, and

that sum, at the present rates of 5s. 10d. in the £—including every rate—produced £217 per year, as against £55 previously, so that there was an increase in the assessment of £182 yearly, and after paying £40 per year off the principal and interest, there remained a profit on the transaction of £140 per year. The whole of the new property erected on the eastern side would, he believed, result in an increase in the assessment of £300 per year; and supposing the cost of the present scheme was £20,000, they could repay it in thirty years by a payment of under £1,000 per year. Deducting the £300 increased value of the property on the eastern side, there remained £700, and the whole improvement could, he calculated, be effected at an increased rate of not more than a penny in the £. The Council need not proceed with the work immediately, but acquire the property as opportunity arose, and the improvement could, in his opinion, be completed without any extravagant outlay.—Mr. McIntyre seconded the resolution, stating that he had no doubt that the improvement would be of great benefit to the town, as the constant congestion of traffic in the street was patent to everyone. The resolution was supported by Mr. Dickins, who remarked that the present state of the High-street was positively dangerous.—Mr. Nye also agreed with the proposal, but thought the question should first be dealt with in committee, and the ratepayers' views taken before they proceeded in the matter. He moved an amendment in favour of referring the matter to a committee of the whole Council; but this failed to find a seconder.—Mr. Worley expressed a hope that the work would be finished within five years.—Mr. Grinsted pointed out that time allowed of no delay in applying for the Provisional Order, but he proposed that the details of the scheme should be referred to committee.—The Chairman supported the proposal, but regretted that other necessary works, such as dealing with the dangerous corner at the Widmore-road entrance to the Market Square, had not been included.—Mr. Grinsted remarked that he believed his rough estimate was a liberal one, and he reminded the members that the lower part of the High-street was widened at a total cost of £8,000.—The resolution, applying for an Order and referring the scheme to committee for consideration, was then put to the meeting, and carried unanimously.

A Personal Matter.

A complaint was made by Mr. Nye against the Surveyor, who, he alleged, had instructed the workmen in his department not to talk to him (Mr. Nye), and had told them that they would be discharged if found doing so. The Surveyor's explanation to Mr. Nye was that his men were instructed to refer all members of the Council, excepting the Chairman, Vice-chairman, and chairmen of committees, to either the foremen or himself, when any information was being sought. Mr. Nye said the order was directed against him personally, and he intended appealing to the ratepayers on the matter.—The other members refrained from discussing the question.

Entrances on to Recreation Grounds.

With reference to the gateways which had been made from several properties on to the Whitehall Recreation Ground, the Council decided to close the gates in those cases where the tenants refused to pay a nominal rent of 1s. per year, as the owner had declined to enter into any agreement.—Mr. Nye protested against the Council proceeding against poor persons, while they allowed one of their members to deliberately open a gateway on to the White Hart Field.

An Accident at Bromley Common.

The Council were informed by Mr. J. Jackson, of 42, Napier-road, Bromley Common, of a mishap he experienced when walking along the footpath on the "Rookery" side of the road at Bromley Common. He was knocked down by a lady cyclist, and he submitted that the path ought either to be used by pedestrians only, or given up to horses and cyclists. He had, he said, been informed that it was a kind of no man's land, but the Council cleansed and repaired it regularly.—Mr. Lawrence considered that the Council were to blame for neglecting to keep the proper footpath in decent condition, instead of spending money on the other path.—The Clerk said the path in question belonged to the highway, and the Chairman added that persons had a right to walk there.—Mr. Dickins: And also to ride.—The matter was referred to the Highways Committee to report upon.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

The principal feature in connection with the meetings of this Authority held on October 3rd and 17th was an interesting discussion, on the former date, on the question of the dearth of training college accommodation. The other business was chiefly of the ordinary routine character.

The Need of More Training Colleges.

This subject had been introduced by the receipt from the London School Board of a copy of a petition that body intended presenting to the Education Department, in which they pointed out the inadequate accommodation which at present exists for the training of teachers at colleges, and urged that all colleges, aided by State grants, should be under public management.—At the meeting on Oct. 3rd, Mr. Amos submitted a resolution, of which he had given notice, to the effect that that Board approved of the terms of the London School Board's petition, and resolved that a similar memorial be addressed by them to the Education Department. Prompt action was, he said, needed to remedy the present state of affairs, and he quoted figures to show that at the recent scholarship examinations, 1,245 men passed in the first and second classes—which entitled each of them to a scholarship—while there was only room in the existing training colleges for 880, and in the case of women, 4,256 passed, while there was only accommodation for 1,248. The supply was quite inadequate to the demand. Mr. Amos proceeded to point out that the existing colleges, though originally started by various denominations, were now practically State institutions, and could not exist for a month if it were not for State contributions. Figures taken from the annual report of 1897 showed, with regard to the Church of England training colleges, that the State grant was £74,531, students' fees £22,357, and subscriptions and endowments £3,315: the Wesleyan colleges received: State grant £7,448, students' fees £1,638, and subscriptions and endowments £1,780: and the Roman Catholic colleges received: State grant £6,568, students' fees £712, and subscriptions, etc. £2,873; so that that gave a total of State grants for the three denominational training colleges of £88,547, students' fees £24,707, and subscriptions and endowments £12,968. In addition to that, the undenominational colleges, which were open to all, received a State Grant of £24,069, £9,838 in fees, and £2,203 in subscriptions. He (the speaker) contended that those who paid the piper ought to call the tune, but the present position of things was that those State grants were paid out of the taxes to which all classes paid their share, and handed over to denominational institutions which had a right to shut their doors in the faces of all who were not prepared to conform to their ecclesiastical requirements. He did not see why the State should lose a large number of competent

teachers; and they knew that in the universities all religious tests had been abolished, to the manifest gain of the nation, while all elementary schools now had the advantage of a conscience clause. He failed to see any reason why candidates for training colleges should be subjected to theological tests, which had been abandoned in all other educational institutions, from the universities downwards. It was an infringement of civil and religious liberty, and it was time that the injustice was removed, and a fair field and no favour adopted as the order of the day as regarded the training colleges. The recommendations in the London School Board's memorial which Mr. Amos proposed should be embodied in their memorial, were as follow:—1. The present supply of training college accommodation should be increased by the establishment of colleges under public management, either through County Councils, School Boards, or Associations of School Boards, Universities and Local Colleges, or Boards combined from these various authorities, and that the necessary Departmental regulations should be drawn up or legislation promoted to secure this end.—2. Students applying for admission at the various colleges should be admitted in order of merit as shown by the Scholarship List, subject to appeal by the authorities of the college to the Education Department, and to the reservation of a certain number of places, with the approval of the Department, for students of exceptional merit proved in other ways, e.g., by having matriculated, or passed some recognised University examination.—3. Students should be entitled at college to the protection of a conscience clause.—4. The grants for students in day and residential colleges should be assimilated.—5. The entrance fees to training colleges should be regulated in accordance with rules approved by the Education Department, and should be fair and equitable.—6. No conditions should be imposed on students, other than such as shall be approved by the Education Department, and made public.—7. The Education Department shall use the power it now possesses of approving the staff of training colleges, so as to secure that the principal and teaching staff shall be chosen for educational fitness. — Mr. Loly seconded the resolution, stating that the time had undoubtedly arrived when more provision should be made for the supply of training colleges for teachers. He upheld the liberty of conscience, remarking that he attached great importance to the abolition of every kind of test. He hoped, at the same time, that the extremely good work done in the past by the existing colleges would not be overlooked.—Mr. Weeks moved an amendment to the effect that the memorial should confine itself to pointing out the need for more training colleges. He quoted figures in support of his statement that the present colleges, 45 in number, were, with the exception of 19 described as diocesan colleges, fairly divided between the various denominations, and no complaint had, he said, been made by teachers respecting the existing colleges. He admitted that there was need for a further supply of undenominational colleges under public control.—Mr. Judd seconded the amendment. —The Rev. R. Silvey supported the resolution in a lengthy speech, in which he pointed out that the concession which the memorial asked for with regard to the existing colleges was a very small one. It did not seek to interfere with their control, but only asked that students, who had passed the scholarship examination, should be admitted without any religious test.—Miss Heppel supported the resolution, and remarked that if more undenominational colleges were established the grievances referred to by Mr. Weeks would disappear. Students ought to be admitted in order of merit.—Mr. Gomer spoke in favour of the resolution, as did also the Chairman, who said his sympathies were always on the side of equality in religion and education, where public funds furnished the sinews of war.—Upon being put to the meeting, Mr. Weeks's amendment was rejected in favour of the resolution, Mr. Weeks and Mr. Judd alone supporting the amendment. The other members voted for the resolution, and at the next meeting the memorial was sealed by the Board.

Mr. Grinsted and the Coal Contract.

At the Board meeting on October 3rd, the Board accepted Mr. Grinsted's tender for the supply of coal at 18s. 4d. per ton, and accepted the Bromley Gas Company's offer to supply coke at 11s. 0d. per chaldron, Mr. Grinsted's price for coke being 12s. 0d.—The Rev. R. Silvey raised the question of a claim the Board had made against Mr. Grinsted to repay the cost of repairing a wall which had been knocked down by one of his carts.—The Clerk stated that Mr. Grinsted had repudiated all liability in the matter.—A letter was read from Mr. Grinsted at the following meeting, objecting to the tender for coal and coke being divided, and inquiring if the Board proposed to place the control of the coke supply in the hands of one of their members, who was the representative of the Bromley Gas Company.—In a discussion, which followed, several members protested against Mr. Grinsted's insinuation respecting Mr. Amos's services as a member of the Board, and Mr. Silvey urged that Mr. Grinsted's tenders should not be accepted until he had settled the claim in question.—Eventually the Board decided to inquire if Mr. Grinsted was prepared to supply the coal, and if not they agreed to accept the next lowest tender. The other tenderers were: Rickett, Smith, and Co., 19s. 5d. per ton, and the Coal Co-operative Society, 19s. 9d. per ton.

Miscellaneous.

Attention was drawn by Mr. Judd to the heavy charges for printing and stationery, and the matter was referred to the School Management Committee. —The Assistant District Auditor fixed the day for holding the half-yearly audit of the Board's accounts for November 14th.—Miss Florence Annie Lown, of Wigan, was appointed trained assistant at the Raglan-road Infants' School.—The Board decided to draw the attention of the Urban Council to the bad state of the roadway at Ann's Place.

Missionary Convention.—A united foreign missionary convention is to be held at the Grand Hall, Bromley, this month. It commences with a united prayer meeting on the evening of Wednesday, November 16th, presided over by the Right Hon. Lord Kinnaird; on Thursday, 17th, Sir W. Lee-Warner takes the chair at a missionary meeting, and on Friday a ladies' meeting takes place at 3 p.m., followed at 7.30 p.m. by another missionary meeting over which Mr. R. Souttar, M.P., will preside. A great children's demonstration takes place on Saturday, 19th, at 3 p.m.

Motor Cars on Tour.—On Friday afternoon, October 28th, a number of motor cars and motor cycles, belonging to members of the Automobile Club, passed through Bromley from London on their way to Maidstone and Hastings. The return journey was undertaken on the following Monday.

Attempted Burglary at Bromley Palace.—On the evening of Friday, October 14th, Bromley Palace—the residence of Mr. Coles Child, J.P.—was visited by burglars, but their attempts were, fortunately, frustrated. Mrs. Child heard a movement in a room upstairs shortly before 8 p.m., and on an examination being made it was found that a window had been forced open. It had been reached by means of a ladder taken from the adjoining farm. A thorough search was made, but the marauders had escaped, leaving no clue behind them.

RAMBLES IN SURREY.

BURFORD BRIDGE AND BOX HILL.

Box Hill, and the charming country around it, particularly that about Burford Bridge which lies at the very foot of the eminence, have long been recognised as popular scenes for a day's outing. It would be impossible to find a more delightful neighbourhood for such a purpose, and the popularity of the place is so wide-spread that there are few persons with the most superficial knowledge of the county of Surrey who have not heard of Box Hill.

THE BOX FOREST, BOX HILL.

As a matter of fact, the valley lying between Leatherhead and Dorking contains scenery of the highest order of beauty, and it has been universally pronounced by good authorities to be unrivalled by any other of its kind in the kingdom. It has been called "The Happy Valley"; and if richly wooded scenery and undulating pastures of surpassing beauty contribute in any degree to felicity it well deserves the appellation.

The railway which runs along the valley affords only occasional peeps of the superb scenery, for cuttings, tunnels, and trees considerably obstruct the view, and we may suggest to anyone who desires to make a more intimate acquaintance with the valley, that perhaps the best and most pleasant way of reaching Box Hill is to take train to Leatherhead, and to walk thence along the lower part of the valley, passing through Norbury Park, and Mickleham. By this route a good many objects of interest or of picturesque beauty, or both, may be seen without the fatigue of a long walk.

Leatherhead itself is worth inspection, but as it is simply the starting-point of our walk we must leave a notice of its particular features of interest for a future occasion.

Norbury Park lies on the right hand side of the pedestrian as he walks from Leatherhead to Mickleham, and a foot-path, which runs through a part of it, is a short-cut to the little village of Mickleham beyond. The mansion, which lies on the higher ground on the right hand side, is chiefly remarkable for its drawing-room, the walls of which are covered by some very rich paintings executed jointly by Barrett, Cipriani, Gilpin, and Pastorini. The intention of the artists was to produce the appearance of a continuation of the views seen through the windows, a project which was only partially realised. The whole room was supposed to represent a bower or arbour. An oval portion of the ceiling was painted to simulate the sky; whilst the angles were covered with trellis-

work, interwoven with honey-suckle, vines, clustering grapes, and flowering creepers of various kinds. At the sides of the room eight painted pilasters appear to support the roof.

In this remarkable composition the figures were the work of Cipriani, the cattle that of Gilpin, and the open sky was painted by Pastorini. The room is a handsome apartment 29 feet by 23 feet, and as far as we have been able to ascertain the paintings are still preserved, but the house is not shown to visitors.

In Norbury Park there is a remarkable group of ancient yew-trees, some of which measure upwards of 20 feet in circumference at about four feet from the ground. The trees are locally known as the "Druids' Grove," and their immense size certainly suggests a very venerable antiquity.

It has been remarked by one observer that where the oak decays in Norbury Park, the beech succeeds it; and where the beech decays the ash springs up spontaneously. Both here and at Box Hill, and in fact throughout the Mickleham Valley, the trees form a very important element in the scenery.

BURFORD BRIDGE HOTEL.

The sheltered valley is probably peculiarly suitable to them, and they attain to great age in consequence.

On emerging from Norbury Park close by the river we find ourselves quite near the charmingly situated village of Mickleham, the church of which is well worthy of inspection.

Upon entering the building it is at once evident that the nave and chancel are not strictly in line with each other. The chancel has an inclination to the north, as has been noticed in many other examples of old churches, and this circumstance has given rise to the theory that the inclination was intended to represent or rather symbolise the bowed head of our Saviour on the cross. This is rejected by many antiquaries as being simply a fanciful explanation of the problem; but no other reasonable solution seems to have been offered.

The church, dedicated to St. Michael, contains traces of architecture which have been pronounced to be of Anglo-Saxon date. There are a good many objects of interest to the antiquary and ecclesiologist in and about the church. The two ancient coffin-lids or sepulchral slabs, now preserved in the porch, and the font, are early and curious, and there are numerous old tombs and monuments.

At Mickleham Church, Fanny Burney, better known as Madame D'Arblay, was married. Her sister lived in a cottage in the village, and it was from that house that Fanny walked to the church on the day of her wedding. She lived for some time after her marriage at Great Bookham.

