

St. Mark's, Englefield.

LOCAL SHEET.

No. 38.]

FEBRUARY, 1889.

[Price, with "Banner of Faith," ONE PENNY.]

We give as promised last month the Balance Sheet of the Clothing Club for last year :—

1888.	RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	1888.	PAYMENTS.	£	s.	d.
Jan.	Balance in hand ...	1	2	0	Dec.	100 Club Cards ...	0	1	6
Oct.	R. Benyon, Esq. ...	5	0	0	„	Wellsted ...	2	11	9
„	Mrs. Benyon ...	2	0	0	„	Heelas ...	2	19	3
Dec.	Deposits ...	30	14	7	„	Allright ...	12	11	6
	Discount ...	0	1	7	„	McIlroy ...	18	1	7
					„	Repaid in Cash ..	1	15	0
					„	Balance in hand ...	0	17	7
		<hr/>					<hr/>		
		£38	18	2			£38	18	2
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Mr. and Mrs. Benyon kindly entertained the Choir at tea on Thursday, January 10th, and afterwards Mrs. Benyon gave a little present in money to those who had attended the Services and Practices throughout the year with the greatest regularity. The Squire addressed to them a few kindly words of encouragement and appreciation, and alluding to the lessons on voice management and training which are about to be given to the Boys by a Teacher from Reading, he said that with care the Choir might become quite an agreeable surprise to those who from Englefield or the neighbourhood heard them sing.

Out of 174 attendances at Church and Practice during the year, there were 13 boys who were only absent from 0 to 6 times, some of these had however lost some marks from one cause or another, so that the final position of the names was not as we now give it; the names as under-written show the number of times during the year the boy was absent from Church or Choir Practice :—

Fred. Griffin 0	John Coombes... .. 2
W. Manning 1	Eric Rhind 3
Jos. Coombes 1	John Rhind 4
Fred. Coombes 1	Hugh Rhind 5
Ernest Cox 1	Fred. Cox. 6
Thomas Harris 2	Maurice Allen... .. 9
Fred. Vince 2	Alfred Lamperd 9
Cam. Rhind 2	

Of the Choir men who give us kind and valued help there were three whose absences throughout the year from the 174 attendances were below 20. It would be impossible to find a better record than this in any Voluntary Choir, and we are sure that the whole Parish appreciates the care, diligence, and earnestness displayed by our Choir.

Mr. Davis' lessons to the Choir boys will, we firmly believe, add greatly to the ease and comfort of their singing; we want every Choir boy to feel an easy confidence in himself, that as he reads from a book in School alone so if required he could sing by himself, he might fairly say, "I have such a tiny little voice," but he ought to be able to add, "I know how to open my mouth and how to produce my voice, and I can as easily sing a verse of a hymn alone as read a sentence in a book out loud alone." The first lesson was given on Saturday Evening, January 12th, and it was observed by several competent persons that the singing in Church next day was less strained and harsh and more natural in quality and tone than ever before. We think the boys are very fortunate in having these lessons, and we are quite sure they will find the comfort and advantage that they give them.

We must not omit to record a little piece of good luck which befell the Choir boys at Christmas in the shape of a new half-crown, which each received from Mr. and Mrs. Whateley, who were staying at Englefield House, and hearing the hearty way in which the Carols were sung after Evensong, took this kind and acceptable method of testifying their satisfaction. We have a distinct recollection what a fortune half-a-crown seemed in the days of one's youth to be spent according to one's own sweet will.

W. Rhind, jun., and Vince. Mr. Sait was elected Honorary Secretary, and the Rector, Honorary Treasurer.

The suggestions proposed by the Committee were unanimously carried, the prizes for the tournaments not to exceed 2s. 6d. each in value.

The Lifeboat box was passed round, and the sum of 8s. 11d. was found in it.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the meeting to a close.

It was stated that 732 bottles of ginger beer, and 1185 glasses of "squash" had been sold last summer.

