

We have heard cases of children complaining at home *not* of their food, but of the bad way in which it is cooked. We recommend Englefield mothers to "look sharp."

The food for cooking was kindly given from Englefield House, and when dressed was sold to the children, realising £1 6s. 9d., which sum has been handed to us to help to pay for swings and a horizontal bar in the boys' playground. It is nice for the girls to think they have done something to benefit the boys as well as themselves. There is reason to think that Mr. Benyon will allow the Cookery Lessons to be continued, all girls ought to attend them for three years at least, whilst they are in Standards 4, 5, and 6. A different Course of Cookery is provided each year.

The first Examination in Drawing ever held in our School was conducted by Her Majesty's Inspector, Mr. Edwards, on Thursday, December 4th, he expressed himself pleased with the results. For the future we propose instructing the girls as well as the boys in Drawing, it makes them neat and accurate with their hands, improves their taste, will help them to hang their pictures straight on their walls at home, and above all makes a little diversion in the weary sound of the three R's.

Our collections on the Second Sunday in Advent for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign parts amounted to £29 17s. 0d., and the contents of the Missionary Boxes are as follows :

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Miss Benyon	9	11	8	Mrs. Hobart	1	15	6
Mrs. Butler	2	12	8	Mrs. J. Martin	0	8	9
The Bothey	0	10	2	Mrs. Rhind	0	8	9
Mrs. Cooke	0	12	4	Mrs. Rumsey	0	5	11
Mrs. Coombes... ..	0	7	9	Mrs. Wordwell	0	5	5
Mrs. Claydon	0	3	4	Miss Webb	0	6	2
Mrs. Hand	0	10	9	Rev. A. Heigham	3	3	0

The receipt for these sums is on the Church Notice Board.

The President has fixed the Annual Meeting of the Workmen's Club for Friday Evening, January 16th, at seven o'clock, in the Long Gallery, when it is hoped that there will be a good muster of Members.

There are 33 Boys and Girls in Englefield who belong to the Juvenile Branch of the Berkshire Friendly Society, and the commencement of a year is a good time for fresh entries. Doctors' bills are always an anxiety, how much better it is to have all the children in a Medical Club: and for the Father of a family to be ill and not to belong to a Benefit Club is indeed a serious business.

The payment for a child from 4 to 14 years old is for the Medical Club, 3d. a month, and in addition 1d. a month in order to have £3 in case of death.

From 12 years old a boy, if at work, can receive 3/- a week sick pay on payment of 2d. extra a month.

When 15 years old the payments are as follows; 4d. a month for the Medical Club, and

if under 16,	6½d.	a month for 4/- Sick Pay.		
„	20,	7d.	„	„
„	25,	8d.	„	„
„	30,	9d.	„	„
„	35,	10½d.	„	„

If wishing to receive 6/- sick pay the above payment is half as much again, if 8/- sick pay is desired the payment is double that in the above table, and so on in proportion.

The Berks Friendly is "as safe as the Bank" and we greatly hope that the number of members in this Village will largely increase. Every information can be obtained from Mr. Robinson at the School, or from the Editor of the "Local Sheet."

It ought to be more widely known that Dr. Cox has a Medical Club for Women to which he admits the Wives of Labouring Men. We should like to see a score or two of Englefield women come forward and join it.

Many of those who struggled to Church on Sunday, 21st December were very grateful that the snowplough had preceded them: and it has raised the question where in the world has the snow-plough been for the last nine years? an enquiry we must leave others to answer. The testimony of divers credible witnesses is that there was one, and many testify to the comfort that its use afforded.

A few hours work with a horse and two men would clear the whole three or four miles of road in Englefield Parish; they

could almost be finished before a garden-man was ready for his 9 o'clock breakfast.

But we need not give a lecture on the use of a snow-plough, but only express a sincere hope (in which many share), that having again come into happy use it will not now be laid aside. A small one drawn by hand is very useful for clearing paths, and saves much labour.

It should be remembered that the Entertainment in the Long Gallery on January 15th, at seven p.m., is for the benefit of our Cricket Club, and let us hope the room will be full. Admission as usual, 6d. and 3d., no half-price. There will be some singing, both solo and in parts, hand-bell ringing, a scene from "King John" in costume, and a display of the magic lantern, besides some pianoforte playing.

This "good old-fashioned winter" did not hinder very fair congregations assembling at Church at the various services on Christmas-day. If everything was cold and dreary without, inside the Church everything was warm, bright, thankful and hearty. We all regretted the absence of Mr. and Mrs. Benyon but they did not forget us or the Offertory which amounted to £32 18s. od., and has been forwarded to the Secretary of the Missionary Candidates' Association. Some carols were nicely sung after Evensong.

Notice has arrived that the School Examination will take place on Thursday, January 29th, at 9.30 a.m.; the Examination in Religious Knowledge will take place the following morning, and then follows a fortnight's holiday.

We ask the Members of our Guild to take notice that there will be a Meeting of the Members in Church on Sunday Afternoon, January 18th, at 3.30, when the office will be said and new members can join. Members should bring with them their list of names and a pencil so as to make necessary alterations. We hope all members who are in Englefield will be present.

A.I.C.H.

PARSONAGE,

ENGLEFIELD, READING,

27th December, 1890.

St. Mark's, Englefield.

LOCAL SHEET.

No. 62.

FEBRUARY, 1891.

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

The Annual General Meeting of the members of the Englefield Workmen's Club was held in the Long Gallery on Friday, January 16th, at 7 o'clock. The President was in the chair, and a good number of honorary and ordinary members were present. The following Report and Balance Sheet were read and adopted.

WORKMEN'S CLUB, ENGLEFIELD.

Report for the Year 1890.

The Committee have to report that during the year 1890 there have been 87 members, and that the present number is 66, viz. : 10 honorary and 56 ordinary members. This compares well with previous years.

The balance sheet for the past year is also satisfactory, shewing a balance in hand of £33 17s. 4d., which includes £17 in the hands of the President.

Ten Committee Meetings have been held during the year for the transaction of ordinary business.

Your Committee continue to regret the loss during the year of one of their number, Mr. John Battram. Mr. G. Johnson was temporarily elected in his place.

The Library has been as usual largely used, 1099 volumes having been lent out to 48 members.

To meet a generous offer of £8's worth of books from the President, the Committee propose to the members to spend a similar sum of the balance in the purchase of books. This will add about 100 volumes to the Library, and bring the total up to about 640 volumes.

The Committee record their thanks to the President for a constant supply throughout the year of Pictorial and other papers, and also for the use of the Club and premises rent free. The sale of alcoholic refreshments has been less than in

previous years, and can in no way be considered excessive: 1610 bottles of ginger beer, and 2360 glasses of "squash" were sold.

It is scarcely necessary to repeat that members are equally welcome to the Club whether or no they purchase refreshments.

The Committee, on behalf of all the members, desire to thank Mrs. Benyon for an enlarged photograph of their President, which is greatly prized and valued, and will serve to remind all present and future members, if reminder were needful, of him to whom the foundation of the Club and so much of its prosperity and success are due.

In conclusion, the Committee desire for the Club an increase of members, and if possible of its usefulness.

ARTHUR L. C. HEIGHAM,
Chairman of Committee.

WORKMEN'S CLUB.

Balance Sheet for the year ending 31st Dec., 1890.