The precipitous eminence known as Box Hill is crowned, and partly covered on its steeply sloping sides, with a very remarkable profusion of box and yew-trees. The former grow close together and attain a height of upwards of 20 feet. The interesting point about them is that they are clearly indigenous to the soil. They have not been imported or planted by man. They may rather be regarded as a survival of former forests of box. It has been asserted that this is the only box forest in Europe, excepting in Turkey, but there is reason to doubt whether this assertion is strictly accurate. It is, however, certain that such a large area covered by box is of the utmost rarity. The number of yew trees on Box Hill is also very remarkable, and Professor Conwentz, director of the Museum at Danzig, considers the latter an even rarer circumstance than the occurrence of the box-trees.

At the foot of Box Hill near the bridge which spans the River Mole, is Burford Bridge Hotel, a house made famous by the number of literary and artistic celebrities who have stayed there at various times. John Keats is included in the number, and popular local tradition asserts that it was here that he wrote his *Endymion*.

The Countess of Derby has, we hear, found the changeable weather of the last month exceedingly trying, and in consequence has not made such progress during that time as could have been wished.

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DIARY OF OCTOBER.

2nd.—Harvest Thanksgiving services at St. George's, Bickley; St. John's, Bromley; Bromley Parish Church; St. Luke's, Bromley Common; and Holy Trinity, Bromley Common; Beckenham Parish Church, and Christ Church, Beckenham.

4th.—First of a series of ten evening lectures by Mr. H. E. Malden, M.A., on "The Local History of the South Eastern Counties," at the Parish Room, West-street, Bromley, under the auspices of the Bromley centre of the London Society for the Extension of University Teaching.—Presentation to Mr. and Mrs. H.W.Soutter, at Bromley Wesleyan Church, on the occasion of their departure for South Africa.—Annual meeting of the Chislehurst Gardeners' Association, at the St. Mary Hall, Chislehurst.—Annual meeting of the Beckenham Football Club, at Church House, Beckenham.

5th.—Opening meeting of the Winter Session of the Bromley Naturalists' Society, at the Literary Institute, Widmore-road, Bromley.—Harvest Thanksgiving service at St. Mary's, Plaistow.

6th.—Lecture on "English Architecture," by Mr. Arnold Mitchell, F.R.I.B.A., at the Parish Room, West-street, Bromley. This was the first lecture of the afternoon course arranged by the Bromley centre of the London Society for the extension of University Teaching.

7th.—Meeting of the Bromley and District Licensed Victuallers' and Retail Beersellers' Protection Society, at the "White Hart" Hotel, Bromley.

9th.—Harvest Thanksgiving Services at St. Mary's, Plaistow; Bromley Presbyterian Church; Beckenham Congregational Church; Beckenham Baptist Church; and Holy Trinity Church, Lennard-road, Beckenham.

11th.—Opening services at the new Mission Room, at Salisbury-road, Bromley Common, in connection with the Bromley Common Baptist Church.

12th.—Lecture by Professor Flinders Petrie, D.C.L., LL.D., Professor of Egyptology at University College, on "Excavating in Egypt: its methods and its results," at the Grand Hall, Bromley, Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., presiding.—Opening meetings of the winter session of the Beckenham Abstainers' Union, at the Public Hall, Beckenham, presided over by Mr. R. Murray Hyslop.—Special sermon by the Rev. Ossian Davies, at the Bromley Congregational Church, in connection with the Bromley Temperance Society.

19th.—Performance of "Our Regiment," at the Grand Hall, Bromley, by the Bromley Amateur Dramatic Society, before a very large audience, the proceeds being in aid of providing nursing among the poor of the town.—United "Rally" of the Christian Endeavour Societies in connection with the Bromley, Beckenham and District Christian Endeavour Union, at the Bromley Congregational Church. Mr. F. F. Belsey, J.P., Chairman of the Union, presided.

22nd.—Consecration of the new church of St. Mark, Bromley, by the Bishop of Dover (Dr. Walsh).

23rd.—Church Anniversary Services at the Bromley Baptist Church.

24th.—Annual meeting of the St. John's, Bromley branch of the C.E.T.S., at the Parish Room, Freelands Grove, Bromley. The Rev. P. Barker presided over a large gathering, and an address was given by the Rev. J. W. Horsley, of Walworth.

25th.—Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Mullen, of Park House, Bromley, celebrated their silver wedding by a grand ball and supper at the new "Royal Bell" Hotel, Bromley.

26th.—Public meeting in connection with the Church Anniversary, at the Bromley Baptist Church. Mr. M. H. Hodder presiding.

27th.—Concert at Camden House, Chislehurst.

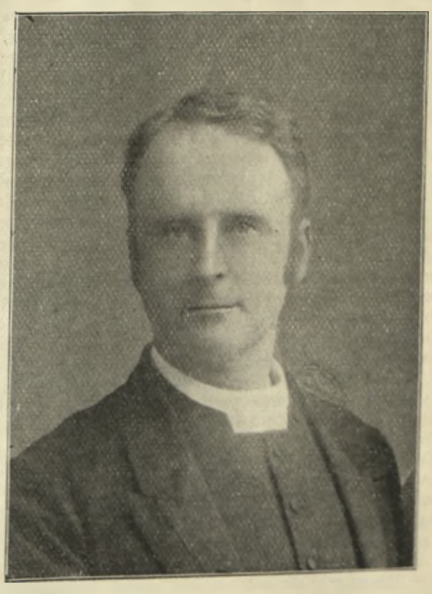
30th.—Afternoon monthly hour of sacred music, at St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common.

31st.—Anniversary meeting at the Bromley Common Baptist Church.—Sacred concert at the Bromley Baptist Church.

THE NEW VICAR OF PLAISTOW.

THE REV. JOHN BOND.

During last month the announcement was made of an impending change in connection with the living of Plaistow Parish, the Rev. W. Hodgson, M. A., who has held the living for the



Bridgman] THE REV. J. BOND, M.A. [*Scarborough.*

past twenty-five years, having decided, principally on account of his wife's ill-health, to exchange livings with the Rev. John Bond, M.A., vicar of Dinton, near Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. Mr. Hodgson preached his farewell sermons on Sunday,

October 30th, and his successor takes up the duties on the first Sunday in November.

The Rev. John Bond, M.A., the new vicar of St. Mary's, was educated at the Merchant Tailors' School, and elected scholar of St. John's, Oxford, in 1864. He is an M.A. of Oxford, graduating in high honours in 1868, and has had a large and varied experience of clerical work. He is a brother of Mr. Edward Bond, Conservative M.P. for Nottingham East, who is also a member of the London County Council. The new vicar of Plaistow was formerly curate at Brighton, under the late Archdeacon Hannah; and afterwards curate to the present Dean of Hereford, at St. Mary's, Bryanstone Square, London, and for 13 years was chaplain and instructor in classics at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, where he ministered in the garrison church to large congregations. In 1888, Mr. Bond was presented to the living of Dinton, about four miles from Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, by the Lord Chancellor, and he leaves there to come to Plaistow. He has had a great deal of experience in educational matters, having acted as volunteer Diocesan Inspector, and is well known in the Oxford Diocese as a lecturer on Church History. He also held a seat on the governing body appointed for the administration of the grant in aid of voluntary schools under the recent Act, and in various other ways has done much voluntary church work.

The population of Dinton, according to the last return, is about 747, and the gross value of the living is £397, and nett value, £345, while there is a parsonage or provision made for the same.

Obituary.

Several well known residents in this district were removed by death during the past month.

MR. HUGH D'OYLY TWEEDY, BROMLEY.

On October 6th, a highly esteemed resident of Bromley, in the person of Mr. Hugh D'Oyly Tweedy, passed away, after an illness of some weeks' duration, at the age of 51 years. Mr. Tweedy had recently removed from Widmore House, to Widmore Lodge, Bickley, and had suffered from a heart affection for several years, but recovered from two or three serious attacks. It was hoped that he would rally from the last seizure, but pleurisy and congestion of the lungs supervened, and at ten o'clock on the morning of Wednesday, October 6th, he passed away. Sir William Broadbent had been in attendance for some time. Mr. Tweedy was very well known and much respected in the district. He was the eldest surviving son of the late Mr. John Newman Tweedy, of 47, Montague Square, W., and Widmore House, Bromley, and had had a somewhat distinguished career, having been for over twenty years in the Consular and Diplomatic service of H.M. the King of Sweden and Norway, during which period he was twice decorated by H. M. the King Oscar II., being made a Knight of the Order of Polar Star of Sweden, and a Knight of the Order of St. Olaf, of Norway. He was on several occasions H.B.M. Acting Consul General, and was twice commissioned by H.B.M. Government to settle claims of Her Majesty's subjects against the Haytian Government.

Mr. Tweedy was one of the first members of the Bromley Urban District Council, representing the Sundridge Ward, but he retired in December, 1896, having for some months before been unable to take part in the work, owing to failing health. He was a vice-president of the Bromley Conservative Club, and was also connected with several athletic clubs in the district. The funeral took place at Bromley Cemetery, on the following Saturday, October 8th, the first part of the service being conducted in the Parish Church, where a number of the leading residents had gathered. The officiating clergy were the Bishop of Sierra Leone — a cousin of the deceased — and the vicar of Bromley, Rev. A. G. Hellicar, M.A., and the chief mourners were the widow, Miss Henrietta Tweedy (daughter), Mr. Arthur Tweedy (brother),

Davey Lavender] [*Bromley.*

The Late Mr. Hugh D'Oyly Tweedy.

Mr. G. A. Tweedy (cousin), Mr. W. Ridley Richardson, and Mrs. Richardson, and Miss Violet Tweedy (sisters), and Major C. Cecil Newman (second cousin), and the nurses. Many beautiful wreaths were sent by relatives and friends, and the coffin, which was of polished oak, with brass fittings, bore the following inscription:—

Hugh D'Oyly Tweedy,
Died 5th October, 1898.
Aged 51 years.

The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr. H. G. Dunn, of Market Square, Bromley.

MR. A. DUNCAN, CHISLEHURST.

The death occurred on October 13th, of Mr. A. Duncan, of "Holbrook," St. Paul's Cray Common, Chislehurst, at the age of 74 years. Mr. Duncan was well known in Chislehurst. He was taken ill somewhat suddenly, and his death caused much regret in the neighbourhood. The funeral took place on Monday, October 17th, at St. Paul's Cray.

MAJOR A. HEALES, CHISLEHURST.

Major Alfred Heales, of "Leesons," Chislehurst, died, after a long illness, on Saturday, October 8th, at the age of 71 years. The deceased gentleman, who was formerly of Doctor's Commons, had resided in Chislehurst since 1886, and was an ardent archæologist. He was also a staunch supporter of the "Free and open church movement," an Honorary Major of the Tower Hamlets Volunteers, and for many years held the position of a director of the Lambeth Water Works. He had also taken some interest in local affairs, and had served as a Conservator of St. Paul's Cray Common. He leaves a widow and one son, and the funeral took place on October 13th, at Chipstead, Surrey.

MISS LUCY FORD, BROMLEY.

We record with much regret the death of Miss Lucy Ford which took place on September 23rd, at Fairoaks, Homesdale-road, Bromley, the residence of her brother, Mr. C. R. Ford. Miss Ford, who had lived in Bromley for some seven years, had taken a part in parish work of various kinds from the commencement, and had previously been active in a similar sphere of usefulness at both Stafford and Canonbury; it was in fact, over exertion in the service of others which sowed the seeds of the ailment which at length proved fatal. The funeral took place at Berkswich, near Stafford, the Rev. J. M. Tamplin, curate of Bromley, being one of the officiating clergy.

MR. W. SMITH, BROMLEY.

On Saturday, October 8th, Mr. William Smith, aged 55, of "Mayfield," Newman-road, Bromley, died suddenly while cycling in the Albemarle-road, Beckenham, from a heart affection. No inquest was deemed necessary, as Mr. Smith had been medically attended. The deceased was a cashier in the employ of Messrs. Barclay, Perkins and Co.

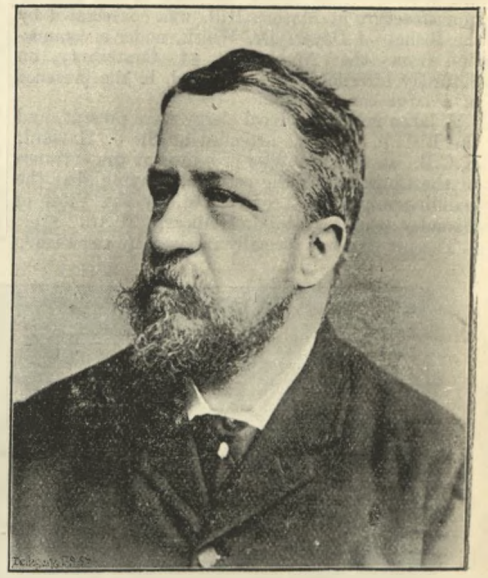
MR. J. S. BATES.

On Saturday, October 8th, the funeral of the late Mr. John Samuel Bates, of the Chatham and Dover Company, took place at Highgate Cemetery. Mr. Bates, who had many friends in this district, had been in the service of the Company for over thirty-two years, during the last ten years of which he held the responsible position of assistant manager. Previous to joining the Chatham Company, Mr. Bates was for about ten years in the office of the late Mr. Alexander Forbes, the then secretary of the Great Northern Railway. The first part of the ceremony, conducted by the Revs. C. T. Ackland, Webster and Roberts, took place at St. Anne's Church, Highgate Rise, the sacred edifice being well filled. The mourners included Mrs. Bates (widow); Mr. A. Bates (son); Miss E. and Miss M. Bates (daughters); Mr. A. Bates (nephew); Mr. H. Bates (brother); Miss E. Bates (sister); Mr. E. Bates (cousin); Mr. and Mrs. Latter (Bromley); Mr. Light, and many personal friends connected, chiefly, with the railway world. The principal officers of the Chatham and Dover Company were present, including Mr. J. Morgan (secretary); Mr. W. Forbes (traffic manager); Mr. C. H. Chapman (goods manager); Mr. G. B. Roche (chief engineer); Mr. W. Woodman (accountant); Mr. W. Thompson (superintendent); Mr. J. L. Morgan (solicitor); Mr. J. E. Nichols (cashier); Mr. R. H. Burnham (telegraph superintendent), and others.

MR. C. OAKLEY, CHISLEHURST.

The death occurred on October 4th of Mr. Christopher Oakley, of "Cromlix," Chislehurst, after a long illness, at the age of 62 years. The deceased gentleman had lived in Chislehurst for over twenty-six years, and took a keen interest in all church and local affairs. Mr. Oakley was elected a member of the Kent County Council for the Chislehurst Division in 1889, and at the election in 1892, was allowed a walk over. He was one of the originators of the district church of St. John's, a chapel warden from its opening until his death, and also president of the Working Men's Club.

The deceased was senior partner in the firm of Messrs. Daniel Smith, Son and Oakley, auctioneers and surveyors, of 10, Waterlow Place, Pall Mall, and had held many positions, including that of past president—and one of the original members of the Surveyors' Institution, a Fellow of the Geological Society, Director of the Auction Mart Company, a member of the Committee of the Estate Exchange, a member of the Kent Antiquarian Society, and one of the trustees of the Auctioneers' and Surveyors' Clerks' Provident Institution. In his professional capacity Mr. Oakley acted as agent to the Mercers' and Drapers' Companies, and also to the Earl of St. German's extensive estates



Lock & Whitfield] [*Regent St., W.*

THE LATE MR. C. OAKLEY, CHISLEHURST.

in Kent. He was engaged in innumerable compensation cases, and was for many years one of the Surveyors to the Board of Trade and one of the Consulting Surveyors to the Charity Organisation Society. Mr. Oakley had been a widower for sixteen years, and left seven children. The funeral took place at Chislehurst Parish churchyard, on October 8th, and was attended by a large number of parishioners. The service was conducted by the Rector (Rev. Canon Murray), assisted by the Revs. J. F. Twist, F. M. Etherington, C. S. Ryder, and Roland Oakley, nephew of the deceased, and son of the late dean of Manchester.