BAPTISM.

"One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism."

January 24th.—Arthur Paul, son of Rev. Walter Alfred and Paulina Hill, of Bradfield College.

A.L.C.H.

ENGLEFIELD RECTORY,

26th January, 1889.

St. Mark's, Englefield.

LOCAL SHEET.

No. 41.]

MAY, 1889.

[Price, with "Banner of Faith," ONE PENNY.

The Dinner Kitchen has finished its useful work for the season; it has scarcely proved a financial success, but then it was not undertaken for that purpose; it was hoped, and we think the hope has been realised, that it would not cost more than the usual winter gift of soup every Saturday to which the Parish had long been accustomed from the liberality of the Squire of Englefield. As a matter of fact the children's payments for dinner have amounted to £19 3s. 5d., representing 9200 dinners; the bread has cost £10 15s. 9d., and the jam, rice, sugar, lentiles, oatmeal, pearl barley, peas, pepper and salt have together cost £9 1s. 5d.; thus for receipts and payments nearly balance; there remains the cook, gas, vegetables, milk, butter and meat,—a very considerable remainder—and for these we are indebted to Mr. Benyon. There can be no manner of doubt but that the dinners have been appreciated by the children, and that they have benefited by them; a hot dinner is more wholesome, nourishing and comforting than a cold one, and many who come from some distance and were accustomed to bring their dinner have been ever regular customers much to their own benefit.

It was difficult to find out what was most liked by the children, but eventually we settled down into suet puddings twice a week, rice-milk twice a week, and soup once a week, followed always by a slice of bread and jam, or bread and butter.

Experience has always to be bought and paid for, and probably if all be well another season, we may and ought to manage rather more economically, at first the quantity of jam used was large, and at one time the quantity of butter consumed was quite unnecessary, but we found out our error, and even now propose for the future to cut the bread a little thicker and spread the jam a little thinner! Careful house-wives have to attend to these details.

The Easter Vestry was held by adjournment at Englefield House, on Monday, April 22nd; Mr. Benyon was re-appointed

for waste-paper, brushes, &c.), to increase the Library accommodation.

The following is the corrected list of Cricket Matches during the season:—

May	4th.	*Englefield v. Greyfriars'.
„	18th.	*Englefield v. Biscuit Factory.
June	1st.	*Englefield v. Bradfield.
„	15th.	Englefield v. Burghfield.
July	20th.	Greyfriars' v. Englefield.
August	3rd.	Biscuit Factory v. Englefield.
„	17th.	Bradfield v. Englefield.
„	31st.	*Burghfield v. Englefield.

* *To be played on the Englefield Ground.*

We are glad to report all our invalids better. We all were heartily glad to see the Squire in Church again on Easter-day, for the first time since Ash-Wednesday, and hope soon to hear his voice again reading the Lessons.

Easter-day was indeed a happy one, 108 persons received the Blessed Sacrament in our Church that day, which shews that the number of those who value the Church and her Sacraments, is steadily increasing, and that the idea of the the Holy Communion being only intended for women and old people is—let us thank God—passing away. The music at the Holy Communion was very nicely sung; indeed the Services throughout the day left nothing to be desired, quiet, reverent, free from noise and fussiness, they seemed to be the very ideal of what a simple village service should be: the boys' reverence is helpful not only to themselves but to every member of the Congregation. Mr. Goddard (whose thoughtful sermon was a nice finish to the day), was very much struck with the quietness in our Vestry, as well as the the careful reverence of the boys during Service. Altogether Easter-day, 1889, is a day to be much remembered. Thanks be to God.

Every one must have observed the great improvement in the singing of the Choir, the result of the lessons which Mr. Benyon has so kindly allowed the boys to have from the Organist of St. Giles', Reading.