RECEIPTS.	PAYMENTS.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Balance in hand 33 8 7½	Oil, Coke, and Coal ... 6 9 8
(£17 with Mr. Benyon).	Salary of Caretaker ... 4 0 0
Members' Payments ... 15 4 6	Newspapers... .. 5 16 9
Library Subscriptions .. 0 16 3	Tournament Prizes ... 1 13 1
Papers Sold 1 5 9½	Chimneys 8/9
Oil Cask Sold 0 2 0	Cue Tips 2/-
Interest on Loan 0 17 4	Wicks 6/-
Tournament Entries ... 0 13 1	Christmas Box ... 2/-
Sale of Refreshments.. 73 17 8½	Repairing Books .. 4/5
	.. Lamp 10/6
	Postage, Carriage, and
	Matches 0 4 11½
	Purchase of Refresh-
	ments 59 2 8
	New Books 7 5 0
	Book Case 4 0 4
	Mrs Claydon (gratuity) 1 0 0
	Cloths 7/6
	Bottles, Corks, and
	String 8/1
	Glasses 6/3
	Balance in hand 33 17 4
£126 5 3½	£126 5 3½

A.L.C.H.

It was then resolved:—

1.—That £8 be given from the funds of the Club to meet £8 given by the President for the purchase of books for the Library.

2.—That the Rev. W. Phillips and Mr. J. Russell be elected Hon. Members.

3.—That £8 from the Club funds be added to the sum of £17 already in the President's hands, and bearing interest at 3 per cent.

4.—That the following words be added to Rule 10: "At any other time during which the Club is open, a member may take out a book on entering it in a register to be kept by, and on the responsibility of, the Caretaker."

5.—That 150 copies of the Club Rules be printed, and a copy given, if demanded, to every member on joining the Club.

6.—That a gratuity of £1 be given to Mrs. Claydon for her trouble in making ginger beer, &c.

The following were then elected to serve on the Committee the current year:—Messrs. Barnes, J. Chamberlain, Claydon, F. Cosburn, Gibson, D. Harris, D. Horne, W. Horne, Johnson, Manning, Vince, and Wheeler. Also Mr. A. E. Robinson, Hon. Secretary; and the Rev. A. Heigham, Treasurer.

The box in aid of the funds of the Lifeboat Institution was then opened, and found to contain 11s. 10d. After a vote of thanks to Mr. Benyon for presiding, the meeting separated.

We are glad to announce that since the meeting both Mrs. and Miss Benyon have become Hon. Members of the Club.

The Village Concert in the Long Gallery on Thursday, January 15th, was as successful as such gatherings usually are; perhaps "Hubert and Arthur," represented by Mr. Robinson and W. Wyatt, and the two attendants (John Coombes and John Thame), as well as Mr. Phillips' comic songs with banjo accompaniment, gave the most satisfaction—indeed the former was such a success that the experiment of a small play may be attempted on another occasion: there had been no acting in the Long Gallery since the Miss Benyons performed "Beauty and the Beast" some years ago. The Concert was for the benefit of our Cricket Club, and realized (with a kindly added donation) £5 11s. 3d.

On Saturday, January 3rd, the Choir were entertained at Tea at Englefield House, and Mrs. Benyon distributed prizes to those whose attendance had been regular during the past year; a very pleasant two hours passed quickly away, and ended by singing Carols in the corridor. We are sorry to have lost Harry Butler, a very useful tenor; but he has left the Gardens, and gone to Veitch's nurseries in London.

We have been looking through the year's accounts of the School Penny Bank, and find that there have been 41 depositors, and their deposits amounted to £13 5s. 5d., to which Mr. Benyon added £1 os. 5d. as interest, which represents a penny on each complete shilling put into the Penny Bank during the year. When the amount in our hands reaches 5s., an account is opened in the Depositors' name at the Reading Savings Bank. So far as we know there are 25 children who have an account at the Savings Bank.

The service in church on New Year's Eve at 7 p.m. was attended by 64, as against 94 on the previous occasion, but the severity of the weather was sufficient to account for the diminished number.

The Tea and Christmas-tree in the Long Gallery on Thursday, January 22nd, at 5 o'clock, seemed to give—and no wonder—general satisfaction to all who were invited, and before finishing up with a verse of "God Save the Queen" no end of cheering was given for our kind entertainers; the opportunity was taken by Mrs. Benyon of giving away the School Needlework prizes which were due (but unavoidably delayed) from the last Harvest Festival. The following is the list of prize winners:—

NEEDLEWORK.

Standard vii.—Nellie Fisher.	Standard iii.—Gertrude Hopgood.
" vi.—Emily Cox.	Sarah Cooke.
" v.—Edith Manning.	" ii.—Annie Abrey.
Louisa Wheeler.	Annie Claydon.
" iv.—Elizabeth Sessions.	" i.—Nellie Cox.
Mabel Manning.	Louisa Fowler.
Hester Allen.	Rose Tigwell.

KNITTING PRIZES.

Standard vi.—Edith Bond.	Standard ii.—Martha Davis.
„ v.—Jessie Allen.	„ i.—Agnes Cox.
„ iv.—Edith Martin.	Rose Allen.
„ iii.—Gertrude Cox.	

PRIZES FOR MARKING.

Standard v.—Edith Manning (Highly Commended).		
Lizzie Coombes	„	„
Rose Wyatt.		

NEEDLEWORK (Infants).

First Class.—Florence Abrey.	Second Class.—George Lawrence.
Elizabeth Wheeler.	Edith Harris.
Arthur Manning.	
William Lamperd.	

It should be mentioned how greatly the success of the Christmas-tree, which was really a fine sight, was due to the untiring exertions of Mr. Chisholm.

We beg you not to neglect the reading about Lent which accompanies this number. Ash Wednesday is on February 11th, the first day of that Holy Season of special prayer and penitence which fits us for Good Friday and Easter-day. On Thursday Evenings during Lent there will be a service at 7 o'clock instead of 4.30.

Our Lent savings collected at the Sunday Evening Services will be given to the East London Church Fund.

Mrs. Benyon has sent us the following communication concerning the Working Party :—

LENT WORKING PARTY.

It seems scarcely a year since we were thinking of our last Lenten Working Party, but before another month is over, Ash Wednesday will have come and gone. We hear of so much suffering and distress in Newfoundland, that we think we cannot do better than still continue to help that far off country. We

are also thinking of sending some help to the St. Andrew's Waterside Mission, started in 1864 for Sailors, Fisherman, and Emigrants, whose special work is to encourage the Worship of God at sea, and to assist them with money, books, and clothing, beginning with our home seaports and extending the work to 40 and more foreign stations. 8,000 ships' libraries have been supplied with books, and a large number of Bibles and Prayer Books have been supplied for service on board ship; added to this the clothing, and we think we can scarcely find a more praiseworthy mission to help.

We propose (D.V.) to commence our Working Party on Tuesday, February the 17th, in the Long Gallery, to be continued every Tuesday through Lent at 2.30, and all able and willing to work will be gladly welcomed.

BURIALS.

+ "Grant them eternal rest, O Lord." +

January 12th.—Martha Gray, widow, of Englefield, aged 84.
,, 24th.—Elizabeth Elliott, of Englefield, aged 54.

A.L.C.H.

PARSONAGE,
ENGLEFIELD, READING,
26th January, 1891.

St. Mark's, Englefield.

LOCAL SHEET.

No. 63.

MARCH, 1891.

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

As announced, the Government Inspection of our School took place on Thursday, January 29th, and we have received the Report printed below. Under the New Code of 1890 children are no longer individually examined in each of the three elementary of Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic, commonly called the "3 R's," so that we are no longer able to say what children have "passed" or "failed," but this does not apply to Standard IV. who are individually examined and we are sorry to say the results in that Standard were not satisfactory, 21 were presented of whom only the following 10 fully "passed":

James Clayton
George Coombes
Fred Cooper
Alfred Cox
John Thame

Frank Russell
Esther Horne
Mabel Manning
Edith Martin
Rose Wyatt

Two failed altogether, 4 failed in two subjects, and 5 failed in one subject.

The above-named 10 will receive their Certificate shortly.