MR. WEBSTER LUCKE, BROMLEY.

On October 26th, the death occurred, very unexpectedly, of Mr. Webster Lucke, an esteemed resident of Bromley Common. Mr. Lucke, who lived at 20, Bromley Common, was seized with an attack of influenza when away from home a week before, and he returned to Bromley on Thursday, October 20th. Pneumonia supervened on the following Tuesday, and death occurred on Wednesday, despite the efforts of his medical attendants, Dr. A. F. G. Codd, and Mr. J. H. Yolland. Mr. Lucke had only lived in Bromley about four years, but during that time he had actively identified himself with the parochial work in St. Luke's Parish. In conjunction with Mr. J. H. Yolland, he founded the Bromley Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and became its superintendent. He also held the post of captain of the St. Luke's Company of the Church Lads' Brigade, was a sidesman at St. Luke's Church, a manager of the St. Luke's Church Day Schools, a trustee of St. Luke's Institute, and a member of the Committee of the new Mission Room. The funeral took place at St. Luke's Cemetery, on Saturday, Oct. 29th. Mr. Lucke left a widow and three sons and one daughter.

THE NEW CHURCH OF ST. MARK, BROMLEY.

CONSECRATION AND OPENING.

The new and permanent Church of St. Mark, Bromley, built on a site at the junction of Sandford and Westmoreland roads, in place of the smaller iron structure at Masons Hill, was consecrated by the Bishop of Dover, Dr. Walsh, under a commission from the Archbishop of Canterbury, on Saturday afternoon, October 22nd, in the presence of a large congregation.

A large number of local clergy were present, and the Bishop, who was attended by Sir J. Hassard, K.C.B., as registrar, was presented at the entrance of the Church with the petition, praying that the building might be consecrated, by the Vicar of Bromley (the Rev. A. G. Hellicar, M.A.).

The petition was formally received by the Bishop of Dover, who intimated his readiness to grant the request, and then, preceded by the choir, augmented for the occasion by the choir of Bromley Parish Church, the Bishop accompanied the procession up the church to the communion table, attended by Sir J. Hassard, and the clergy, the twenty-fourth psalm being sung as a processional. The Registrar then presented the deed of conveyance to the Bishop of Dover, and after the dedicatory prayers had been offered up, the sentence of consecration was read by Sir John Hassard. Then followed the usual form of evening service by the Rev. A. G. Hellicar, the first lesson—1 Kings viii., 10 to 31—being read by the Rev. Canon Murray, and the second lesson—Hebrews x., 19 to 26—by the Archdeacon of Maidstone.

An appropriate sermon was preached by the Bishop of Dover, on the words "O, how amiable are Thy dwellings, O Lord of Hosts," and at the close of his discourse the Bishop made an earnest appeal on behalf of the Building Fund.

On Sunday, very large congregations were present at all the services. The preacher in the morning was the Vicar (Rev. A. G. Hellicar), and at the evening service the Rev. H. F. Wolley (vicar of St. Mary's, Shortlands) occupied the pulpit.—The collections at the services on Saturday and Sunday realised £200 18s. 11d. The total cost of the undertaking, including the land, was estimated at £9,500, and towards the deficiency of £1,200 which remained a few weeks ago, £600 has been promised or paid, so that a deficit of £600 was left, and this was, by the offertories on the Saturday and Sunday, reduced to £400. The influential building committee, whose efforts and generosity have had such a gratifying result, included the following gentlemen: The Rev. A. G. Hellicar (vicar); Mr. T. C. Dewey, and Mr. D. Grinsted (churchwardens of Bromley, and treasurers); the Hon. Mr. Justice Bruce, Messrs. Eley Soames, R. Bruce Aitken, Avling, Peyton Dashwood, T. Durbridge, A. M. Eckford, Charles R. Ford, C. Hodgkinson, and W. J. Nutting.

EXTERIOR VIEW OF ST. MARK'S CHURCH.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING.

The new church consists of chancel, having space for an organ, and choir and clergy vestries, with heating chamber below on the north; it is intended to build a side aisle having accommodation for about sixty persons at a future date on the south side of the chancel. It has now seating accommodation for 582 persons—about half of the seats being free and unappropriated, while the temporary church could only accommodate about 275 persons seated. The nave is of five bays divided from the chancel by a chancel arch, and from the north and south aisles by arcades with clerestory above. At the west end of the nave is a gallery, having a stone screen, and approached by a stone staircase in the south-west lobby. The tower is placed at the north-west corner, and is separated from the nave by the north aisle; the lowest stage thus forming a convenient porch. — The main entrance is in the west face of the tower, with inner doors into the north aisle; by this means it is hoped that the cold draughts so often felt in churches having northern entrances

will be avoided. Secondary entrances and exits are placed at the west end of the south aisle, and the east end of the same aisle. The latter entrance is intended more to serve the future chancel aisle than for present use. The warming and ventilation have received special care. The church is heated by a low-pressure hot-water system, the pipes being carried in trenches across the east end of the nave, and on each side of the central nave passage. These are supplemented by radiators placed below the windows in the side aisles at the west end. Fresh air is admitted by flues built in the thickness of the walls, with inlets under control in the sills of the aisle windows; vitiated air is exhausted by "air-pump" extractors in the roofs of nave and chancel. Both nave and chancel have boarded ceilings, having considerable air space between them and the outer roof covering, and this arrangement always adds to the comfort of large buildings by keeping out much cold in winter and heat in summer. The external work is faced with red brick. Doulting stone being used for tracery of windows, copings, etc. Internally the walls are plastered, the arcades and dressings being in Doulting stone. The floor of the nave is laid with wood blocks, that in the passage-ways being of oak; and the chancel floor is of Greek statuary, black and grey marbles.

Among the gifts of fittings that have been made to the church, may be mentioned stalls for the clergy and choir, given by Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Dewey; altar rails, presented by Mr. and Mrs. Hodgkinson; sedilia, by Mr. Ford; font, in alabaster, by Mr. Lucas; and lectern, by Mr. and Mrs. Dewey's family.

Messrs. Powell and Sons have, in conjunction with the architect, arranged a scheme for stained glass to fill the windows, to be put in hand as opportunity offers. The aisle windows of the nave will be filled with subjects representing the life of Our Lord. The first of these, the Visit of the Shepherds, and the Wise men, is being given by Mrs. Aitken, and is now being painted.

Messrs. Crossley and Son, of Bromley, have been the general contractors for the work, and have also made the nave seats, sedilia for the clergy, etc. The carving has been done by Messrs. Farmer and Brindley, who also made the choir stalls, the lectern, and the font. The heating work has been carried out by Messrs. Weeks and Sons, of Bromley, and the altar rails and gas fittings made by Messrs. Hart, Son, Peard, and Co. Mr. Evelyn Hellicar, of 10, Serjeant's Inn, E.C., and Bromley, was the architect. We are indebted to Mr. W. L. Crossley, for the photographs of the church which we re-produce.

MR. & MRS. R. G. MULLEN'S SILVER WEDDING.

On Tuesday, October 25th, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Mullen, of Park House, Bromley, celebrated their silver wedding, and were the recipients of some very handsome gifts from their large circle of friends. In the evening a grand ball, in honour of the auspicious event, took place at the new "Royal Bell" Hotel, which has just been completed and most admirably furnished, and the decorations for the occasion were very beautiful, the floral work of Messrs. Laing and Son, of Forest Hill, being much admired, while the elaborate and painstaking arrangements made for the event by the proprietors (Messrs. W. James and G. With), assisted by Miss Shepherd, the manageress, added greatly to the success of the gathering. The guests numbered about one hundred and thirty, and included Colonel Sir J. Farnaby Lennard, Bart., and Lady Lennard, and many influential residents, and Mr. and Mrs. Mullen entertained the party in the heartiest possible manner. Dancing, interspersed with vocal and instrumental music, etc., arranged by Mr. F. Lewis Thomas, was kept up with great spirit until the early hours of the morning, and during an interval a champagne supper, of a most recherche kind, was provided, and the health of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Mullen, proposed in

VIEW OF INTERIOR.

felicitous terms by Sir John Lennard, was enthusiastically honoured.

A large number of very handsome silver gifts were received by Mr. and Mrs. Mullen.

Biographical Sketch of Mr. Mullen.

The subjoined account of Mr. Gordon Mullen's public life and work, which have been very full and varied, and intimately connected with all kinds of administrative concerns in the district, will be read with interest.

Born at Reading in 1849, he was at the age of 20 appointed as assistant clerk to the Guardians of the extensive parish of St. Matthew, Bethnal Green. Two years later, although an utter stranger to the district, he was, out of 63 candidates unanimously elected clerk to the Bromley Guardians and superintendent registrar, and the Public Health Act of 1872 being passed immediately after his appointment he became also clerk to the Rural Sanitary Authority. Since his appointment, the population of the district has considerably more than doubled, and the rateable value has more than trebled; and it is interesting to note that notwithstanding this great increase there has not been a single appeal to the Court of Quarter

Maull & Fox,] [*Piccadilly, London.*

Mr. Robert Gordon Mullen.

Sessions against the decisions of the Union Assessment Committee, a fact largely to be attributed to Mr. Mullen's skill and tact.

When Mr. Mullen came to Bromley there was no system of sewerage, but in the year 1874, a Bill was promoted in Parliament which brought into existence the vast system which now drains the whole of West Kent. Mr. Mullen's evidence, backed by his extensive knowledge of the district, had a good deal to do with the passing of the Bill, and when the West Kent Main Sewerage Board met for the first time on the 29th September, 1875, he was unanimously elected secretary, a post which he has held up to the present time. In his evidence before the Committee of the House of Lords, Mr. Mullen created some astonishment by stating that he was perfectly sure that if West Kent were properly drained, they might confidently rely upon an increase in the rateable value of the district, at the rate of at least £1,000 a month. This statement was at the time very severely criticised, but subsequent events have far more than justified it inasmuch as the increase in the rateable value has more nearly approached £20,000 a year.

In the year 1872, Mr. Mullen acted as clerk to the whole of the parochial committees, ten in number, in the Bromley Union, which were entrusted with the administration of sanitary affairs, and when, some time subsequent to that, the parish of Beckenham, having very much increased in size, became an Urban Sanitary Authority, he was appointed the first returning officer and for some time acted as clerk, being, on his retirement, accorded a most hearty vote of thanks. The election of the whole of the School Boards in the district—Beckenham, Bromley, Chelsfield, Farnborough, and Orpington—was conducted by him, and he acted as clerk to each one in succession and received from them unanimous votes of thanks for his valuable services. In the year 1881, the Urban Authorities of Bromley and Beckenham, and the Rural Sanitary Authority of the Bromley Union, realised that it was extremely important that they should establish a joint hospital for the isolation and treatment of cases of infectious disease. Mr. Mullen was entrusted with the task of carrying through the whole of the preliminary negotiations, and succeeded in obtaining the subsequent sanction of Parliament. The result has been the establishment of a hospital so well appointed that the Local Government Board have reproduced a plan of it in their blue-book, as representing what in their opinion should be a model for hospitals of that character.

For nine years Mr. Mullen held the appointment of clerk to the old Bromley Local Board and on his retirement from that position he was presented with an address accompanied by a very handsome silver bowl.

About 26 years ago the various Urban and rural authorities comprising the division of West Kent decided to combine for the appointment of a medical officer of health. The order of the Local Government Board forming the combination provided that one of the clerks of the various authorities interested should act as clerk to the combination, and the choice unanimously fell upon Mr. Mullen, who has continued to hold the position ever since. On completing his 21st year of office, as clerk to the Guardians, he was entertained at a complimentary luncheon and presented with a handsome silver salver, suitably inscribed, and weighing nearly 9 lbs., to which the whole of the members of the Board and the officers had subscribed.

At nearly all the Royal Commissions and Parliamentary Committees which have held inquiries of late years, into the administration of Poor Law, Sanitary Law, Local Government Administration, and water supply especially, he has given evidence, and at the inquiry presided over by Lord Llandaff last session, Mr. Mullen received the written thanks of the Commission for the very valuable evidence he had given in connection with the water supply of the County of Kent.

Apart from matters official, Mr. Mullen has always closely associated himself with the social life of the town and district. He was three times elected president of the Kent Poor Law Association, was the first president of the Urban District Councils' Association, having since been twice re-elected, and has held the office of president of the Rural District Councils' Association since its formation. He is president of the Bromley Football Club, the Bromley Town Cricket Club, a vice-president of the Cyclists' Club, vice-president of the Chrysanthemum Society, vice-president of the Bromley Lawn Tennis Club, etc.

In his capacity as president of the Kent Poor Law Association, he read a paper which led to the formation of the present Local Government Mutual Guarantee Society, which has for its basis the principle of local government officials them-

selves combining and guaranteeing their fidelity to their various authorities. The result is that while the working of the company has most materially reduced the charges to the officers themselves, it has realised a very handsome profit to the shareholders. Mr. Mullen has been chairman of the company since its formation. He has served in the County Yeomanry for some years, and is now a transport and supply officer, and president of the officers' mess of the 4th Queen's Mounted Infantry.

Some eleven years ago the Bromley and County Club was formed, and from its 240 members, including nearly all the magistrates and most of the influential inhabitants of the district, Mr. Mullen was elected president, and has since been re-elected ten times. He has from time to time devoted himself to literary work and in the days of the old institution known as the Bromley Friends in Council, he was in the habit of reading papers on various subjects.

He was married on the 25th October, 1873, to Miss Mary Frances Rowe, and has one son, who was recently admitted as a solicitor.

THE RAINFALL.—The rainfall for August registered by Mr. James Batten, at the High Field, Bickley, amounted to 0·84 inch. Rain fell on seven days, the largest amount in one day being 0·63 inch on the 7th. For the corresponding month last year the fall was 2·90 inches.—In September the rainfall only reached a total of 0·32 inch Rain fell on four days, the largest amount measured in one day being ·21 inch on the 29th. For the same period last year 2·79 inches were registered. For the first eight months of the year, 9·63 inches of rain have fallen, compared with 20·33 last year.

Owing to pressure on our space, we are compelled to hold over the continuation of "Iva Kildare."

Births.

HARDY.—On the 6th September, at Maitland Lodge, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Arthur Frederick Hardy, of a son.

JONES.—On the 15th October, at Mayfield, The Crescent, Beckenham, Kent, the wife of Oscar Jones, of a son.

Marriages.

BARNSLEY—REYNOLDS.—On the 4th October, at the Wesleyan Church, Beckenham, C. H. Barnsley, to Nellie, second daughter of W. B. Reynolds, of Cliftonville, Beckenham.

PENNELL—BATHAM.—On the 27th September, at St. Paul's Church, Beckenham, by the Rev. Charles Green, Vicar, Walter Richard Pennell, of Lincoln, to Ethel Alice, daughter of William Batham, of Beckenham.

PRICE—KIRKMAN.—On the 18th October, at the Congregational Chapel, Bromley, Kent, by the Rev. T. Eynon Davies, assisted by the Rev. Thos. Nicholson, Edward Herbert Price, of Chescombe, Beckenham, to Emma Dorothy, youngest daughter of Henry F. Kirkman, of Bromley, Kent.

Deaths.

BATEMAN.—On the 25th September, at Ravenswood, Ethelbert-road, Bromley, John Bateman, aged 68 years.