"Flatness" and "shouting" are we hope things of the past, and need never return if the boys will continue to be properly careful. We observe with satisfaction that they are getting critical upon each other, and detect one another's faults, and are also anxious to cure their own, and take pains, and don't mind being spoken to. Choir boys and even men have the reputation of being rather "touchy" about their voices, Mr. Davis has done us all good in this way, and even to untrained ears the great difference in the tone and quality of the singing has been quite perceptible. We will make every effort not to fall back and in this effort we know we shall be supported by each man and boy in the Choir.

Three evenings a week for Choir work has been rather a pull on us all, but the result is well worth it, the twenty hours so spent could not possibly have been more usefully or better employed. We go back now to the ordinary two practices a week (Thursday and Friday) with every intention of trying to make them useful and improving.

Weather permitting we hope soon to have the Swimming Bath filled, and commence both swimming and swimming lessons, and hope there will be plenty of boys who wish to be taught. On Saturday afternoons we hope to give a chance to those who have lately left school but wish to perfect themselves in swimming. Towels and bathing-drawers are provided.

The working party at Englefield House during Lent has had great success and been a very industrious body of persons; we understand that the number of garments made is even greater than that of last year, but we hope to allude to the subject again next month.

The amount of money collected in our Church from Easter, 1888, to Easter, 1889, has been as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
For Special Objects	112	8	3
For the Poor	23	0	2½
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	£135	8	5½

It has been expended in the following manner :

	£	s.	d.
Church Expenses	13	11	5½
Diocesan Spiritual Help Society	18	9	2½
Gospel Propagation Society	34	0	8
Missionary Candidates' Association	7	19	9
St. Andrew's Waterside Mission } Lent {	9	14	0
London Poor (Food) } Savings {	9	14	5
Waifs and Strays Society } Offertories {	4	18	9
Christian Knowledge Society } at {	3	10	0
Additional Curates' Society } Choral {	3	10	0
Central African Mission } Celebrations. {	5	0	0
Diocesan Inspection Fund	2	0	0
Given away in the Parish	18	5	0
Balance in hand (for Poor)	4	15	2½
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	£135	8	5½

There was a small deficit on the Poor Account last year, but there is a balance in hand from previous years as well as the balance mentioned above.

BURIAL.

✠ "Grant him eternal rest, O Lord."

April 11th.—William Hearn, aged 66, of Englefield.

ENGLEFIELD,

A.L.C.H.

St. Mark's Day,

25th April, 1889.

St. Mark's, Englefield.

LOCAL SHEET.

No. 48.]

DECEMBER, 1889.

[Price, with "Banner of Faith," ONE PENNY.

Since publishing the November number of our "Local Sheet" notice has arrived and been publicly given in Church that a Confirmation will be held in our Church on Sexagesima Sunday, February 9th, 1890, at 3 o'clock. Our Preparation Classes have already commenced, and we print below the names of all who have offered themselves as candidates, not to satisfy curiosity, but in order that in saying the special Prayer published last month you may insert their names, and thus make the Prayer a special intercession for the Candidates from our Parish. With few exceptions they are *young* persons of the ordinary age for Confirmation: There are now very few grown up persons in the village who are not Confirmed, we wish it were possible to say that there are very few who being

November 24th, the amount being £20 0s. 6d. On December 15th we must, as in duty bound in answer to the Pastoral Letter from the Bishop have collections for the Diocesan Board of Education, which makes grants to build and establish Voluntary Schools, and provides Religious Inspection, and distributes prizes.

Our offerings on Christmas Day we propose giving (as before) to the Missionary Candidates Association, which trains Clergy for the Foreign Missionary Work of the Church of England.

The evenings are so much occupied with Confirmation, School and Choir work that we do not propose having any week day Services in Advent beyond the Daily Mattins and Evensong, except one Service on Friday evening, December 20th (the Vigil of S. Thomas) at 7 o'clock, as a special preparation Service for our Christmas Communion.

The Services on Christmas Day will be as follows:—

7.30 and 8.20 Holy Communion.