The Report and Balance Sheet have already been seen by many of you, a new regulation in the Code requires them to be posted in a public place for 14 days.

REPORT.

MIXED SCHOOL.—"I am glad to observe an improvement in the tone of the School. The discipline is now good, and the elementary instruction is, on the whole, very fair. Some very good work was done by the lower standards, but the fourth is weak throughout, and there is no good arithmetic above the second standard. Geography is good, and English fair. Note singing is creditable, and Recitation good. Needlework has much improved, particularly in the upper standards. The usefulness of the school has been increased by the successful establishment of "cookery lessons."

The swings and horizontal bar are "in full swing;" a daily and constant pleasure to the boys, who should be and are grateful to Mr. Benyon, who has been at the expense of providing them. The sum we had in hand for the purpose (about £4 10s.) would not have half paid for such swings as these, and we hope to be allowed to use this sum in adding parallel bars to the "gymnasium."

Some good reading for Holy Week and Easter accompanies this number of the Local Sheet; let it be read and thought over and there will be greater likelihood of our profiting by these Holy Seasons.

The Services proposed this year for that week are the same as last year, viz.: Matins at 11.30, and Evensong with a short address at 7. On Good Friday the Services will be at 11 and 7, and on Easter Day there will be Celebrations of Holy Communion at 7.30, 8.30, and at the 11 o'clock Service, Evensong as usual at 6. We hope that a constantly increasing number of persons will diligently prepare themselves for their Easter Communion.

"Easter eggs" correspond to "Christmas boxes" and the same kind friend who provided a bright silver "box" for our Choir Boys at Christmas, 1889, has sent us 16 "eggs" for distribution at Easter.

The Working party numbers about 34, others who are unable to attend can have work to do at home if they are so minded, and it is not too late to apply for it, some have already done so.

The Annual Meeting of the Englefield Branch of the Berks Friendly Society was held in the Schoolroom on Saturday Evening, January 24th, the half-yearly accounts were examined, as were also the pass-books of the greater number of the Members of the Branch; the Committee, Agent, and Elected Representative were re-elected to their office. There were no fresh proposals to consider, but the papers of two or three juveniles have been sent in since the Meeting. It is desirable again to impress on parents the advantage of their children joining when young, and to impress on all married men the imperative need of their belonging to some Club which will help them in time of sickness.

A general Meeting of the Cricket Club was held at the Workmen's Club on Wednesday, February 18th, when the following officers were elected—Mr. F. Cosburn, Captain; Mr. D. Horne, Sub-Captain; and Messrs. Barnes, Claydon, Johnson, Smythe, Wheeler, and Rev. W. Phillips to form the Committee. Mr. A. Robinson accepted the office of Hon. Secretary, and the Rector of Treasurer.

It was resolved to employ some one on all home-match days at a payment of 2/-, to erect and take down the tent and be generally useful for the half-day. Also to buy the necessary cricket material for the season, and some calico to be stretched on poles behind each long-stop as trees and passers-by interfere with the sight of the batsman. Also to ask permission of the Squire for the use of the roller, and to fill up some holes behind the wicket at the west end of the ground. Also that the Club give an "average" bat, under certain conditions at the end of the season. Mr. F. Cosburn kindly offered to have a list of the matches printed on card for the use of members. After further business the meeting adjourned.

BAPTISM.

"Take this child and nurse it for Me."

February 17th.—Ellen Kate, daughter of Henry and Ellen Shackelford, of Englefield.

BURIALS.

+ *"Grant them eternal rest, O Lord."* +

February 4th.—Sarah Horne, aged 75.

„ 21st.—Ellen Kate Shackelford, aged 1 month.

„ 25th.—James Sangster Rhind, aged 19.

A.I.C.H.

PARSONAGE,

ENGLEFIELD, READING,

26th February, 1891.

St. Mark's, Englefield.

LOCAL SHEET.

No. 64.

APRIL, 1891.

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

EASTER VESTRY MEETING.—This was held on Easter Monday at 10.30 a.m., when Messrs. Rhind and J. Davies were nominated as Overseers, and Mr. Hand as Surveyor. The Churchwardens produced the accounts printed below, which were examined and allowed, and a Voluntary Rate of 2d. in the £ was recommended for current expenses. Mr. Benyon was re-appointed Rector's Churchwarden, and Mr. Rhind Parish Churchwarden. The Parish Charity accounts (viz. : Pottinger's Bread, Miss Benyon's Coal, and the Apprentice Fund) were examined and allowed.

The Vestry expressed their acknowledgments to Mr. Hand for producing the Surveyor's accounts, which shewed a sufficient balance to render a Highway Rate this year unnecessary.

The subject of some alterations in the Parish Church was then considered, and the following resolutions were unanimously passed :—

"That a faculty be applied for to enable the alterations, shewn in Mr. Woodyer's plans now laid before the Vestry, to be carried out in the Parish Church, namely: the floor inside the Altar rails to be raised two steps, and a Chancel Screen to be erected."

"That the thanks of this Meeting be given to Mr. Benyon for kindly offering to defray all the expenses of these alterations, which will greatly add to the beauty of the Church."

No other business was transacted.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF THE CHURCHWARDENS OF ENGLEFIELD FOR THE YEAR ENDING EASTER, 1891.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
Voluntary Rate	20	16	6
Church Collections	17	0	9½
Donation—R. Benyon, Esq., for Organist and Blower	21	0	0
Balance due to Churchwardens	1	2	2
	£59	19	5½

DISBURSEMENTS.

	£	s.	d.
Balance due to Churchwardens	3	5	2
Wine	0	15	0
Visitation Fees	0	18	0
W. Vince	5	0	0
Church Cleaning	3	5	0
Washing Surplices	2	2	6
Insurance	3	2	6
Mowing, &c., to Churchyard	1	14	4½
Coke, £6; Gas, £5	11	0	0
Repairs and thorough Cleaning	7	16	11
Organist, £20; Blower, £1	21	0	0
	£59 19 5½		

After being open three nights a week for twenty-four weeks the night school closed on March 18th. The average attendance was ten, the number on the books twenty-one, the pence received (2d. a week) amounted to £2 5s. 4d., which pays light and firing; 10s. 1d. was received for refreshments; those who stuck to the wood-carving (too few, alas!) made considerable progress, but unless more avail themselves of the opportunity it is doubtful if Mr. Benyon can be asked to pay Mr. Remnant for such frequent visits. The night school is really as good as a club for those who are under sixteen, and we have no fault to find with the use made of it, except that so few avail themselves of the pleasure and education it affords. Mr. Coombes was most kind and regular in his attendance during the hour's recreation, constantly enabling Mr. Robinson to get away, indeed had it not been for Mr. Coombes' help we could scarcely have kept the school open for so many weeks.

The Dinner Kitchen which was re-opened in October was closed on March 20th, 4138 dinners were provided giving a weekly average of 188, and a daily average of 37. The cash received for dinners was £10 9s. 11d., which paid for the Bread and Flour (£4 6s. 9½d.), and also for Sugar, Rice, Pepper, Split Peas, Treacle, and Jam (£4 19s. 11d.), and left about £1 in hand to pay the Cook's wages (£5 10s. 0d.) Mr. Benyon has kindly paid the difference and has also given the milk, necks of mutton, and suet (80 lbs.) which have been used. So far as we know the dinners have been appreciated, and certainly good value has been given for the half-penny, and during the past cold winter a hot dinner has been a deal more comforting than a cold one.

The Tournament of Games at the Workmen's Club is finished, and the winners have been announced as follows:—

Whist	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	{	L. Harris.
									D. M. Davies.
Cribbage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		H. Wheeler.
Don	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		A. Bint.
Draughts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		T. Ridley.
Chess	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		M. Harrison.
Dominoes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		J. White.
Bagatelle (Cannon)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		J. Claydon.
„ (Cannon and Holes)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		F. G. Barnes.
„ (All Balls Up)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		F. Smith.