BROWN.—On the 16th October, Jas. John Brown, of Westfield, The Avenue, Beckenham, after a short illness.

DUNCAN.—On the 13th October, at Holbrook, Chislehurst, Andrew Duncan, aged 74 years.

FORD.—On the 23rd September, at Fairoaks, Bromley, Lucy Anne, younger daughter of the late Richard Ford, formerly of Shrewsbury and Stafford, and the much loved sister of Charles Richard Ford, aged 63. Buried at Berkswich, Stafford, September 28th.

FREEMAN.—On the 15th October, at 17, Park Grove, Bromley, Kent, Emily, aged 44 years.

GARWOOD.—On the 6th October, at 4, Florence-road, Bromley, Kent, Samuel Garwood, late of Old Kent-road, and Brixton, in his 80th year.

OAKLEY.—On the 4th October, at Cromlix, Chislehurst, also of 10, Waterloo-place, Pall-mall, S.W., Christopher Oakley, in his 63rd year.

PERRY.—On the 28th Oct., at Holmleigh, 70, Park-end, Bromley, James Perry, in his 55th year.

SMITH.—On the 8th October, William Smith, of Mayfield, Bromley, Kent, aged 55.

TWEEDY.—On the 5th October, at Widmore Lodge, Widmore, Bromley, Kent, Hugh D'Oyly Tweedy, of The Hoo, Kempston, Beds., Knight of the Polar Star and of the Order of St. Olaf, eldest surviving son of the late John Newman Tweedy, Esq., of Widmore House, Bromley, Kent, and Montagu-square, London.

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

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MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE AND LEPPER have received instructions to Sell by Auction on the premises, Sundridge Hall Farm (within easy distance of Grove Park and Sundridge Park stations, S.E.R.), on Wednesday, November 2nd, 1898, at 12 for 1 o'clock precisely, the valuable Farming Stock and miscellaneous effects.

May be viewed the day previous and morning of sale, and catalogues obtained at the Inns of the District, 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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MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE AND LEPPER will Sell by Auction on the premises, the Westerham Nurseries, Westerham, on Tuesday, November 8th, 1898, at 11 for 12 o'clock punctually, without reserve, a large collection of Nursery Stock, to clear two acres of land sold off. The Lots will be suitable for Private Buyers.

May be viewed and catalogues obtained on the premises, at the Seed Shop and Offices, High Street, Westerham, and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Surveyors and Auctioneers, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, BROMLEY.—Three milch cows, also the farm implements, stack cloth and poles, chaff cutter, grindstone, etc., garden tools, two lawn mowers, garden roller, tennis marker, etc., dairy utensils, a stack of prime meadow hay, and about 400 greenhouse plants.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE AND LEPPER have received instructions to Sell by Auction on the premises, The Farmery, Beechfield, Widmore Road, on Tuesday, November 8th, 1898, at 1 for 2 o'clock precisely, the Farming Stock and miscellaneous effects.

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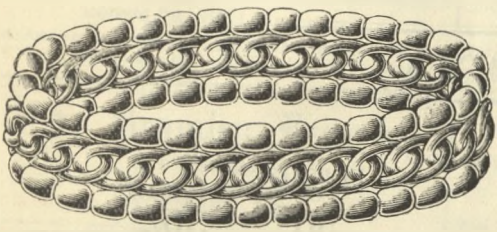

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MOON'S CHANGES.—DECEMBER.

Last Quarter, 6th, 10.6 a.m. | First Quarter, 20th, 3.22 a.m.
New Moon, 13th, 11.43 a.m. | Full Moon, 27th, 11.39 p.m.

The Bromley Record.

FOUNDED 1858.

DECEMBER, 1898.

MEMS. FOR THE MONTH.

1st.—Kent v. Surrey Hockey match, on the Widmore-road ground, Bromley.—American sale at St. John's Parish Room, Freelands Grove, Bromley.

2nd.—Meetings of the Bromley and Beckenham Joint Hospital Board, and West Kent Main Sewerage Board, at 96, High-street, Bromley.—Ventriloquial recital by Lieut. Walter Cole, at the Grand Hall, Bromley, and on following night.—Sale of Work, at Christ Church, Chislehurst, under the auspices of the Gleaners' Union.

4th.—*Second Sunday in Advent.*

5th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Meeting of the St. Luke's Burial Board, at the St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common.—Lecture on the "Religions of India," by the Rev. R. H. Walker, formerly chaplain to the Bishop of Quebec and Principal of Bishop's College, Lennoxville, Canada, at the Parish Room, Freelands Grove, Bromley, on behalf of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts.

6th.—Opening of the Bazaar, on behalf of the Deptford Fund, by Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany, at the Drill Hall, Bromley, at 3 p.m.—Performance of "Box and Cox," at the St. Luke's Institute, Bromley Common.—Dog Show at the Grand Hall, Bromley.—Annual General Meeting of the Bromley Lawn Tennis Club, at the "White Hart" Hotel, Bromley, at 8 p.m.

7th.—The second day's opening of the Deptford Fund Bazaar, at the Drill Hall, Bromley, by Lady Lennard, at 3 p.m.—Sale by Messrs. Baxter, Payne and Lepper, of plots of freehold building land, on the Malvern House Estate, Sydenham, at the "Greyhound" Hotel, Sydenham, at 8 o'clock.

8th.—The Hon. Mrs. Forster performs the third day's opening of the Deptford Fund Bazaar, at the Drill Hall, Bromley, at 3 p.m.—Sales by Messrs. Baxter, Payne & Lepper, of "Mayfield," Bromley, freehold building land at Gwydyr and Ridley-roads, Shortlands, 9, Freelands-road, Bromley, and 1 and 2, Ebury Villas, and plantation, Wellbrook-road, Farnborough, at the "Bell" Hotel, Bromley, at 8 p.m.—Dog Show at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

9th.—Mr. T. H. Jarvis's students' concert at the Co-operative Hall, East-street, Bromley.—Performance of "La Poupee" by Mr. E. Lockwood's Company, under the direction of Mr. J. Bannister Howard, at the Grand Hall, Bromley, and on following day.

11th.—*Third Sunday in Advent.*

12th.—Bromley Petty Sessions at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.—Mr. Will Hole's Bohemian Concert, at the Grand Hall, Bromley.—Meeting of the Bromley School Board, at the Offices, Wharton-road, Bromley.

13th.—Meeting of the Bromley Urban District Council, at the Offices, East-street, Bromley.

18th.—*Fourth Sunday in Advent.*

20th.—Bromley Musical Society's Concert at the Drill Hall, Bromley.—Monthly sitting of the Bromley County Court, at the Court House, Bromley.

25th.—*Christmas Day.*—The usual monthly afternoon musical service at St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common.

26th.—*Bank Holiday.*—Messrs. Morton and Dod's Company perform "When London Sleeps," at the Bromley Grand Hall, and during the week.

27th.—Bromley Petty Sessions, at the Court House, Bromley, at 10.30 a.m.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

BROMLEY URBAN COUNCIL.

This Authority met on three occasions during the past month, on the 1st, 15th, and 29th, and dealt with several matters of public importance.

WIDMORE ROAD WIDENING.

In connection with a petition from owners and occupiers in the Widmore-road, Bromley, asking the Council to widen the roadway opposite Widmore House, so that the footpath might be continued along the road, Mr. Nye moved a resolution authorising the Clerk to include in the application for a Provisional Order, the piece of land in front of Widmore House. The improvement was necessary for the safety and convenience of pedestrians, and would remove a hindrance to the trade of the adjoining shop properties.—Mr. Lawrence seconded.—A short discussion ensued, in the course of which Mr. Grinsted remarked that he thought it would be unwise to load the High-street scheme with other proposals.—Eventually Mr. Nye amended his resolution to the effect that the addition be made to the application for a Provisional Order, subject to the necessary plans being prepared in time, and this was adopted by 8 votes to 6.—At the next meeting it was reported that the Widmore-road proposal had been included in the application.

THE WORKMEN'S TRAINS PROPOSAL.

The report of the General Purposes Committee contained a recommendation to the Council not to take any action in connection with the Cheap Trains Bill, introduced into Parliament by Mr. S. Woods and others, but this suggestion was freely discussed and criticised when brought up at the Council meeting.—Mr. Lawrence thought it was a matter which materially affected Bromley, and that the proposal should be given their cordial support.—Mr. Worley also supported the movement, stating that cheap trains would not affect the neighbourhood to any large extent, and that land owners had full power to protect their interests. There was, he said, plenty of land between

Bromley and Knockholt suitable for the erection of workmen's dwellings, and he moved as an amendment to the Committee's report that the Council petition in favour of the Cheap Trains Bill.—Mr. Lord seconded the amendment.—Mr. Nye agreed with the principle of workmen's trains, but declined to support a Bill which stipulated a return fare of two pence for a distance not exceeding twelve miles.—Mr. G. H. Payne was of opinion that cheap trains would be useful and harmless, and, in reply to Mr. Nye, he pointed out that the workmen's trains run from Penge onwards passed from Bickley through Bromley and Shortlands empty at the present time, so that the extra expense would be exceedingly small.—Mr. Dickins suggested that the Council should leave the matter alone. Workmen's trains, he said, would depreciate the value of residential property, but increase the value of cottage property, so that the Council, as rate-makers and rate-collectors, were, in a sense, sitting on a fence.—Ultimately the amendment in favour of the Cheap Trains Bill was adopted, Mr. Nye being the only dissentient.

BROMLEY COMMON ROADSIDE PATH.

With reference to a complaint that had been made respecting the use of the roadside path at Bromley Common by cyclists and horsemen, the Council, upon the recommendation of the Highways Committee, decided to post notices warning cyclists and horsemen off the footpath.

THE WATER QUESTION.

The General Purposes Committee, in a report on a draft bill prepared by Mr. H. S. Samuel for dealing with the London water question, recommended the Council not to take any action in the matter, as the Bill would not materially affect this district.—Mr. Lawrence took an opposite view, and after a short discussion, the question was referred back to the Committee for further consideration.

RELICS OF THE "BELL."

The Council thankfully accepted an offer from Mr. F. Sutton, of the old bell which had hung outside the "Bell" Hotel for so many years, and a number of curious relics discovered when the premises were demolished.—The Chairman remarked that the bell was a relic of the most interesting old hotel in the district.

HIGHWAYS' COMMITTEE ATTACKED.

A prolonged and fiery debate took place at the meeting on November 1st, when Mr. F. Lord moved a resolution condemning the Highways Committee's action in having, without the Council's consent, given orders to their employees that any Councillor, other than the chairman, vice-chairman, or chairman of committees, asking for information, be referred by an employee to the Surveyor or a foreman, and instructing the Surveyor to revoke such order.—Mr. Mayne seconded, in order that the matter might be properly before the meeting, and remarked that he could find no such order in the Highways Committee's report.—Mr. G. H. Payne and Mr. D. Payne also expressed their ignorance of any such order.—Mr. Hutchings pointed out that the Surveyor must be given absolute control of his men, and stop them from talking to every ratepayer, otherwise no orders would be carried out.—Mr. Worley remarked that the Committee had not given any such order, as that referred to. He commented upon Mr. Nye's conduct in going among the workmen and bargaining with them about their wages, and characterised it as a mean and contemptible form of bribery. No man, he said, could serve two masters, and if any employee tried to serve both the Surveyor and the sixteen members of the Council, it would lead to the grossest abuse and the greatest muddle.—Mr. Nye replied at some length, and the discussion assumed a bitter personal tone. He denied that he had talked to the workmen respecting their duties, but claimed the right to do as he thought fit. The Highways Committee had had the matter before them, and he knew that they did not dare to make a public report, but, he added, things were done in secrecy.—The Chairman (Mr. Mallett) said that although the Surveyor reported to the Committee that Mr. Nye had interfered with the workmen, the Committee took no action in the matter whatever, and the instructions given by the Surveyor to his workmen were entirely of his own doing. He referred to the insulting terms in which the members of the Highways Committee were mentioned, and considered that, under the circumstances, an apology should be made to them.—Mr. McIntyre said he willingly accepted the Chairman's explanation that no such instruction was given by the Committee. It would be confusion worse confounded if every member were to go among the men, interfere with them, and listen to their grievances.—It was the Surveyor's duty to attend to those matters, and as an amendment he moved that the Council, having heard the discussion expressed its full confidence in the manner in which the Highways Committee had carried out its duties; the Surveyor was afterwards included in the vote of confidence.—Mr. Lawrence said the men should receive their instructions from the Surveyor, and any complaint a member had to make should be made to that officer. He contrasted Mr. Nye's attitude in the public meetings of the Council, where he posed as the champion of the men, with his conduct in Committee.—Mr. Grinsted also referred to Mr. Nye' work in Committee, when he said, he did all he could to injure the working men, while at the public meetings he posed as their friend. His conduct was a disgrace to the Council.—Mr. Dickins seconded the amendment.—Mr. Lord remarked that Mr. Nye's statement respecting the order to the employees was not denied by the Committee on a former occasion, so that he (the speaker) could not withdraw his resolution.—Upon being put to the meeting, the amendment—expressing confidence in the Highways Committee, and the Surveyor—was carried by 8 votes to 2.

VALUABLE ADDITION TO THE LIBRARY.

At the meeting on November 15th, Mr. T. C. Dewey, of South Hill Wood, wrote enclosing a cheque for £25, to defray the cost of purchasing one of "The Times" reprints of the "Encyclopedia Britannica," for the Bromley Public Library, and to provide the necessary shelves for the volumes.—The generous gift was unanimously accepted, and a vote of thanks passed to Mr. Dewey for his great kindness.

THE QUESTION OF PUBLIC LIGHTING.

Upon the question of public lighting, the Highways Committee reported that they had received and considered a further report from the Surveyor on the proposed improvement of the public lighting by the introduction of incandescent lamps and acting on such report, they recommended for important positions the adoption of the burner consuming ten feet per hour, provided suitable arrangements could be made with the Gas Company, as to lanterns, keep, and cost per annum, while for subordinate positions the ordinary mantle could be used at a reduced price. They also recommended that arrangements be made for a conference meeting with the directors of the Gas Company.—Mr. D. Payne moved the adoption of this report, and Mr. Worley seconded.—Mr. Grinsted referred to a lengthy report which the Surveyor had prepared but which the Council had never been shown. They ought, he said, to have an opportunity of seeing that report, before taking any active steps.—Mr. Nye supported the Committee's recommendations.—The Chairman said

the report in question was in the Clerk's office, and could be seen by any member. The adoption of the Committee's report would, he said in reply to Mr. Lawrence, practically pledge them to adopt the best form of incandescent lighting.—Mr. Lawrence declined to vote for the Committee's report before members had had an opportunity of considering the original report.—Eventually the Committee's report was adopted, and an appointment made to meet the representatives of the Gas Company to negotiate terms.

COUNCIL AND STREET NOISES.

A letter from the Clerk to the Dartford Urban District Council, asking the Bromley Council to take joint action in approaching the Kent County Council, representing the necessity for the making of byelaws to adequately deal with suppressing noises in streets in Urban Districts, had been considered, but the Highways Committee recommended that no action be taken.—Mr. Lawrence was of opinion that the Council ought to join the Dartford Authorities, and moved as an amendment to the adoption of the report that the question be referred back to the Committee to re-consider.—Mr. Dickins seconded the amendment.—The Chairman said the Dartford Council wished to suppress vendors' cries more than street noises, but the Committee thought it was not advisable to try to suppress the vendors.—Mr. G. H. Payne said they did not want to sweep everything away, but milk sellers' cries were an abomination. The ordinary costermonger was almost defunct in the locality.—Mr. Dickins suggested that they should ascertain what steps the Dartford Council proposed to take, so as to see if there was common ground on which they could join.—Mr. Lawrence's amendment, referring the matter back to the Committee, was ultimately agreed to.

A HEAVY POOR RATE.

Mr. G. H. Payne informed the Council that the new poor rate would be largely increased, owing to the County Council having greatly reduced their balances, in consequence of heavy expenditure on main roads, and main drainage of the new Asylum at Chartham.—The poor rate for the ensuing half year, as Mr. Payne foreshadowed, has been fixed at 1s. 4d. in the £, as compared with 11d., the last rate, and 1s. 1d. in the corresponding period of last year.

THE WIDENING OF HIGH STREET.

Mr. Nye referred to the proposed widening of the High-street, and expressed his disapproval of the suggested acquisition of shop properties in connection with the improvement of the roadway in front of the "White Hart" Hotel. Not one word about that matter had, he said, been mentioned, and he should oppose it to the utmost, as that part of the Provisional Order had never received the Council's consent. He also remarked that he had no idea that Mr. Grinsted's shop was to be included in the Order.

THE PROPOSED MARKET SQUARE CONVENIENCE.

At the Council meeting on November 29th, the Local Government Board wrote, objecting to the proposed construction of a public convenience underground, near the Town Hall in the Market Square, on the ground that the under-pinning of the Town Hall, which would be necessary, would involve considerable extra expenditure. An alternative site to the south of the Town Hall was suggested.—The Clerk stated that Mr. Coles Child would not consent to the adoption of the alternative proposal; and the matter was, therefore, referred back to the Sanitary Committee.

THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Referring to the re-appointment of Mr. Matthew Bates, as sanitary inspector, at an increased salary of £235 per annum, for one year, the Local Government Board pointed out that the salary was above the average for urban districts of the size of Bromley, but as the district was a growing one, they had approved of the appointment.

A "FASHODA" ROAD.

A request from Messrs. Baxter Payne and Lepper that a new road on the Tredwell Estate should be named Fashoda-road was granted.

THE HIRE OF WATER METERS.

In reply to a request for the re-consideration of the charge made for the hire of water meters, the Kent Water Works Company pointed out that the agreement with the Council stipulated that the Company should supply the meters, at a rental of £1 11s. 6d. per year for each meter, and they could not add in any way to the concession made in 1892, when the charge was reduced to £1 1s.—The Council referred the letter to the Finance Committee.

THE WATER QUESTION.

A short discussion on the question of taking action with other authorities respecting the Kent County Council's proposals regarding the water supply of London, took place at the last meeting, and eventually Messrs. Mallett and G. H. Payne, with the Clerk, were appointed as delegates to attend a meeting of the authorities concerned.

MORE RECREATION GROUNDS SUGGESTED.

Upon Mr. Peill's proposal, the question of providing a recreation ground for Bickley and Bromley Common was referred to the Recreation Grounds Committee. Mr. Mayne and Mr. Nye contended that the Sundridge Ward also needed a recreation space, while Mr. Dickins considered the wants of Plaistow in this respect were equally deserving of consideration.

STREET ROWDYISM.

Some discussion took place upon a proposition by Mr. G. H. Payne, requesting the police to take steps to check disorderly conduct and obscene language in the streets of Bromley, especially on Sunday nights. All agreed that the present condition of the streets was disgraceful, and it was suggested that police officers in plain clothes could more effectually deal with offenders.

THE QUESTION OF WORKMEN'S TRAINS.

After some discussion, the Council appointed Mr. G. H. Payne and Mr. E. G. Peill, with the Clerk, to give evidence at the forthcoming inquiry as to the necessity of workmen's trains for Bromley.

BROMLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

Since our last issue, three meetings of the Bromley School Board have been held, on October 31st, and November 14th and 28th.

HALF-YEARLY FINANCIAL REPORT.

At the first meeting, the only feature of public interest was the presentation of the financial statement for the past half year, ending Michaelmas, from which it appeared that the total receipts had amounted to £6,142 13s. 7d., including a balance brought forward of £3,174 12s. 4d., and £2,500 from the rates, while after the expenditure there remained a balance of £1,652 18s. 9d., the principal items of expenditure being £1,781 0s. 9d., for teachers' salaries, £736 5s. 11d. for interest on loans, and £553 1s. 4d. for fuel, repairs, etc.

THE COAL CONTRACT.

The School Management Committee reported that they had considered a further letter from Mr. Grinsted, on the question of dividing the contracts for coal and coke, and they had instructed the Clerk to place the coal tender with Messrs. Rickett, Smith and Co.—This was approved.

School Boys on Golf Links.

As the outcome of a discussion respecting the employment of under-age boys on the golf links at Shortlands, the Clerk was directed to write to the golf club secretaries in the district pointing out the illegality of employing children under age.

The Urban Council and Scholarships.

At the meeting on November 14th, a reply to the Board's application to the Bromley Urban Council for some aid from the technical education grant, towards the evening continuation schools carried on by the Board, was received, and stated that the Council had no funds in hand at present with which to assist the Board, but the Council had given instructions for application to be made to the Kent County Council for a grant for the purpose.—In a short discussion which followed, the Chairman (Mr. Gedney), remarked that the Council were begging the issue, as it was quite within their power to give the aid asked for, if they chose to do so.—Mr. Loly said the Council were applying for more funds, so that the Board might receive some assistance. He further remarked that the Council had offered to give a couple of scholarships, but the Board had made no move in the matter. These scholarships would be in addition to the 40 or 50 studentships already given.—Upon Mr. Amos's proposition, the Board decided to communicate with the Council, and to avail themselves of the proffered scholarships at as early a date as possible.

Miscellaneous.

The Clerk reported that the Board's accounts had been audited, no disallowance being made, nor any opposition offered.—It was agreed to form a third standard for boys at the Wharton-road School.—Upon the School Management Committee's recommendation the Christmas holidays were fixed to commence on December 23rd.—Miss E. M. Draper was promoted to the post of certificated assistant at the Raglan-road Schools at a salary of £65.

The Clerk reported that the half-yearly labour certificate examination was held on November 19th, when 122 scholars were presented.—Mr. Graham's tender for fencing the allotments in Jaffray-road, was accepted, the price being £5 14s. 8d.—Upon the recommendation of the School Management Committee, the Board appointed Mr. G. Loly (vice-chairman), and the Rev. R. Silvey as a deputation to attend a special meeting of the executive of the Association of School Boards, to consider the question of secondary education, and the Bill for the establishment of a Board of Education.

BROMLEY MUSICAL SOCIETY.

Not perhaps "the stars in their courses," but certainly the clouds with their moisture fought against the Bromley Musical Society on the occasion of the first concert of their 19th season, for anything more dismal and depressing than the weather on Saturday, 26th November, it would be hard to imagine. As a consequence there were many more vacant seats than usual in the auditorium, but there was no perceptible diminution in the number of executants in the orchestra, and it need hardly be said that the performance maintained the general level of excellence to which Mr. F. Lewis Thomas has accustomed us.

The opening number was Weber's deservedly popular "Oberon" overture, admirably rendered, but the orchestra was heard to even greater advantage in the lovely aria from Bach's suite in D, which was played with exquisite feeling. In sharp contrast were the two "Hungarian Dances" (Brahms) which immediately followed, the sudden changes of time, and characteristic effects in which must have required much diligent rehearsal.

The most important work in the programme was Beethoven's Symphony, No. 1 in C, with which part two opened. The playing of the first movement showed hardly as much life as some of the other pieces, and there were some who thought that the second movement might with advantage have been taken a little faster, but the whole piece was greatly enjoyed by the audience. The Ballet music from "La Reine de Saba" (Gounod) was also excellently rendered.

It was a somewhat bold experiment to choose for the two solo instruments of the evening, the flute and harp, since both are usually considered to be somewhat lacking in power and expression; but Mr. Albert Fransella showed such perfect mastery of his instrument in the "Suite for Flute" (B. Godard) and the melody of the "Idylle" was so pleasing that he evoked much enthusiasm.

Miss Mary Ankett also, was loudly applauded for the song "Winds in the Trees," which she sang to her own harp accompaniment, but was even more successful in the harp solo by J. Thomas entitled "Autumn," for which she received a hearty encore.

Enthusiastic encores were also given to Mr. Bantock Pierpoint—whose fine and very powerful voice would however, be heard to greater advantage in a larger building than the Drill Hall—for his rendering of "Oh! ruddier than the cherry" (with the introductory recitative, "I rage, I burn") and Gounod's song "The Valley"; and the rollicking Jacobite song which he substituted for a repetition of the latter, was immensely appreciated.

Needless to add, Mr. Thomas received a most hearty greeting alike from audience and orchestra, and Mr. Norman Bath was as usual the efficient leader of the orchestra.

MUSICAL GOSSIP.

The concert on behalf of the "Deptford Fund" on 3rd November was very successful, and it may be assumed that the financial results were equally satisfactory. There were however no items possessing special local interest, and it therefore does not claim any extended notice here.

There will be a special evening service at the Parish Church, on Wednesday 7th December, when the first part of Spohr's "Last Judgment" will be given, the choir being reinforced for the occasion by that of St. Mark's Church. A large attendance is hoped for.

The "Bromley Philharmonic," whose new departure was referred to in a previous number, give a concert this month, which will be looked forward to with considerable interest, and should be well supported.

The Christmas performance of the "Messiah" by the Bromley Musical Society is of course certain to attract a crowded audience.

It may be noted by the way, that at the Albert Hall the "Messiah" is to be given this month as nearly as possible as the score was left by Handel; that is without the orchestral accompaniments added by Mozart. A unique interest will thus be given to the performance, but it can hardly be doubted that the effect of the work will be weakened by the omission.

Much heated controversy has arisen during the past month on the question of Sunday concerts, in connection with the licensing of the Queen's Hall by the London County Council. Might not the Monthly Musical Services at St. Luke's suggest a more excellent way? If in each district competent amateurs would unite to give for the benefit of their neighbours, selections of sacred music, under suitable conditions, the need for public concerts of a more mixed character would at any rate be lessened, and the vexed problem of Sunday labour etc. in some measure solved.

RECORD PORTRAITS.

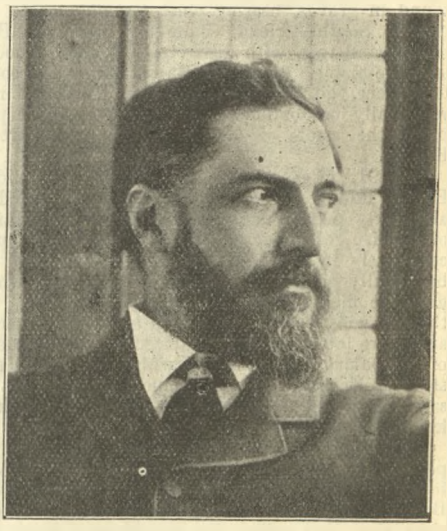
No. XXIX.—PROFESSOR W. M. FLINDERS PETRIE, D.C.L., LL.D., Ph.D.

While the study of the antiquities of Egypt has hitherto been the delight or hobby of the few, there is no question but that for various reasons—partly no doubt owing to our political relations with that country—it is gradually becoming a subject of deep interest to many, and when once one is smitten with what may be metaphorically termed Egyptian fever, there is ample evidence as to how absorbing the malady becomes. For the above reason alone we have no doubt that the brief account, which we are able to give this month, of Professor W. M. Flinders Petrie's eighteen years' labours in the field of archæology, will be received with interest by our readers. But Professor Flinders Petrie has another claim on the attention of local readers inasmuch as his home was for a long time in Bromley, where his father continues to reside. It is, as Sir John Lubbock pointed out, not a little singular that two of the foremost Egyptologists of our age should have been connected with this neighbourhood, the other being Dr. T. Young, translator of the Rossetta Stone, who lies buried at Farnborough.

The scope of this sketch will not, of course, allow of anything like a detailed description of the many valuable discoveries Professor Petrie has made in "the land of wonders," upon which he dwelt in his recent highly interesting lecture at Bromley, but those who heard him on that occasion will be glad to have a few personal particulars concerning the explorer, while to the uninitiated the story of some of the most important of his achievements cannot fail to be full of instruction and interest.

Born at Charlton, near London, on June 3rd, 1853, William Matthew Flinders Petrie is the only child of William Petrie, C.E., and Anne, daughter of Captain Matthew Flinders, R.N., author of "Important Original Researches in 1801," and other scientific works, who was also the discoverer and explorer of a great part of the Australian coasts. Among his ancestors on the father's side, were Martin Petrie, Commissary and Accountant General and (his son) William Petrie, Commissary-General.

As a child, the subject of our sketch was of weakly health, and was, in consequence, educated privately, and as years advanced, chemistry, land-surveying, Egyptology, and optical instruments became his special objects of study and research. It may be remarked in passing that Professor Petrie is an instance—Mr. Cecil Rhodes is another—of the good work often accomplished by people who are delicate in their youth and whose health for that reason is taken especial care of. Among the incidents of his digging life he relates how on one occasion he passed the night working up to his neck in water, and as he does not appear to have taken any harm from this experience, it may reasonably be hoped that his manner of life and work have proved beneficial to his health. His first important work commenced in his twenty-first year, when he was employed from 1874 to 1880, in measuring and mapping ancient British earthworks, copies of these surveys being deposited in the British Museum. During that period he wrote "Inductive Metrology, or the recovery of Ancient Measures from the Monuments," and also used his pen against some of the metric hypotheses promulgated in connection with the "Anglo-Israel" theory, which he followed up, in 1878, with a pamphlet entitled "The Return of Judah and Israel," in which he presented extracts from Scripture as precluding that theory. Two years later, he published "Stonehenge, plans, descriptions and theories"; and then spent the years 1881 and 1882 in Egypt, measuring and surveying, with special instruments, the "Pyramids and Temples of Ghizeh," the Royal Society aiding the publication of the results of this important expedition, by a grant of £100 in 1883. Professor Petrie paid another visit to Egypt in 1884, this time as explorer to the Egyptian Exploration Fund, and on that occasion he excavated the mounds of San, the "Soan" of Scripture, while on a subsequent visit, he discovered the site and ruins of the long-lost Græco-Egyptian city of Naukratis, in the Delta. The discovery of the sites of Am and of Defenneh resulted from the next expedition, and it was on the site of Defenneh that Mr. Petrie discovered the ruins of Pharaoh's house and a palace fort of remarkable construction, the household relics found in this historic palace being exhibited in 1886 by the Egypt Exploration Fund. Descriptions of these discoveries were published by Mr. Petrie, and, as showing the great carefulness



PROF. FLINDERS PETRIE, D.C.L., LL.D., PH.D.

paid by our explorer to details and the exhaustive character of his researches, it may be mentioned that one publication contained 63 plates, including foundation deposits and types of weights, with diagram curves showing the mutual relations of 775 additional examples of ancient weights carefully examined in 1888.

From 1887 until 1890, Mr. Petrie carried on explorations in the Fayoum on his own account, at the same time publishing a number of valuable works among them being "A Season in Egypt" (1888), "Historical Scarabs" (1888); "Historical Data of the XI. Dynasty"; "Surveys of the Pyramids of Dashur"; "The Earliest known Column in Architecture in Memphis"; "Hawara, Biahmu and Arsinoe," with plates illustrating ancient picture-frames and painted portraits, toys, papiri, and the pair of Colossi of Amenemhat III., XII. Dynasty, at Biahmu, restored from their remains; and with notes on 400 additional weights, making, in all, 4998 examples of ancient weights, carefully examined, weighed and tabulated. In the following year he published his excavations and surveys of the pyramid of Hawara and tombs of XII. Dynasty, and of Illahum and Tal Gurob, and explored and excavated for the Palestine Exploration Fund, at Umna Lakes, Tel Hosey, etc., in the south-west of Judæa.