The value of each prize given is 4s. 3d., but members select their own prize and can add to this sum what they please. The Tournament has been productive of some good games and some pleasant evenings.

The amount given in prizes is arrived at thus:—

	£	s.	d.
Entries for Games	0	13	1
Donation from Club Fund	1	0	0
„ „ Mr. Harrison	0	4	6
„ „ A.L.C.H.	0	5	0
	<u>£2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>7</u>

The Captain sends us the following list of Cricket Matches arranged for this season:—

DATE.	PLACE.
April 4 ... Married v. Single	Home.
May 16 ... Bradfield	Home.
„ 23 ... Wasing	Home.
„ 30 ... Biscuit Factory	Reading.
June 6 .. Timber Yard v. Garden..	Home.
„ 13 ... Woodley	Bulmershe.
„ 20 ... Woolhampton College	Home.
„ 27 ... Yattendon	Yattendon.
July 4 ... Woolhampton College	Woolhampton.
„ 11 ... Biscuit Factory	Home.
„ 18 ... Mr. Ackerman's XI.	Home.
„ 25 ... Yattendon	Home.
Aug. 1 ... Wasing	Wasing.
„ 8 ... Bradfield	Bradfield.
„ 15 ... Timber Yard v. Garden	Home.
„ 22 ... Woodley	Home.
„ 29 ... Married v. Single	Home.

We hope "won" will be able to be written after many of this goodly list of matches, and that after such a severe spell of winter weather we may have a good cricket season.

In the list of Members of the Committee of the Cricket Club in this month's Local Sheet, the name of F. G. Barnes was by some accident inserted instead of L. Harris.

As usual at this season we print an account of all money collected in church during the past twelve-month.

	£	s.	d.
Balance from last year	13	5	4
Collected for special objects (see below)	155	19	7
Collected for the Poor	20	16	2½
	<u>£190</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1½</u>

	£	s.	d.
Church Expenses	17	0	9½
Diocesan Church Building Society	16	16	6
Gospel Propagation Society... ..	29	17	0
Royal Berks Hospital	19	0	4
Missionary Candidates' Association	32	18	0
Diocesan Inspection	2	0	0
Central African Mission	5	0	0
S.P.C.K.	4	0	0
Additional Curates' Society... ..	4	0	0
National Society	3	14	4
Waterside Mission	5	2	1½
East London Church Fund	15	0	0
Sunday School Prizes	1	10	6
Poor (Sick and Needy)	23	4	7
Balance in hand, Easter, 1891	10	16	11½
	<u>£190</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1½</u>

It will be seen from this statement that £2 8s. 4½d. has been distributed to the Poor in excess of what has been collected ; but as mentioned last year there is a sum of money in Blandy's Bank belonging, to the Poor's Account, which has accumulated in previous years.

The Lent Working Party was very successful, but we are unable this month to give any details.

The Cookery Lessons for all girls in or above standard 4 commence on Saturday, April 4th, at 10.30 ; it is proposed to have 10 lessons in the Spring, and to finish the course with 10 more lessons in the Autumn. These lessons form a most useful part of a girl's education, and we are very glad to have the advantage of them in our school.

We hope that mothers will be as considerate this year as last year, and see that, at the cost no doubt of some little inconvenience, their girls come with a regularity as great as before. The food that is cooked will be sold at a reasonable price.

Some rough and wet evenings in Holy Week did not prevent good congregations of from 65 to 80 persons assembling in Church at the evening service at 7 o'clock. On Good Friday, the morning congregation was, as usual, a large one, numbering 220, and in the evening about 125. It was a disappointment, but not altogether unexpected, that the Easter Communicants fell short of last year, and only reached 113; 60 of whom communicated at the earliest celebration at 7.30.

Everything in the Church and Services was as bright and happy and reverent as could be desired, and the decorations were simple but refined; the beautiful flowers from the garden were supplemented, instead of primroses, by Cape everlastings. The spring has been too cold as yet to tempt out many wild flowers. The Choir did their part well and carefully, and appreciated the "Easter Egg" all the more in consequence.

On and after next Monday, April 6th, until further notice, the hours of the daily services will be 8.30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.

A.L.C.H.

BATH,

March 31st, 1891.

St. Mark's, Englefield.

LOCAL SHEET.

No. 65.

MAY, 1891.

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

We have received for publication from Mrs. Benyon the following account of the Lent Working Party and its results. It will be read with satisfaction by all those who were workers during Lent.

April, 1891.

Once more we have to thank our kind helpers and to give the result of our Lenten work. Thanks to so many busy fingers and those of our friends, who, although unable to join us in the Long Gallery, worked for the Missions at home: we have the satisfaction of announcing that we have finished and sent off 282 garments this year, as against 273 last year, and 227 in 1889. We think we have indeed cause for congratulation, especially as many more men's shirts were made, requiring more time and skill.

Our division has been 217 garments for Newfoundland and 65 to the St. Andrew's Waterside Mission for our sailors and emigrants. We think it may interest our readers to see the answers. From Miss Robinson, one of the Secretaries for the Newfoundland Mission:

"I think that it is to you and your friends that I owe grateful thanks for three splendid cases of clothing for Newfoundland which reached me this morning from Theale. I will send them off to Liverpool and then they will be ready for the first good opportunity, the list you sent me shews what beautiful things they are."

And from Mr. Hawks, Secretary to St. Andrew's Waterside Mission:

"Your most acceptable and valuable package of warm clothing came to day (April 7th), many thanks for your kindness and to all the kind friends who have thus helped; the garments will be most welcome, everything is much wanted."

We have also received from Mr. Robinson, the Hon. Secretary, the following report of the Football Club for the season lately ended.

REPORT OF THE ENGLEFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB FOR SEASON 1890—91.

The Club has again passed through a successful season, and the members are to be congratulated upon the excellent

results shewn by the list of matches. The total number of matches played was 8, of which 5 were won, 2 lost, and 1 drawn. The thanks of the Club are again due to our President for his continued kindness in allowing the use of our excellent ground.

A. E. ROBINSON, Hon. Sec.

We are requested by Mr. Benyon to invite all the members of the Englefield Branch of the Berks Friendly Society to Tea at the Long Gallery on Whit-Monday at 5 o'clock; the members of the Local Committee are also of course included in the invitation, as well as all members of the Englefield Juvenile Branch: we could wish that the numbers were larger, but our books only show 31 adult and 35 juvenile members in this Agency. These gatherings are apt to be a little flat without the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Benyon, but we must try and amuse ourselves for an hour or two to the best of our power, perhaps our friends will be good enough to come with their best songs and most amusing speeches all ready and prepared. No further notice or invitation will be sent in addition to this.

Accompanying this number of the Local Sheet there are the following tracts "A Few Words concerning the observance of Ascension Day" and "What are the Rogation Days," also one concerning Whitsuntide, and again we beg you carefully to read them. Ascension Day is so great and glorious, that it is a loss to us in every way if we do not try and observe it carefully. We have asked Mr. Benyon and he has kindly consented to allow any workmen in his employ, who desire to do so, to come to a Celebration of Holy Communion on that day, at 7 in the Morning, in addition to attending as usual, Morning Service at 11 o'clock. There will also be a Second Celebration at 8 o'clock, which may be more convenient for some others, so that on this great Festival, every one who desires, will have the opportunity of attending the Holy Communion if they so desire.

The Services will therefore on Ascension Day be as follows:

7 a.m.	...	...	...	...	Holy Communion.
8 a.m.	...	...	...	...	Holy Communion.
11 a.m.	...	...	...	...	Mattins. Sermon.
7.30 p.m.	...	...	...	...	Evensong.

And then concerning Whit-Sunday, the preparation service for Holy Communion will be on the previous Friday evening at 7.30, and on Whit-Sunday itself there will be Celebrations of Holy Communion at 7.30, 8.30, and at the 11 o'clock service. Evensong as usual at 6.

May we all be stirred to use these Great Festivals well, to the good and profit of our own souls.

During the last six months the following changes have taken place in the School, there have left :

Fred Coombes	Emily Cox
Albert Day	Elizabeth Sessions
William Pickett	Sarah Davis
Nellie Fisher	Lavinia Wilson

and William Wyatt has become a Candidate Pupil Teacher in the School. There have been admitted :

Fred Shakleford	Edith Duckett
Owen Wyatt	John Fuller
Stephen Claydon	

The number of children now attending School is 85 in the Upper School, and 31 Infants. Total, 116.

It is vexing, nay more, disgusting to find that, apart from fair wear and tear, the ropes of the swings have been maliciously cut by some person: it is small encouragement to Mr. Benyon to spend money on such luxuries, and we hope that efforts will be made to trace out the offender and bring him to punishment. We do not wish to forbid the swings to any except day-school boys, but there is small doubt but that this mischief was done in the evening by some idle youth and if he brings suspicion on himself there is nothing to blame but his own conduct. We were very much ashamed and vexed to hear of this on our return home.

We regret the loss of John Gibson from the Choir, we can ill spare any man for we have already too few; moreover we shall soon be wanting more boys for the voices of a few of our elder ones are alas! shewing signs of becoming useless for singing purposes.

It is proposed after Service on Sunday Evenings as the Choir are walking to the Vestry to sing the following verse whenever there be not a Recessional Hymn: will the Congregation kindly commit the lines to memory?

“ Lord keep us safe this night,
Secure from all our fears;
May Angels guard us while we sleep,
Till morning light appears.”

It is some time since we chronicled the various changes in the Village, we have to welcome as new comers, David Elliott at No. 38, Chalk Pit, Henry Horne as blacksmith in Gibson's place at Chalk Pit, Henry Shakleford at No. 2, as Storekeeper at the Timber Yard, William Fuller in the place of poor Jonas Hayward, as a Carter at the Yard, George Wood at Goff's Farm as third Keeper, Henry Newman having become second and moved to No. 17. David Horne has removed to No. 11a and George Fisher will shortly be in the old "Mission Cottage" which really is No. 11. The Assistant Mistresses are about to remove into No. 5 to set free the Rectory Cottage for Mr.

Bligh's Coachmen, and himself and family will we hope soon be settled in the Rectory. William Pickett of No. 40 Chalk Pit has left the Village, as also has Sam Fisher.

The bad way in which one swing was treated has not discouraged a kind friend from adding parallel bars to the "gymnasium," many good muscular exercises can be practised on parallel bars, we have some retired soldiers in the Village and other athletes, and we should be glad if they would now and then shew the boys some exercises both on the horizontal and parallel bars.

This reminds us to add that we have some new ropes and appliances at the Bath, where we hope to see some good aquatic gymnastics. Also we have invested in two sets of swimming corks and two new air belts, which with the old ones will enable six beginners to be practising at the same time. Weather permitting some day in May we shall hope to open the Bath for the season.

The petition for the Faculty for the proposed alterations in the Church was duly posted on the Church Notice Board in the Church Porch on Sundays, April 12th and 19th, the Faculty itself will probably arrive in the course of another ten days. Whilst the work itself is in operation, which may not be for another month or two, it is proposed to screen off the Chancel, to place the Altar in front of the Triptych, to accommodate the Choir in the front seats and to use a harmonium.

The first anniversary of the Guild of S. Mark was held in Church on Sunday, April 26th (the morrow of S. Mark) at 3.30, notice was unfortunately forgotten to be given on the previous Sunday, but there was a good attendance.

Those members who are just now at 18, Grosvenor Square had notice of the meeting and were no doubt thinking of us, as we were of them, and probably some of them said the Guild Office as we also did. We have had of course some losses in the course of the year, but we are glad to think that of those who have left the Village a good many still remain members of the Guild. Two new members were admitted bringing our total up to 73.

BAPTISMS.

"Born again."

April 26th—Arthur, son of Walter and Elizabeth Symthe, Painter,
of Englefield.

„ „ Edward James, son of William and Harriet Day,
Labourer, of Englefield.

PARSONAGE,
ENGLEFIELD, READING,
27th April, 1891.

A.I.C.H.

St. Mark's, Englefield.

LOCAL SHEET.

No. 66.

JUNE, 1891.

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

The Members of the Englefield Agency of the Berks Friendly Society were kindly invited to Tea in the Long Gallery on Whit-Monday; the day itself was sadly wet and cold for all holiday makers, but those who were in the Long Gallery managed to spend a pleasant couple of hours over tea, songs, speeches and 'baccy, the only regret being that neither the Squire, nor any member of his Family were able to be present. Mr. Cosburn the General Secretary gave an interesting account of the progress and financial condition of the Club, stating that it had now more than £8000 of capital invested.

The desirableness of insuring for a Pension in old age was much insisted on, and it may be convenient to print the following tables taken from the Society's Books, medical attendance included. It was stated in the "Times" newspaper lately that of all rural labourers who reach the age of 60, half of them become chargeable to the parish, and a large percentage of mechanics also. This is not a pleasant prospect to look forward to, and as school pence will very shortly cease to be paid, could the money so saved be better spent than in providing for old age?

TABLE shewing the Monthly Contribution payable until 70 years of age to provide Medical attendance, Sick (Pay 6, 8, or 10 shillings) and a pension of 5/- a week for life after 70.

Age under.	6/- Sick Pay and 5/- Pension.		8/- Sick Pay and 5/- Pension.		10/- Sick Pay and 5/- Pension.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
15	1	5½	1	8	1	8
17	1	6	1	8½	1	11
19	1	6½	1	9	2	0
21	1	8	1	10½	2	1
23	1	8½	1	11½	2	2
25	1	9½	2	0½	2	3½
30	2	2	2	4	2	7
35	2	6	2	9½	3	1
40	3	1	3	5	3	8½

or being already a Member of a Benefit Club, one can insure for a Pension on the following terms.

TABLE shewing Monthly Contribution to provide a Pension of 5/- a week after 70 years of age.

Age under		Age under		Age under	
15	5½d.	21	7½d.	30	11½d.
17	6d.	23	8d.	35	1/3½
19	6½d.	25	9d.	40	1/9

We much hope to have a large increase in the number of Juvenile Members, we make no charge for medical certificate, nor is any entrance fee charged.

Thomas Harris and Thomas Cox have been admitted change-ringing Members of the Diocesan Guild of Bell-ringers, and William Vince from being tenor-man has become a change-ringing Member. The company now consist of

Abery, James	Coombes, Fred <i>P</i>	Horne, Edward
Abery, John	Harris, Thomas	Vince, William <i>F</i>
Cox, Thomas		

F means Foreman, and *P* Probationer; but during next holidays Fred Coombes is going to pass as a Change-ringing Member.

We are now learning six-bell work and hope to get through 720 on the bells shortly; we ring them on the hand-bells, but have not yet done so in the belfry.

The Lectern and the Standard Lights inside the Altar rails have gone to London to be re-lacquered; it may have been observed that the Font Jug and the Alms Dish have lately undergone the same operation, and look a great deal the better for it.

The verse of a Hymn printed in last month's "Local Sheet" has now been gummed into every Hymn Book in Church, so that if not committed to memory they can be sung from the book. The words will be sung after Evensong on and after Sunday, May 31st, whenever there is no other Recessional Hymn appointed. We should have liked the angels to have had a capital A to their name, but this was a printer's fancy, and indeed in the Prayer Book the capital letter is not used for them, although it is used in our Hymn Book.