In his recent lecture at Bromley, Professor Petrie described some most interesting relics which he had unearthed during the period under notice. In some of the graves the form of burying the dead—in a peculiarly contracted attitude—pointed, he explained, to a much earlier race than that which was well-known in Egypt, and there was also evidence, from a number of carved ivory ornamental combs, that the people of that early period had a good knowledge of mechanical form, but nothing of fine art. Some specimens of very primitive tools and weapons, worked in the most delicate fashion in flint—the only material available at that time—were also found, and with some pins and four balls taken from one very rich grave, which evidently contained the body of a favourite child of some king, Professor Petrie was able to re-construct the ancient game of nine-pins, in a form exactly similar to that followed in the game of skittles as played in the present day in Norfolk. It will be news to many to learn that the people of the better known period were, generally, of the North African type, but figures of a totally different race were frequently found in graves, bearing close resemblance to the modern South African, commonly called the Hottentot, and this, with discoveries of similar bodies in a pre-historic temple at Malta, and in the south of France, go to show, that the Hottentot race was really predominant, in early times, over probably the whole of Africa, and a large part of Europe.

In 1891, he excavated at Medum, in middle Egypt, finding the oldest temple known, standing absolutely perfect under the ruins of the pyramid of Senefru, of about 4,000 B.C. He also copied completely in facsimile the inscription on the beautifully sculptured tombs of that age, which give the most perfect type of hieroglyphics. In the following year he excavated at Tell-el-Amarna, and there found the great painted fresco pavements of the palace of Akhenaten, which showed a new style of Egyptian art, also much sculpture of the same naturalistic age, and a plaster death-mask of king Akhenaten.

It was in 1892, also, that Mr. Petrie was appointed to the new professorship of Egyptology, founded by bequest of the late authoress, Amelia B. Edwards, at University College, London, and since then that college has served as a centre for his work. Annual exhibitions are held there to show the proceeds of his excavations; and from 100 to 300 cases of antiquities are sent over here each year, afterwards being distributed to various museums in England and America.

Professor Petrie paid a visit to Italy in 1893, and photographed the Egyptian collections there. Returning to Egypt in 1894, he excavated at Koptos, and found several pre-historic statues and figures of animals, probably of the date of about 5,000 B.C.; these formed the beginning of the series of pre-historic discoveries of recent years. He also found on this occasion the monuments of over thirty kings, covering the whole range of history.

A great cemetery of the pre-historic Egyptians was discovered by Professor Petrie in 1895, at Naqada; and, with friends, he opened about two thousand graves, and brought away over three hundred cases of remains of a civilisation entirely new to us.

Excavations which he undertook in 1896, at Thebes led to a very unique discovery. The sites of ten temples were cleared, and a colossal granite slab on which the Israelites are named—the oldest mention of them in Egypt—was found. The slab weighed about five tons and was beautifully finished. The original inscriptions—of Amenhotep III.—referred to offerings made to the gods, but the slab had been re-cut, and the name of the next king, Merenptah, inscribed thereon, while a record of the triumph over the Libyans was found on the other side,—making it a monument of great importance. Relics of the Assyrian invasion of Egypt were also unearthed, including a very old collection of iron tools, probably the stock-in-trade of one of the armourers of the Assyrian Army when they invaded Egypt.

Coming to still more recent times, Professor Petrie, in 1897, excavated a cemetery, of about 3,600 B.C., at Deshasheh, and brought to light one of the finest statues yet found, together with a group of others.

In the same year the subject of our sketch married Hilda, youngest daughter of Mr. R. Denny Urbin, of Rustington Grange, Sussex; and, being even before her marriage an active archæologist, Mrs. Petrie has since been an invaluable coadjutor to the Professor in all his work both in Egypt and in England.

During the present year, Professor Petrie has excavated the great cemetery of Denderen, where he found a great quantity of sculpture ranging from about 3,500 to 2,800 B.C., and so crossed over one of the darkest ages of Egyptian history.

Besides the annual volumes describing and illustrating each year's discoveries, Professor Petrie has published several others on Egyptian History, Tales, Art, etc., making about thirty volumes issued since 1874.

He is a member of the Council of the Royal Archæological Institute, and on the committee for preserving ancient monuments in Egypt. Professor Petrie speaks Arabic fluently, is a fine numismatist, an accomplished draughtsman and photographer, and is well acquainted with chemistry.

He is strongly convinced of the absolute necessity of carrying on further excavations in Egypt with all possible speed, owing to the great amount of destruction which is yearly done by the natives. In another century he believes that nothing will be found; and is, therefore, anxious that the present opportunities for tracing the rise of civilisation in this interesting country should be fully utilised. For the past eighteen years he has been assiduously engaged in this work, and returns to Egypt during this month to resume operations, with, we are sure, the best wishes of his many friends in this district for even a greater degree of success, if possible, than that hitherto attained.

BROMLEY AND WORKMEN'S TRAINS.—A largely attended meeting of the working classes of Bromley was held on Saturday, November 12th, at the Co-operative Hall, East-street, to consider the question of preparing evidence regarding the requirements of workmen in the district for cheap trains, to present at the forthcoming inquiry to be held by the Board of Trade. Mr. Henry Hudd presided, and the speakers included Mr. J. Dunford (of the local committee), Mr. G. Lawrence (of the Urban Council), Mr. T. Gregory (of Camberwell Vestry), Mr. E. C. Gibbs (of the National Association for the Extension of Workmen's Trains), Alderman G. Dew (of the London County Council), and Mr. H. Nye (Bromley Urban Council). The following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"That in the opinion of this meeting the time has arrived when pressure should be brought to bear on the action of the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company, and the South-Eastern Railway Company in refusing to run workmen's trains on their lines running to and from Bromley, and are glad to know that the president of the Board of Trade has ordered an inquiry to be held in the district, as the result of the petition signed by twelve hundred ratepayers in this district, and by other local residents, also by the Urban District Council, the Board of Guardians, and the Bromley School Board."

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DIARY OF NOVEMBER.

1st.—Anniversary meetings at the Bromley Common Baptist Church. Mr. T. Lewis presiding and at the Elm-road Baptist Church, Beckenham, Mr. J. Attenborough in the chair.

2nd.—The annual conference of the Bromley Branch of the Girls' Friendly Society, at the Parish Room, West-street, Bromley, the Rev. A. G. Hellicar presiding.—Monthly meeting of the Beckenham Abstainers' Union at the Public Hall, Beckenham.

3rd.—Grand evening concert in aid of the Deptford Fund, at the Grand Hall, Bromley.

4th.—Eleventh annual general meeting of the St. Mary's, Plaistow, Working Men's Club, at the Club Room, Mr. W. H. Bosanquet in the chair.

6th.—The Rev. J. Bond, M.A., the new vicar, commenced his ministration at St. Mary's Church, Plaistow.

7th.—Annual sale of work under the auspices of the Church Missionary Society, at the Grand Hall, Bromley, and on the following day.

8th.—Annual meeting of the St. Mary's, Plaistow C.E.T.S., at the Institute, Plaistow.

9th.—Seventeenth annual show of the Bromley Chrysanthemum Society, at the Bromley Grand Hall, and on following day.—Annual foreign missionary meeting at the Bromley Wesleyan Chapel. Mr. F. J. Hughes presided and addresses were given by the Rev. E. Webster, M.A., from India, and the Rev. T. G. Selby, formerly missionary in China.—Two entertainments at the Bromley Presbyterian Sunday School by a choir of boys from Spurgeon's Orphan Homes, on behalf of the Homes.—The Chislehurst Wesleyan Church annual foreign missionary meeting.

10th.—Annual foreign missionary meeting at the Widmore Wesleyan Chapel.

11th.—Lecture by Dr. Dallinger, at the Grand Hall, Bromley, on "Spiders: their work and their wisdom, with a glance at mind in animals." Annual meeting of the Bromley Charitable Society, at the Science and Art School, Tweedy-road, Bromley, the Rev. A. G. Hellicar, presiding.

12th.—Public meeting at the Co-operative Hall, East-street, Bromley, in connection with the application for a service of workmen's trains between Bromley and London.

13th.—Annual church parade of the "A" troop of "The Queen's Own" Royal West Kent Yeomanry, and the Bromley Detachment "The Queen's Own" (Royal West Kent) Regiment, at St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common.

14th.—Annual meeting of the Bromley C.E.T.S., at the National Schools, College-road, Bromley.

15th.—Bromley Baptist Church Bazaar at the Drill Hall, Bromley, and on the two following days.

16th.—Opening meeting of the United Foreign Missionary Convention, held at the Grand Hall, Bromley, when Lord Kinnaird presided.—Annual show of chrysanthemums in connection with the Chislehurst Gardeners' Association, at the St. Mary Hall, Chislehurst.

17th.—United Foreign Missionary Meeting at the Bromley Grand Hall, presided over by Sir T. Lee Warner. Addresses were given by the Rev. H. E. Fox (honorary secretary of the Church Missionary Society), Rev. Arnold Foster (China, London Missionary Society), and the Rev. W. Wright Hay (of India, Baptist Missionary Society).

18th.—Ladies' missionary meeting at the Grand Hall, in the afternoon, presided over by Mrs. Theodore Howard.—Missionary meeting in the evening at the Grand Hall, presided over by Mr. Robinson Souttar, M.P., and addressed by Dr. Douthwaite (of China Inland Mission), Dr. H. Soltau (London Medical Mission), and Mr. J. Jackson (secretary for London of the Leper Mission).

19th.—Great children's demonstration, at the Grand Hall, Bromley, in connection with the United Foreign Missionary Convention.

21st.—Inaugural meeting of the Bromley Chess Club, at the Bromley Literary Institute, when the Right Hon. Sir J. Lubbock, Bart., M.P., was elected president.—Annual general meeting of the Bromley Amateur Dramatic Society.

22nd.—First meeting of the winter session of the Bromley Temperance Society, at the Bromley Congregational School Room.—Sunday School anniversary meeting at the Widmore Wesleyan Chapel.—Lecture by Sir John Lubbock, on "Sense and Senses in Animals" at the Public Hall, Beckenham, in connection with the Beckenham Committee of the London Society for the extension of University teaching.

23rd.—Lecture by Miss Mary Kingsley on her travels in West Africa, at the Grand Hall, Bromley, under the auspices of the Bromley Literary Institute.—Seventh annual exhibition by the West Kent Ornithological Society at the Drill Hall, Bromley, and on the following days.—Annual tea and entertainment of the Chislehurst branch of the Bromley Co-operative Society, at the Willow Grove Schools, Chislehurst.

24th.—Concert at the St. John's Parish Room, Freelands Grove, Bromley, in aid of the Lads' Reading and Debating Club, in connection with the St. John's church.

25th.—Sale of work in aid of the Police Court and Gaol Gate Missions of the C.E.T.S., at St. John's Parish Room, Freelands Grove, Bromley. Lady Bruce performed the opening ceremony.

26th.—Bromley Musical Society's Concert, at the Drill Hall, Bromley.

27th.—Usual monthly hour of sacred music at St. Luke's Church, Bromley Common.

28th.—Annual vestry meeting of St. Luke's parish, Bromley Common, at St. Luke's Institute, when the three retiring members of the St. Luke's Burial Board—the Rev. E. L. Colebrooke, and Messrs. J. H. Yolland, and J. Bloomfield—were re-elected.

29th.—Lecture by the Rev. Pedr Williams, of Clapton, entitled "The Plague of Humbug," at the Bromley Congregational Sunday School-room, arranged by the Y.P.S.C.E., on behalf of a poor church at Bermondsey.—Opening of a three days' bazaar at the Elm-road Baptist Church, Beckenham.

30th.—Concert at the Grand Hall, Bromley, on behalf of the Phillips' Memorial Hospital, Bromley.

RAMBLES IN SURREY.

CARSHALTON.

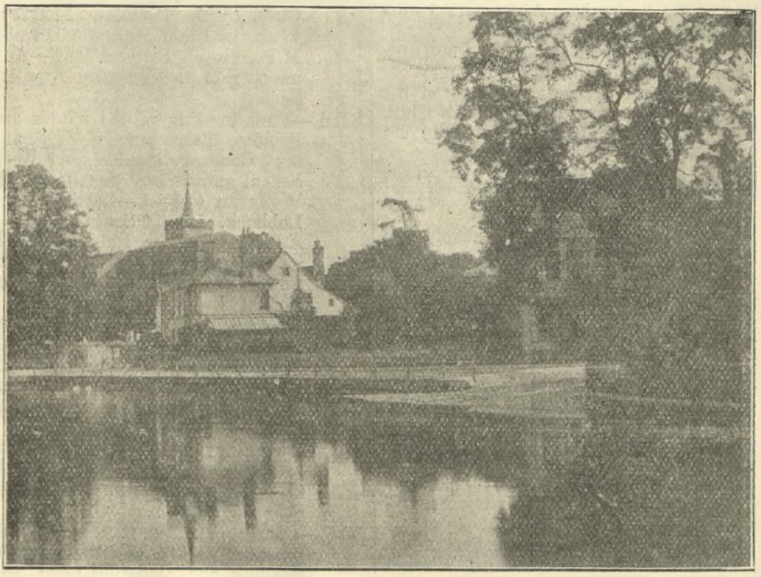
The conversion of Carshalton Park into plots for villa-residences, and the impending removal of the noble wrought-iron gates which at one time formed the entrance thereto, have tended to direct a good deal of public attention, recently, to this locality, and it has been thought that a few facts about Carshalton, before modern and projected "improvements" shall have entirely altered its character, might form a not entirely unwelcome contribution to our present issue.

The River Wandle, so much and so justly praised by Mr. Ruskin, broadens considerably at Carshalton where it forms a fine sheet of water. Around this the village clusters.

The Church, occupying a rather fine position on some rising ground immediately to the south of the pond, naturally claims our first attention, and, in spite of much restoration, it has managed to preserve many objects of value and interest to ecclesiologists. The structure itself has suffered so much, and consists so largely of modern workmanship, that we may at once turn our attention to the monuments. Of these the mediæval altar-tomb or high-tomb, of Nicholas Gaynesford and Margaret, his wife, is on several accounts the most interesting in the church. The inscription, which asks for prayers for the repose of the souls of the departed in the usual manner of the time, possesses the singular feature that the dates of death of both husband and wife are left partially blank. The year 1400 alone is given in each case with blank spaces for the day, month, and precise year of their decease. This indicates that the tomb was erected while both the persons commemorated were living—a very rare circumstance, indeed—and the probability is that it was built with the primary purpose of providing a convenient place for the Easter Sepulchre, an ancient semi-dramatic service long in use in many of our parish churches, and which was specially intended to symbolise and commemorate the burial of the body of our Lord in the sepulchre after the Crucifixion. A pyx containing the consecrated Host, and the crucifix from the high altar were here entombed, probably in some sort of movable wooden structure, on the night of Good Friday. Watchers with lighted candles kept guard until early on the morning of Easter Day, when the pyx and crucifix were replaced with elaborate ritual and every manifestation of joy at the great event typified.

It is known from wills, and other sources of information, that many people desired that their tombs should be used for this purpose, but in some churches (in our own parish church at Bromley, for instance), provision was already made for this annual and temporary structure by a specially built recess in the masonry of the wall.

That the rite of the Easter Sepulchre was celebrated at Carshalton Church, we have proof in the Inventories of Church Goods taken in the early part of the reign of Edward VI., wherein we find the following entry under Carshalton:—"Item, a peynted clothe for the sepulchre."



CARSHALTON, FROM THE WANDLE.