Ascension Day was ushered in with the ringing of bells, and early Celebrations at 7 and 8, there was the usual large congregation at 11 o'clock and a small one at 7.30. It has been observed that amongst the various scenes of our Lord's Life shewn in window, picture and painting, we have not in our Church any representation of the great act of Ascension day. The Apostles gazed at it so earnestly that Angels seemed almost surprised, "why stand ye gazing up into Heaven?" "Parted from their sight," "He sitteth at the right hand of God."

Whitsun-Day was marked as usual with festal services and bell-ringing: from some cause or another there was, as at Easter, a falling off in the number of Communicants which we greatly deplore. Mr. Coombes had decorated the Church with great skill and taste. The Anthem "O taste and see" (repeated on Trinity Sunday) was nicely sung though of course weak in parts, we are just now reduced to one Tenor and one Bass, and it makes it hard work for them, and harder still for the Clergy who ought almost to be excused singing on Sundays.

The first foreign cricket match of the season was played on the home ground against Bradfield on Saturday, May 16th, and resulted very much in favour of Englefield, and this quite

apart from the magnificent score of Mr. Chadwick who cannot be considered by any stretch of imagination a member of the E.C.C. The score was as under:—

BRADFIELD.

H. Smith, c Robinson	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
F. Povey, c D. Horne	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
W. Guyatt, b Worley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
J. W. Stones, c Cosburn	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
— Hughes, b Robinson	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
L. Chaplin, c Duckett	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
C. Perrin, b Robinson	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
H. Love, not out	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
J. Perrin, c Duckett	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
R. Davis, b Worley	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
T. Guyatt, absent	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Byes, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
								<hr/> 53

ENGLEFIELD.

D. Horne, c Chaplin...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
A. Robinson, c Stones	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
W. Chadwick, s Chaplin	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	114
F. Cosburn, b Povey...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
F. Barnes, b Guyatt	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
J. Worley, c Stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
A. Jupp, run out	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
W. Smythe, b Guyatt	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
H. Fletcher, l.b.w.	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
H. Duckett, not out	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
H. Shackleford, b Guyatt	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Byes, &c....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
								<hr/> 206

PARSONAGE,

A.L.C.H.

ENGLEFIELD, READING,

23rd May, 1891.

St. Mark's, Englefield.

LOCAL SHEET.

No. 67.

JULY, 1891.

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

We hear that the population of our Village at the census taken last April was only 320, as against 389 ten years ago. The decrease seems to be accounted for by three old cottages at Common Hill having been pulled down, and in two instances a family occupies two adjacent cottages; certainly the decrease is not accounted for by the smallness of families, it is quite otherwise. At the present time there are 114 children in our School, of whom 25 live outside the boundaries of the Parish, this leaves 89 Englefield children, considerably more than a fifth part of the population, one would naturally expect and Government would only require us to provide school accommodation for 64 children (one-fifth of 320); our large families account for the difference. It is a fortunate thing that our School easily accommodates 120 children.

The Free Education Bill is now under discussion in Parliament, according to present proposals our School would become free to all children between 5 and 14 years old who pay 3d. or less a week, and those who pay more than 3d. would in future pay the difference between that sum and their present fee: a fee of not more than 2d. a week may be charged to infants between 3 and 5 years of age, but it is to be hoped that this restriction will be done away with, and that all children from 3 to 14 may be admitted free in all cases where the school fee has not hitherto exceeded 3d. It is thought by some that what costs nothing will be lightly valued, and that Managers will have to contend more than ever with irregular attendance, but as by far the larger part of the expense of Elementary Schools is already borne by voluntary subscriptions or by rate-payers or tax-payers, we greatly doubt if the remission of a 1d. or 2d. a week will have such deplorable results, on the contrary as Education will in most cases cost the parent nothing, there must be the more reason to let children benefit by it more regularly and for a longer period than ever before.

If our School were a Board School, we must have levied last year a rate of 1s. 1½d. to pay expenses; and we can answer for it there is no extravagant expenditure of money, indeed, if

we add the necessary expenses connected with a Board, such as Clerk's Salary, Auditors, &c., the rate would at least have been 1s. 4d. in the £. We urge again upon parents when the school fees are remitted, to see that the money saved is in some way expended for the benefit of the children, and we suggest the "Berkshire Friendly Society" as a most useful and necessary institution.

After a variety of removals, changes, and disappointments, connected with our company of Ringers, the following rang 720 Grandsire Minors on Wednesday Evening, June 17th. Everyone knows that this is the full number of changes that can be rung on 6 bells, and that the performance occupies about half-an-hour. Hitherto the ringing has been confined to Grandsire Doubles, *i.e.* : changes on 5 bells with the tenor always striking last, like a big drum; the changes on 5 bells are only 120, which can be rung through in 5 minutes, so that all can understand the greater pleasure and variety to be had in ringing Minor. We congratulate the Ringers who have worked hard and diligently in learning the method.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. W. Vince. | 4. Thomas Harris. |
| 2. Thomas Cox. | 5. Edward Horne. |
| 3. Jas. Abery. | 6. John Abery. |

The Annual Festival of the Diocesan Guild of Bell-ringers is, we hear, fixed to be held at Woodstock, on Monday, July 20th.

The Swimming Bath has never been so well patronised as it is this year, we have the names of 36 boys on the list, 20 of whom require swimming lessons, so that we are obliged to go to the Bath twice a day, both at 12 and 4 o'clock; the youngest bather is Stephen Claydon, aged 4, whose eldest brother has to act (more or less) as his valet. Yesterday's newspaper stated that 11 persons lost their lives by drowning in England on the previous day: a practical comment on the use of a swimming bath. It is vexing to add that some mischievous boys have stolen the eggs from the swallows' nests, they have been our constant companions at the Bath for the last four years: we hoped that our beautiful summer visitors would have been saved such brutal treatment.

Water Avers and a flower which we think to be (for our botanical knowledge is sadly slight) *Corydalis*, and *Celandine* with its bright yellow juice, which pervades the whole plant, as well as the *Yellow dead-rattle* or *Weasel Snout*, have lately been found and added to our list of local wild flowers. As yet no time has this season been found for a botanical walk.

The decrease in our population is being remedied, we chronicle the Baptism of two boys, three other boys have since been born, and two more are expected.

The congregation may have noticed some slight variations in the pointing of the Psalms and Canticles as sung in Church, which arises from our now using the "Cathedral Prayer Book," which contains Prayer Book, Psalter, music for the Litany, and music for Holy Communion, and thus our choir have one book instead of as heretofore, two books and two separate pieces of music. The variations in the pointing will cause a little trouble at first, but in a few weeks we shall all be accustomed to the change. The expense of the books (published at 6/- each) has kindly been defrayed by Mrs. Benyon. We have never known the choir so poorly off for men's voices as at present: we should be glad if some others would come forward, but they must be Communicants of our Church.

We had the pleasure of seeing the Chancel Screen in Mr. Wheeler's workshop last week, and also the pattern of the mosaic pavement at Messrs. Minton's in London, both promise well and will undoubtedly be great improvements to the Church, both will probably be in position before the Harvest Festival.

We hear with regret of some ungentle behaviour lately in the Sunday Morning Bible Class, and that in consequence some of the elder members are falling off in their attendance: we should greatly regret such a result, the back-bone of the Class is not the younger members who have comparatively lately left School, but the elder members whose example and influence are becoming widely felt: we are glad to see all, young or old, but the older ones are if possible, the more welcome.

Leaving the Class to the Curate was not done from laziness still less from any desire to lose opportunities (none too many) of intercourse with the lads, but from quite different motives which we need not enter into but which do not appear to have been altogether successful.

We greatly hope the Class will pull itself together again, that no one will give up attending it, and that personally having no faults to complain of either as regards attendance or behaviour, everything will once again go on well and happily as heretofore.

Closely allied with this is the wish we have long had for a Men's Bible Class taking the place of the old meeting in School we used to have on Sundays before Evening Service was at 6 in the winter and not at 3.30. We think such a Class might be held (by permission of the President) in the Club room on Sunday afternoon during the winter months, either every Sunday or alternate Sundays, and at 3.30 or 4 o'clock. We should like this proposal to be well talked of and thought of.

Mr. Hard is good enough to say he will keep the gates down in the river at the "Dairies" so that there will always be a certain head of water where an enjoyable bathe can be had by those who are past the age for our Swimming Bath. The Pen Lock is a good deal further off than the Dairies, and the holes make the former an unsafe bathing place except for expert swimmers. As far as we can judge there will be something under 4 feet of water at the Dairies, but in old days before the swimming bath was made our boys had some good swims in that water, and will have them again we hope, for with 36 boys constantly bathing the Swimming Bath must be emptied rather frequently.

It is necessary to add that Sunday bathing is objected to at the Dairies, it is not agreeable to have persons on the farm premises on that day, but on all other days the water at the Dairies can be used by our own people, only we must caution everyone against trespassing in wood and plantations, against fishing, and—it is scarcely necessary to add—against doing any mischief or damage.

BAPTISMS.

"Children of God."

31st May—Henry Robert, son of Henry and Annie Bates, of Mayridge.

Norman Carson, son of George and Ellen Lawrence, Agency Cottages.

PARSONAGE,

ENGLEFIELD, READING,

24th June, 1891.

A.L.C.H.

St. Mark's, Englefield.

LOCAL SHEET.

No. 68.

AUGUST, 1891.

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

Since our last number the Free Education Bill has undergone some changes, and a clause has been introduced that if the fees last year, together with the amount received for slates, &c., sold to the children did not together reach 10/- per child, the school must become a Free School. In our school these amounts did not reach 10/- a child, hence our school after September 1st will be entirely free, unless the Bill undergoes any further alteration before becoming an Act of Parliament. No school fees will be charged, reading books, slates, and copy books will be provided, and slate pencils as well as pens will be given out for daily use as required.

There seems an impression abroad that after the holidays no children residing outside the limits of this Parish will be received into Englefield School, but this is quite a mistake, so long as there is plenty of room for our own children there is no intention or necessity for making any alteration.

The following new boys are, with the consent of their parents, practising with the choir with a view to being admitted in a few weeks :—

William Allen.
Alfred Allen.
John Bond.
Fred. Manning.
Samuel Newman.
John Vince.

We are sorry to part from Fred. Cox and Fred. Griffin, but their voices are gone and they have to give place to younger boys. We shall then have twenty boys in the choir, but at present a good many of them will be more ornamental than useful. Of the above six, the two Allens, Bond, and Newman

represent what may be called fresh blood, and we are glad of this for it is desirable that the largest possible number of parents should be interested in their church choir by having a boy in it; at the same time a succession, as in the case of Manning and Vince is satisfactory as evidence that parents like their sons to be useful in their Parish Church, and that the boys themselves do not dislike the work. We should be sorry to think that there are any exceptions to this.

Before this number of the "Local Sheet" is in your hands the Choir will have enjoyed, by Mr. Benyon's kindness, a day in London, Monday, the 27th of July is the day fixed, and we hope to visit the "Zoo," Maskelyne and Cook, and the Naval Exhibition. Mr. Benyon wishes our Voluntary Ringers to be of the party. Our Choir can never complain of being neglected or forgotten; they work well and willingly, and both Mr. and Mrs. Benyon are constantly shewing by various kind actions their appreciation of the work done; they are always consulted before any boy is admitted to the choir, the selection is not a private matter between the Rector and the boy or his Parents.

The Annual Meeting of the Members of our Guild will be held on Thursday, August 20th, the office will be said in church at 4.30, and the members are then invited to spend the rest of the evening at Englefield House. The Guild Medal must be visible.

If any new members are to be admitted on that day, they should take an opportunity of letting me know their names before August 20th.

If all be well our Harvest Thanksgiving will be held this year on Tuesday, September 8th; there will be special Celebrations of Holy Communion on the previous Sunday both at 8.30 and 11 o'clock, at which we hope to see a large number of communicants; there will be a special Preparation Service on Friday, September 4th, in church at 7 p.m. Further announcements will be made in the September "Local Sheet."

We regret printer's errors in our last number, the flowers were Water Avens and Yellow Deadnettle, and in another paragraph Mr. Hand's name was mis-spelt. Two new wild flowers have to be added to our list, viz. : Water Bed Straw and Creeping Loosestrife or Moneywort.

Our Saturday morning walks in search of flowers ending with a dip in the "Dairies" are very pleasant, and generally patronised by about a dozen boys.

The school holidays commence on Friday, July 31st, and school will re-open on Monday, September 7th, the day before the Harvest Thanksgiving, a convenient arrangement for giving out tickets, &c., and completing arrangements for the following day.

With three teachers away and without a curate it seems impossible to carry on the Sunday School during the holidays, it will therefore be closed on all the five Sundays in August, the children will be marked in their places in church both at the morning and evening service : and we earnestly beg parents to keep children at home on these Sundays *until the bells begin*, otherwise they run about the school playground and get hot and noisy.

Twelve Psalters pointed for Chanting have been placed in church for general use, in order that the variations in the pointing may be better observed by those accustomed to join in the singing. A copy can be bought at any bookseller's for tenpence.

Your Bell-ringers enjoyed a pleasant day at Woodstock on Monday, July 20th, where, after service, 250 Members of the Oxford Diocesan Bell-ringers' Guild sat down to dinner. On the way home there was opportunity of spending a pleasant two hours in Oxford ; the Ringers walked home from Pangbourne about half-past ten at night, but Mr. Benyon kindly lent his 'bus in the morning to take the party into Reading.

We remind those concerned that after the holidays the Saturday Morning Cookery Lessons will re-commence, and be continued for ten consecutive weeks.

BAPTISMS.

"Children of God."

June 28th.—Arthur Charles, son of William and Hester Allen,
of North Street.

” ” William, son of Samuel and Frekida Paradine, of
Parker's Corner.

July 26th.—Alfred Edward, son of William and Keturah Vince,
of Englefield.

PARSONAGE,
ENGLEFIELD, READING,
28th July, 1891.

A.I.C.H.

St. Mark's, Englefield.

LOCAL SHEET.

No. 69.

SEPTEMBER, 1891.

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

The new Altar with its pavement of mosaic, and the new Chancel Screen, were dedicated to the honour and service of God, on Sunday, August 9th. In every way they greatly improve the Church, and so far from making the Chancel look smaller, they appear rather to have added to its size as well as much increased its dignity. Some further details we hope to allude to next month.

The following children received prizes on Sunday, July 19th, for regular attendance at Sunday School and at Church during the past twelvemonth :—

Arthur Cox

Fred Dixon

Fred Vince

John Coombes

Tracey Wyatt

Gertrude Cox

Esther Horne

Mabel Manning

Edith Martin

Gertrude Hopgood

Lois Allen

also the following members of the Bible Class had a prize for regular attendance :—

W. Wyatt

Fred Cox

Ernest Cox

Sunday School will re-commence on Sunday, September 6th ; the Day School on the following morning. Children need not bring either slates, pencils, or "pence." The Cookery Lessons will re-commence the following Saturday, September 12th.

It has already been pointed out that the prizes in money given by the Squire for regular attendance at the Day School, were intended to serve the double purpose of practically relieving parents of almost the entire expense of the weekly payment, as well as to encourage regular attendance: but now that the School is free, it would be unreasonable to expect that money prizes for regularity should continue to be given after this next occasion, on September 8th. Hitherto we have not suffered from irregularity, and there is no expectation of a falling off in this respect.