The two chief figures on the Gaynesford tomb are executed in brass, and represented in kneeling postures. Nicholas Gaynesford is shown in a complete suit of armour, but is bareheaded. He also wears a collar of roses and suns. His wife Margaret is dressed in a butterfly head-dress of large size and a long gown, coloured deep red by enamelling. Behind this lady was formerly a group of four daughters; unfortunately it is now lost. Behind the gentleman, a group of four sons still remains. All are shown kneeling; the first is in armour; the second is tonsured, like a priest; and the third and fourth have the ordinary civilian costume of the 15th century, each carrying a purse at his girdle. There are four shields of arms on the front of the tomb.

Margaret Gaynesford, commemorated by this tomb, belonged to that branch of the Sidneys whose star was so high in the court of Queen Elizabeth, but there is a lack of precise information about her immediate parentage.

There is also a brass to Joan, daughter of John Ellenbridge, died in 1524. Other brasses once

existed at Carshalton, commemorating Walter Gaynesford, and members of the Ellenbridge family, but they are now lost, or much mutilated.

The following inscription occurs on a tablet which was and possibly still is affixed to the south wall of the chancel:—

M.S.

Vnder the middle stone that guards ye ashes of
A certayne ffryer sometimes vicar of this place is
Raked up ye duste of William Quelche. B.D. who
Ministered in ye same. Since ye Reformacon
His loot was through God's mercy to burne
Incense here about 30 yr and ended his Course
April the 10. Ano Dni, 1654. being aged 64 yrs.

* * *

Those whom two fact service here made twaine
At length a friendly grave makes one Agayne.
Happy that day that hides or sinfull iarrs,
That shuts up all or shame in Earthen barrs.
Here let us sleepe as one till Ct ye iuste
Shall sever both or service faith and duste."

The "friar" who was formerly vicar here to whom reference is made was John Percebrigg, whose memory was once preserved by a brass with effigy in eucharistic vestments. That brass is now, however, lost.

There are many other monumental records both inside the church and in the churchyard. One of the most interesting, formerly in the churchyard, has been, however, unfortunately destroyed or lost. It was in memory of Admiral Sir Edward Whitaker, Knight, who died in 1737.

In a former article we have dealt with the history of Carshalton House and its association with the celebrated Dr. Radcliffe, and it will not be necessary to go over the same ground upon this occasion; but there is another house in the parish which from some points of view is almost as interesting. We refer to Carshalton Park, the grounds of which have recently been sold for building.

Owing to a circumstance which will presently be explained, the house itself was never built on the princely scale contemplated, but the entrance gates of wrought iron-work and with highly ornamented piers of Portland stone were erected about the year 1723. They were designed by James Leoni, the architect, as part of a scheme for a very sumptuous mansion at Carshalton. Unfortunately the owner had not accurately calculated the cost of the work, and so, from want of the necessary funds, the house was never built, although plans and sections for its construction, carefully drawn by Leoni, were published some years later. The gates are much admired by lovers of artistic metal work for the delicacy of their workmanship, and for the groups of leaden statuary representing the classical legends of Actæon and Artemis which still adorn the lofty stone piers which stand on each side of the gates. Anyone who wishes to see these beautiful examples of iron and lead work, should lose no time in visiting Carshalton, as the gates have been sold and are shortly to be removed.

Of the house itself little can be said except that it is a well-proportioned and comfortable building, and that for several years it was the residence of the late Mr. J. J. Colman.

Carshalton may be easily reached by railway if the train be taken to Wallington, or by road, if the way to Beddington (pointed out in a former paper), be continued in a south-western direction for about a mile.

CARSHALTON PARK.

Obituary.

MRS. GAGE SPICER.

The death of Mrs. Heriot Spicer, widow of the late Mr. William Gage Spicer, J.P., of Chislehurst, took place at her residence, "Clavering," Eton Avenue, Hampstead, on Friday, November 18th, in her 61st year. The funeral service was held at Trinity Church, Swiss Cottage, N.W., on Tuesday morning, and the interment took place later in the day, at the Bromley Cemetery. The cortege, which had travelled by road, consisted of a four-horse hearse, and nine private carriages. The officiating clergyman was the Rev. J. A. Bevan, curate of Trinity Church, Hampstead, N.W., and amongst the mourners were the Misses Spicer, of Bickley, and Mr. and Mrs. Augustin Spicer, of St. Mary Cray.

The business of Howard's Stores, Bromley and Beckenham, is shortly to be converted into a limited liability company.

A VETERAN VOLUNTEER'S RECORD.

Few volunteers, in this district, at any rate, can lay claim to a record of thirty-nine consecutive years efficient service, to which our townsman, Major R. V. Harman, of the Volunteer Battalion of the 2nd Tower Hamlets Volunteers is entitled. He was one of the first members enrolled in the Bromley Corp of Volunteers on its formation in 1860, and served in every rank, successively, from that of a private to quarter-master-sergeant. In 1878, Mr. Harman accepted a sub-lieutenant's commission offered him in the 2nd

MAJOR R. V. HARMAN.

Tower Hamlets, and he subsequently gained promotion to a lieutenant, then to captain, and now holds the rank of major in this regiment.

Major Harman went through a course of military training at Wellington Barracks, and successfully passed through the school, gaining a certificate with honours. He was also one of the first officers who received the V.D. or Queen's decoration. Major Harman has proved himself an excellent shot, and holds numerous cups and other prizes won at Bromley, Milton, Wimbledon, Brussels, Spa, Liege and elsewhere, of which he is pardonably proud.

BROMLEY CHARITABLE SOCIETY.—The Vicar of Bromley (Rev. A. G. Hellicar), presided over the annual meeting of the Bromley Charitable Society, which was held at the Science and Art School on November 18th. From the report it appeared that the receipts for the past twelve months had been less by £40 than those for the previous year, the total amount being £414 17s. 8d., including £55 0s. 9d. collected at various churches and chapels, and £251 14s. 6d. donations and subscriptions. £335 3s. 4d. had been spent, leaving a balance of £79 14s. 4d. which, however, had also been expended since the close of the year. The Vicar was again appointed as president, Mr. M. H. Hodder as treasurer, and Mr. E. Dawe, honorary secretary. The names of the Revs. J. Bond, W. A. Carroll, E. Y. Orlebar, and G. R. Forde, Mr. Hodgkinson, Mr. Willis, Mr. Wilks, and Colonel Cockburn were added to the General Committee, Mr. G. Weeks was re-elected Chairman of the Soup Committee, and the district committees were re-appointed.

BAPTIST CHURCH BAZAAR.—During the third week in November, a grand three days' bazaar took place in the Bromley Drill Hall, the object being to wipe off a debt on the Bromley Baptist Church of £200, and to raise a further sum of £100 for needed repairs. The building was elaborately and artistically decorated, and the stalls tastefully arranged, the ladies and gentlemen in charge of them being as follow:—General and Fancy Stalls: The Mesdames Silvey, Melling, Gurr, Mays, and Bacon; the Mesdames Harding, Phillpot, and Clarke, and Miss Harding; the Mesdames Strudwick, Toone, McCullum, Earle, and Chambers; the Mesdames Pearce, Johnson, Hockaday, Sayce, Collins, and T. W. A. Philpot; Refreshment stall: The Mesdames Shoebridge, Clarke, and Burbidge, and Miss Gibson; Young Women's Bible Class Stall: Mrs. Ellis and the Misses Harding and Busson; Sunday School and Christian Endeavourers' stall: The Misses Crowhurst, Johnson, Brightwell, and Barton; Young Men's Jumble stall: Mr. Shoebridge and helpers; Flower stall: Mrs. Chapman, Mrs. Browning, and helpers; Grocery and Confectionery stall: Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Pearce and helpers; Japanese stall: Miss Green and helpers; Christmas tree: Miss Mary Strudwick; Fish Pond and Bran Tub, Miss Gibson; Parcels Office: The Misses Huxford and Collins; An electric battery and microscopes were also lent respectively by Mr. Strudwick and Mr. F. Foskett. The bazaar was opened on the first day, Tuesday, 15th, by Mr. Gilbert Wood, F.R.G.S., and on the following days by Mr. J. Gibbs and Mr. E. W. Goodenough. Some very enjoyable concerts and entertainments were carried out by the members of the Church and friends, and the total sum realised amounted to £400, including two gifts of £25 from Mr. Philpott and £20 from Mr. E. W. Goodenough, so that the church is now entirely free of debt.

MISSIONARY CONVENTION AT BROMLEY.—During the last four days of the week ending November 19th, a very successful united foreign missionary convention was held at the Grand Hall, Bromley. Lord Kinnaird, Sir W. Lee-Warner, Mr. Robinson Souttar, M.P., and Mr. Robert Whyte, junr., occupied the chair at the different meetings, which were addressed by missionaries representing most of the prominent missionary societies, and Mrs. Theordore Howard presided over a ladies' meeting. The chief feature of the convention took the form of a children's demonstration on the Saturday afternoon, which was very largely attended. Miss Clara Benham very ably organised the gatherings, and the secretarial duties were carried out by Mr. Percy Medwin.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES AT KESTON AND WEST WICKHAM.—Some rather interesting discoveries in connection with prehistoric antiquities have lately been made at Keston and at West Wickham Common. For some time past it has been generally understood in the neighbourhood that certain important facts had been revealed bearing upon the antiquity of the earth-works, etc., at Hayes and Keston. The precise nature of the discoveries, however, was on Thursday, 24th ultimo, communicated to the Society of Antiquaries, of London, by Mr. Philip Norman, and we shall look forward to the publication of Mr. Norman's lecture with considerable interest.

THE RAINFALL.—The rainfall for October, measured at The High Field, Bickley, amounted to 2·93 inches. Rain fell on 16 days, the largest amount registered in one day being 1·10 in. on the 29th. For the corresponding month last year, the fall only measured ·55 in., but in 1896 it reached 3·37 in., 1895 2·63 in., and in 1894 4·54 in. The total rainfall for the first ten months of the present year amounts to 12·60 in., as against 20·70 for the same period last year.

BROMLEY STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

Full details of the properties that will be affected by the widening of the upper portion of the Bromley High-street, respecting which, the Urban District Council decided in October to make application for a Provisional Order, were given last month in the official notice, published in our contemporary, "The Bromley Chronicle." According to these particulars the properties to be interfered with on the east side, consist of Mr. D. Grinsted's shop, which projects on the pavement, Mr. Ferris's business place and the empty shop adjoining, and the new College buildings a little higher up the street, the forecourts of which will be taken by the Council. The west side properties from Mr. A. E. Colling's shop, No. 82, High-street, down to Messrs. G. Weeks and Son's shop and private house—where the basement entrance will need to be removed—are all affected, and include, besides the two mentioned, the following houses:—No. 81, Mr. Allen Barrell, umbrella maker, occupier; 80, Victoria Wine Company; 79, Mr. P. D. Vickers, hair dresser; 78, Mr. McKenzie, stationer and newsagent; 77, Mr. A. Romary, tobacconist; 76, Mr. C. Payne, greengrocer; 75, Mr. R. V. Harman, photographer; 74, Mr. Douglas Payne (private house); 73, Mr. J. Leathern, boot maker; 72, Mr. Townsend, butcher; 71, Mr. C. F. Pfeil, pawnbroker; 70, Messrs. Moore and Co., tea merchants; 69, Mr. W. Rendell, confectioner; 68, Mr. Samuel Seppings, cigar merchant; Nos. 1 and 2, Hall's Cottages, and the entrance passage; 67, and adjacent passage, Mr. W. Burr, upholsterer; 66, Brightwell and Crowhurst, ladies' outfitters; 64 and 65, Mr. John Howard, provision merchant; 63, Mr. George Henry Payne (private house); 62a, Mr. G. Rendall, hosier; and 62, Mr. W. R. Gunton, watchmaker.

For the improvement of the roadway in front of and near to the "White Hart" Hotel, in the lower part of the High-street, it is proposed under the Order, to deal with the hotel forecourt, Mr. Maurice Lloyd being the occupier, and the following shops and premises:—No. 138, Mr. Richard Skinner, occupier, homœpathic dispensary; 137, Messrs. E. Williams, J. White, and A. Luff, World's Tea Company, etc.; 136, Mr. B. W. Parsons, London and Provincial Meat Stores; 135, Messrs. H. Manning and Co., cigar merchants; 135, Messrs. H. Manning and Co., and E. C. Stedman, boot maker; 134, Messrs. S. J. and D. Crowhurst, drapers; and, on the opposite side of the road, No. 43, of which Messrs. Shaws, Bryant, and Co., Limited, grocers, are the occupiers.

The suggested widening of the Widmore-road, by Widmore House, has also been included in the application for a Provisional Order, the one property affected being Widmore House, of which Mr. A. Thomson is given as the occupier, and from which property a strip of garden only will be required, so that the footpath can be continued along this thoroughfare. This will remove an inconvenience to pedestrians, and a hindrance to trade, which have formed the subject of several complaints to the Urban Council.

SIR J. LUBBOCK AT BECKENHAM.—There was a crowded audience at the Beckenham Public Hall, on November 22nd, when the Right Hon. Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., gave an interesting lecture on "Sense and Senses of Animals." The Rev. Henry Arnott presided, and the lecture was given under the auspices of the Beckenham centre of the University Extension Movement.

A CYCLIST'S CLAIM FOR DAMAGES.—An important case affecting cyclists came before the Bromley County Court on Friday, November 18th. It was one in which the captain of the Chatham Cycling Club (Mr. J. W. Cooper) sued the Bromley Rural District Council for damages amounting to £5 16s., in connection with a cycle accident at Sidcup, alleged to have been caused through the negligence of the defendants.—In giving judgment for the defendants, His Honour, Judge Emden, said it was perfectly clear from the facts that there was no defect in repair or construction, and therefore there was neither nonfeasance nor misfeasance. No case had been made out either in facts or in law, and the action would therefore be dimissed, with costs.

The Dowager Countess of Derby has made fair progress during the last month in spite of the inclement weather. Her Ladyship, whenever it is possible, has walking and carriage exercise, but at present her Ladyship is not allowed to see visitors.

POACHING AFFRAY.—A serious poaching affray took place at West Wickham on the early morning of November 8th, when several gamekeepers in Mr. E. A. Hambro's employ discovered poachers in a wood on enclosed land, and on coming face to face one of the poachers fired and struck two keepers named Richard Durling and Edward Borer. Durling was seriously injured. One arrest was made a few days afterwards, the prisoner being George Johnson, a labourer, of Arpley-road, Penge, who is now in custody on a charge of attempting to murder George Webb, by shooting at him, and with doing grievous bodily harm to Durling and Borer.

THE SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A SERVANT.—At the Kent Assizes at Maidstone, on November 23rd, before Mr. Justice Hawkins, a servant girl named Fanny Gardner, 20, was indicted for the wilful murder of her newly-born illegitimate child, at Lansdowne-road, Bromley. The child was found in the coal cellar at the residence of the prisoner's mistress. The infant's head was nearly severed from its body.—The prisoner's lover, who gave evidence, admitted having been unduly intimate with her, and promised to marry her in the event of her acquittal.—The defence was that the prisoner was unconscious at the time of the child's death, and that the injuries were inflicted after it was dead.—The jury acquitted the prisoner.

CHARGES AGAINST A MEDICAL MAN.—The trial of David Wallace, medical practitioner, of Beckenham, on a charge of performing an illegal operation on a young woman named Warrilow, at Beckenham takes place at the Kent Assizes before Mr. Justice Hawkins. A true bill has been returned by the Grand Jury, but owing to the large number of prisoners, the case had not come on for hearing before the date appointed for the opening of the Lewes Assizes, by Mr. Justice Hawkins. Dr. Wallace's case is expected to be reached on or about December 6th.

ELECTRIC LIGHT FOR SOUTH HILL PARK.—At the meeting of the Beckenham Urban District Council on Monday, November 21st, a memorial was presented from a number of influential residents at South Hill Park requesting the Council to give permission to the Bromley Electric Light and Power Company, to provide a cable for the supply of houses in that district. From a letter, written to one of the signatories, it appeared that the company would be prepared to hand over the cable at cost price, or at a valuation to the Council in the future. The matter was adjourned for consideration until after the engineer and surveyor had reported, and it was decided that the Clerk should interview the Company with the object of securing a direct and definite proposal.

LOCAL WILLS.

Mr. C. W. Harrison, Beckenham.—Personal estate to the declared value of £69,705 16s. gross, and £57,781 16s. 5d. net, has been returned by the executors of the will of the late Mr. Charles William Harrison, late of Austin Friars and Beckenham, who died on August 25th last, and appointed Miss Sophie Elizabeth Harrison, sister, and his son, Mr. Arnold Sander Harrison, as executors; to the former he bequeathed the use of his household furniture and effects for life, together with the income for two years of his estate at Beckenham; to each of his executors, specific bequests of £200; his widow being amply provided for, he makes for her no further provision, and the residue of his estate he leaves in equal proportions between his children.

Mr. Alfred Heales, Chislehurst.—The executors of the will of Mr. Alfred Heales, F.S.A., Hon. A.R.I.B.A., proctor, late of Doctors Commons and Chislehurst, are his widow, Mrs. Annie Emily Heales, Mr. Burroughs Kershaw, and Mr. Albert Charles Hunter, who have returned the value of the personal estate at £46,884 3s. 5d. The whole of his property, subject to legacies to his widow and executors, and specific gifts to his son, he leaves as to two-thirds to his wife, and one-third to his son, Alfred George Heales, upon trust.

Mr. C. Oakley, Chislehurst.—The personalty of the late Mr. Christopher Oakley, of Cromlix, Chislehurst, and 10, Waterloo Place, Pall Mall, has been proved at £86,707 2s. 3d.

Music Students' Concert. — On Tuesday, November 29th, the students at the Beckenham and Bromley Schools of Music gave a very successful concert, with professional assistance, at the Beckenham Public Hall, before a large and appreciative audience. Mr. Oscar Beringer delivered an interesting address on the art of music, and during the proceedings he also presented medals and certificates to the successful students at the July examinations.

New Vicar of Farnborough.—The Rev. Graves Lombard, of Chertsey, Surrey, has been appointed vicar of Farnborough, and preached to large congregations at the Parish Church on Advent Sunday. The reverend gentleman will be inducted to the living towards the end of December.

The New Homœopathic Hospital.—The Committee of the Phillips Memorial Homœopathic Hospital and Dispensary, Bromley, have accepted the tender of Mr. Thomas D. Graty, Bromley, amounting to £4,820, for building the new hospital. The other tenders considered were: Mr. Douglas Payne, £5,134; Messrs. T. Crossley and Son, £5,160; and Messrs. J. Arnaud and Son, £5,587. The architects are Messrs. Gibson and Russell, and the subscriptions and donations already received amount to £3,005.

Arson at Beckenham.—A Penge lad named William Powell, was indicted at the Kent Assizes, on November 22nd, for setting fire to the premises of Mr. Albert J. Bishop, monumental sculptor, Elmers End-road, Beckenham, and also with breaking into the place and stealing a pocket knife.—Prisoner pleaded guilty, and was sentenced by Mr. Justice Hawkins to eight months' hard labour.

The Rev. C. Moinet, D.D., of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Bromley, has just been unanimously nominated by the Board of Nomination of the Presbyterian Church of England, as Moderator of the Synod of 1899, which will meet in Regent Square Church, in the last week in April.

Lecture by Miss Mary Kingsley.—A very enjoyable lecture was given by Miss Mary Kingsley, neice of the celebrated author, on her travels in West Africa, on November 23rd, at the Bromley Grand Hall, under the auspices of the Bromley Literary Institute. Mr. A. C. Norman, J.P., presided, and Miss Kingsley, who has a racy and original style of delivery, related some very narrow escapes she had experienced when journeying in parts of West Africa where European influences had not reached. Some fine lantern views, from photographs, many of which were taken by Miss Kingsley, were used to illustrate the lecture. The attendance was, unfortunately, not very large.

Bird Show at Bromley.—On Wednesday and Thursday, November 23rd and 24th, the seventh annual show of canaries, mules, British and foreign cage birds, poultry, pigeons, rabbits and cavies, arranged by the West Kent Ornithological Society, took place at the Bromley Drill Hall. In size and quality it showed an improvement over previous shows, but the inclement weather had a marked effect upon the attendance. Mr. A. G. Filby discharged the duties of honorary secretary, assisted by the sectional secretaries, Mr. J. R. Pocock (cage birds), Mr. R. Howard Smith (poultry), and Mr. J. N. Sutton (pigeons, rabbits, and cavies).

Owing to pressure on our space, we are compelled to hold over the continuation of "Iva Kildare."

Births.

Barker.—On the 31st October, at 30, Foxgrove-road, Beckenham, the wife of E. C. Barker, of a daughter.

Carpenter.—On the 22nd November, at 18, Barnmead-road, Beckenham, the wife of Edwin Best Carpenter, of a son.

Carden.—On the 16th October, at 17, Ravensbourne-road, Bromley, Kent, the wife of Thomas Frederick Carden, of a son.

Creasey.—On the 10th November, at Beltoft, Hadlow road, Sidcup, the wife of John R. Creasey, of a son.

Dalton.—On the 9th November, at The Oaks, Chislehurst, Kent, the wife of J. Harmer Dalton, of a daughter.

Lubbock.—On the 17th November, at Gorringes, Down, the wife of Hugh N. Lubbock, of a son.

Tait.—On the 9th November, at Markham, Station-road, Bromley, Kent, the wife of John Wm. Tait, of a son.

Marriages.

Clarke—Meston.—On the 1st November, at St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington, by the Rev. Canon Pennefather, D.D., Herbert Clarke, Civil Engineer, of Boston, Lincs., to Ada Jessie, daughter of the late Joseph Fyfe Meston and of Elizabeth Mary Gower Meston, of Brauxholm, Beckenham, Kent.

Romilly—Stenning.—On the 22nd October, at St. Mary's, Plaistow, Kent, by the Rt. Rev. Edward Noel Hodges, D.D., Bishop of Travancore and Cochin, assisted by the Rev. W. Hodgson, Vicar of the parish, the Rev. Cuthbert E. R. Romilly, of the Church Missionary Society, third son of the late George Thomas Romilly, to Mary Louisa (May), second daughter of Edward Stenning, of Basil House, Bromley-park, Kent.

Solomon—Mornement.—On the 29th October, at St. Saviour's, Herne-hill-road, Lambeth, by the Rev. John Bayfield Clark, M.A., Vicar, Ernest Henry, second son of Walter Solomon, of Beckenham, to Lucy, youngest daughter of James Mornement, of Margate.

SATTERTHWAITE—CLARKE.—On the 20th October, at St. Mary's, Plaistow, Kent, by the Rev. H. J. Clarke, Vicar of Great Barr, Staffordshire, assisted by the Rev. W. Hodgson, M.A., Vicar of St. Mary's, Plaistow, Sidney Clement, second son of Clement Satterthwaite, of Whitegate, Bromley, Kent, to Constance Stephenson, youngest daughter of the late Charles Harwood Clarke, F.S.A., of Westfield, Bromley, Kent.

TITCHMARSH—ABBOT.—On the 22nd October, Ellis Titchmarsh, of Christchurch-street, Ipswich, to Minnie M., eldest daughter of Mrs. Abbot, Cranford, Foxgrove-road, Beckenham, and the late Francis Sharp Abbot, of The Hollies, Thrapston.

Deaths.

FOX.—On the 23rd October, at Dornden, South-Eastern road, Ramsgate, John Fox, late of Bromley, Kent.

FREER.—On the 20th Nov., at 12, Highland-gardens, St. Leonards-on-Sea, the Rev. Henry Leftwich Freer, a late Vicar of Cudham, Kent, and youngest son of the late John Branston Freer, of Stratford-on-Avon, aged 64.

GREENE.—On the 26th October, at 16, Foxgrove road, Beckenham, Elizabeth Greene, widow of the late Rev. Cecil J. Greene, formerly Rector of Fishbourne, Chichester, and some time Headmaster of the Grammar School, Midhurst, aged 93.

HOWELL.—On the 30th October, at 23, High-street, Beckenham, Eliza, widow of the late John Howell, formerly of High Wycombe, Bucks.

HARRIS.—On the 17th November, at St. Olives, Kingshall-road, Beckenham (formerly of Sutton), Frederick H. Harris, aged 32 years.

MIDDLEMISS.—On October 29th, at No. 1, Park Grove, Mary Ann, widow of the late William Middlemiss, aged 62 years.—Deeply mourned

MORTIMER.—On the 5th November, at The Cottage, Bromley, Kent, Russell Mortimer, fourth son of the late H. H. Mortimer, of Upper Tooting, Surrey, in the 81st year of his age.

MASON.—On the 5th November, at 4, Bloomfield-road, Bromley, Kent, Sarah Ann, widow of Henry Mason, formerly of Branstone Hall, near Burton-on-Trent, eldest daughter of the late Daniel Maydwell, of Ashstead, Surrey, aged 83.

PHILLIPS.—On the 18th November, at The Roystons, Beckenham-road, Penge, Frederick Richard Barton Phillips, of Messrs. Phillips and Brickland, Royal Mail-yard, Gough-street, Gray's-inn-road, in his 53rd year.

SPICER.—On the 18th November, at "Clavering," Eton-avenue, Hampstead, Heriot, widow of William Gage Spicer, J.P., of Chislehurst, in her 61st year.

YOUNG.—On the 29th of October, at Budleigh Salterton, Archibald Young, of the Stock Exchange, late of Bromley, Kent, aged 38.

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.

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 LADY has much pleasure in recommending her Visiting Governess, who is needing pupils or the afternoon in the neighbourhood of Bromley—Address, Miss Browne, 1, Elmfield Park, Bromley, Kent.

Work Wanted.

DRESSMAKING Wanted at Ladies' own houses, by the day or at home.—Please apply, Mrs. Gilbert, 79. Simpson's Road, Bromley. F/485/p450

COOK.—Experienced. For Dinner or Supper Parties; by day or week. Disengaged.—Mrs. F. Church, 10, North-Street, Bromley, close to S.E.R. Station. rp209

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

Wanted to Purchase.

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.

Notices.

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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.

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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 & Roses.

All having been recently moved are now in good condition for transplanting. He has also a good Stock of

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Carriages built on the most approved principles

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(CONTINUED).

SYDENHAM, S.E.—Malvern House Estate Seventeen plots of Freehold Building Land, virtually free from restrictions, admirably placed in an exceptional position adjacent to the High Street, and within two minutes' walk of the Sydenham Railway Station.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE AND LEPPER will Sell by Auction at the Greyhound Hotel, Sydenham, on Wednesday, December 7th, 1898, at 7 for 8 o'clock precisely, 17 valuable plots of Freehold Building Land, with frontages of from 20 ft. upwards, to Newlands Park and Homecroft Road, and having very considerable depths.—The main drainage is laid, and the Tithes and Land Tax redeemed.—The land occupies a perfect position for the erection of small villas, cottages, or business premises, for which a great demand exists.

May be viewed and particulars of Sale, with plans, obtained of Messrs. Merriman, Pike, and Merriman, Solicitors, 25, Austin Friars, E.C.; at the place of Sale; 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.

CHRISTMAS and New Year Presents.

Fur Necklets, 3/11 4/11 5/11 7/11 9/11 11/9 to 50/-
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KENT, BROMLEY.—Secure Freehold Investment. The Valuable Detached Residence, being "Mayfield," admirably placed in a very central position, at the corner of Newman and Tweedy Roads, close to the South-Eastern Company's Railway Station.—The house is built on two floors, and contains 5 good bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, bathroom, etc., 3 exceptionally good reception rooms, entrance hall and lobby, ample domestic offices, out-buildings, etc., and a nice garden. —Held by a capital tenant at the low rental of £75 per annum.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE AND LEPPER will Sell by Auction at the Bell Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, December 8th, 1898, at 7 for 8 o'clock precisely, the above described Freehold Residence let at an annual rental of £75, and forming, without doubt, a sound Freehold Investment.

May be viewed by permission of the tenant, and particulars with conditions of Sale obtained of Courtney Lewis, Esq., Solicitor, 3, Adelaide Place, E.C.; at the Bell Hotel, Bromley; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Auctioneers and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, BROMLEY.—A small, but well secured Freehold Investment.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE AND LEPPER will Sell by Auction at the Bell Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, December 8th, 1898, at 7 for 8 o'clock precisely, the substantially built Freehold Shop and Premises, together with dwelling accommodation, stabling, and large yard, known as 9, Freelands Road, in the occupation of Messrs. Coleman and Co., dairymen, on a lease of 21 years from December, 1894, at the low annual rental of £40.

May be viewed by permission of the tenant, and particulars with conditions of Sale obtained of Messrs. Baker, Blaker, and Hawes, Solicitors, 117, Cannon Street, E.C.; at the place of Sale; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Land Agents, Surveyors, and Auctioneers, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, BROMLEY.—In a capital position near to the Town, and within a few minutes' walk of Bromley and Shortlands Stations (L.C. and D. Ry.). 61 Plots of valuable Freehold Building Land, suitable for the erection of small villas or cottages, and having frontages of about 17 feet, with depths varying from 80 to 128 feet. The land is on a gravel sub-soil, main drainage is laid throughout, and gas and water as required

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE AND LEPPER will Sell by Auction at the Bell Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, December 8th, 1898, at 7 for 8 o'clock precisely, the valuable Freehold Building Land as above described, with frontages to Gwydyr and Ridley Roads (close to the Queen's Mead Recreation Ground). The Property offers an exceptional opportunity to Builders, Speculators, and others, the land being perfectly ripe for building purposes. Immediate Possession. Free Conveyances.

May be viewed and particulars with conditions of sale and plans obtained of Messrs. Willett and Latter, Solicitors, Bromley, Kent; Messrs. Miller, Smith, and Bell, Solicitors, 3, Salters Hall Court, London, E.C.; and of Baxter Payne and Lepper, Surveyors and Land Agents, Bromley and Beckenham, Kent, and 69, King William Street, E.C.

KENT, FARNBOROUGH, close to the Main Road, with a good omnibus service to and from Bromley. The pair of Freehold Country Cottages, being Nos. 1 and 2, Ebury Villas, Wellbrook Road, each containing four bedrooms, two sitting-rooms, kitchen, scullery, etc., etc. Good gardens. The residences, at present in hand, are each of the estimated rental value of £28 per annum. Also adjoining, a Freehold Fruit Plantation, planted with trees in full bearing, and having thereon a two-stall Stable, with Loft over, chaise house, etc. The plantation has a frontage of 28 feet 6 inches to Wellbrook Road, and is a suitable site for the erection (if desired), of a villa residence.

MESSRS. BAXTER PAYNE AND LEPPER will sell by Auction at the Bell Hotel, Bromley, Kent, on Thursday, December 8th, 1898, at 7 for 8 o'clock p.m. precisely, the above described Country Villas and Land. Lot 1: No. 1 and 2, Ebury Villas, with possession on completion. Lot 2: The valuable Freehold Plantation.

May be viewed, and particulars with conditions of sale, obtained of Messrs. Barrell, Wilkinson, and Reid, Solicitors, 36 and 37, Great St. Helen's, 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.

For remainder of Auction Sales see preceding page.

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