As at present arranged the programme for the Harvest Thanksgiving, on Tuesday, September 8th, is as on previous occasions; Service, Dinner, Games, and Tea form the chief attractions, with the usual Garden Show and Distribution of Prizes. Mrs. Benyon kindly offers a prize for the best loaf of home-made yeast bread, and also for the best bunch of wild flowers, *gathered and arranged* by children attending the School.

We recommend intending exhibitors to read over the Rules, &c., mentioned in the "Local Sheet" of September, 1889, it seems unnecessary to print the same things year after year.

Those who make offerings of flowers, fruit, or vegetables, are requested to send them to the Church on Saturday Morning, September 5th, by 9 o'clock, for it should be remembered that our Harvest Thanksgiving begins on Sunday, September 6th, and that our Service on that day are of a festal character, as well as the short Service the following Tuesday: and again we remind you of the Preparation Service, on Friday Evening, September 4th, at 7 o'clock, and of the Three Celebrations the following Sunday, at 7.30, 8.30, and 11.

We are sorry to say that Mr. Hand has found it necessary to open the lock gates at the Dairies because the adjacent meadows were becoming too wet for the cattle. The fact is that the side gates at the lock, which communicate with the dykes in the meadows, are so faulty that the water on one side of these gates is as deep as on the other, if these side gates kept back the water, as they are intended to do, there could be no possibility of flooding, the gates should act as banks in keeping the water back; unfortunately they both act as sieves, and instead of holding back the water, they let it through into the dykes, which flood the meadows. We are quite sorry, for sometimes as many as 20 lads and young men have enjoyed a bathe there in the evening this summer.

Through the kindness of one who desires to remain unnamed, the Belfry of our Church has been made quite Church-like, a dado of pitch pine, about 4 feet high, goes all round, and a separate seat of ecclesiastical appearance has been provided for each Ringer, and two extra ones for visitors, also a door has been placed at the entrance of the ringing chamber, which will make it much less cold in winter: the manifest object of all these improvements is to make the Ringers feel that the Belfry is a part of the House of God, set apart for a religious purpose, where laughter and noise and loud talking are improper and out of place, and all this nice furniture for the ringing chamber will be a perpetual reminder of the sacredness of the place.

Remember Sunday School, on September 6th, and Day School the following day : no excuses about gleaning not being finished can be accepted. Our fee-grant (as it is called) to make up for your paying no School pence, is calculated on the average attendance, the attendance must therefore be regular or the loss will be serious.

In order to make our Fees for Marriages in Church correspond to the fees charged at the Registrar's Office, the Rector and the Parish Clerk (who are the only persons concerned) have determined to reduce them to Seven Shillings and Sixpence ; and the Fees now stand as follows :—

	Rector.	Clerk.
	s. d.	s. d.
For Publishing Banns of Marriage	1 0	6 6
For Marriage	3 6	2 6

A further alteration has been made on the list of Fees in the Church Porch, an Act of Parliament allows the Minister of a Parish Three Shillings and Sixpence for an extract from the Parish Registers, and whilst the Rector is ready on all reasonable occasions to give poor persons a copy of any register, without making any charge, he is unwilling to be bound to take less than his legal fee from others and from non-Parishioners : and if it stands in print in the Church Porch, that One Shilling is charged, it seems almost unjustifiable to demand more. Also, when the Rector and Churchwardens agree to allow a non-Parishioner to be buried in Englefield Churchyard, it is desirable that a fairly heavy fee should be demanded : the knowledge that Ten Guineas had to be paid would possibly stop the request being made, or at once decide the point, and that is the amount which the Rector has decided to demand before burying a non-Parishioner, there is also a Fee of Ten Shillings for making the grave.

The Members of our Guild after Evensong and the Special Guild Service had been said at 4 o'clock, enjoyed by kind invitation, the rest of the day (Thursday, August 20th) at Englefield House, the afternoon being very wet. When tea was over, various games and amusements were enjoyed until about 8 o'clock, when about 70 beautiful views of Swiss scenery were shewn by the magic lantern ; after supper the Members dispersed. Mrs. Benyon gave some pretty prizes to those who won at the various games.

Members are requested to add the following names to their list of Members :—

James Webb	Edith Hatto
Isabella Lavell	Emily Eggleton
Hannah Dunsden	Alice Hopkins

and to erase the following names :—

Wilmot Phillips	Edward Gibson
John Gibson, sen.	Fanny Gibson
John Gibson, jun.	

At the present time the Guild numbers 78 persons.

Mrs. Benyon has kindly given the following 17 books to the School Lending Library :—

Don Quixote	Faithful
Ned in the Block House	Cast Ashore
Starwood Hall	Discoveries and Inventions of
Boat Voyages	the 19th Century
Maud Florence Nellie	The Slaves of Sabinus
Uncle Ivan	The Locked Desk
Peckover Mill	Under the Storm
The Vicar's Trio	In Charge
Prentice Hugh	Carried off

The books now number 233, but a judicious weeding is still needed, for some of the older ones, which have been many years in the Library, are not very well suited for children's reading. It is well understood that children *in* and *above* Standard IV. have the privilege of taking out a book, but one book in a family is found to be sufficient at a time.

We propose commencing Evening School on the first Monday in October, with the usual combination of Work and Recreation. We hope to be able to have a Wood Carving Class, and that Drawing and Painting will also go on. We have heard of evening schools, where boot-mending was very popular, probably our Englefield boys are too well off to condescend to mend their own boots.

PARSONAGE,

ENGLEFIELD, READING,

24th August, 1891.

A.L.C.H.

St. Mark's, Englefield.

LOCAL SHEET.

No. 70.

OCTOBER, 1891.

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

The Harvest Festival began on Sunday, September 6th, and was continued on the following Tuesday. More than 60 heads of families in the village sent offerings of flowers, fruit, or vegetables to the Church, which were afterwards sent to the Hospital—the alms for the same Institution were £19 3s. 6d. There were 106 Communicants on that Sunday and 250 persons in Church in the evening. Tuesday was a fine day as well as very pleasant and happy. Without further details, well recorded in the *Reading Mercury*, we give the names of prize winners :—

BEST CULTIVATED GARDEN.

Classes 1 and 3.

MECHANICS.

John Hayes
George Allen
William Wyatt

LABOURERS.

David Elliot
William Day
Charles Cox

BEST COLLECTION OF VEGETABLES.

Classes 1 and 3.

MECHANICS.

David Horne
George Allen
H. Shakleford

LABOURERS.

Alfred Eyles
James Cox
James Claydon

BEST 12 ONIONS.

* Alfred Eyles
James Winchcombe

* Charles Cox

BEST HALF-PECK OF BEANS.

Daniel Harris
Henry Martin

* William Day

BEST 12 CARROTS.

* David Horne
* James Claydon

William Cox

BEST 24 POTATOES.

John Thame
Henry Groves

Henry Bates

Over
BEST 4 HEADS OF CABBAGE.

* Charles Cox
James Winchcombe

* William Day

BEST 12 PARSNIPS.

James Martin
* James Cox

Edward Horne

BEST 12 TURNIPS.

* William Day
* Charles Cox

Edward Lamperd

* *These prizes were given in error, as prizes had already been awarded in Classes 1 or 3.*

BEST COLLECTION OF GARDEN HERBS.

William Cox

BEST BUNCH OF FLOWERS.

William Day

BEST COLLECTION OF WILD FLOWERS.

Open to Boys and Girls attending Day School.

James Claydon
Douglas Harris
Jessie Allen

William Wyatt
William Allen

A prize was also given to Mary Wyatt for a well-made loaf of bread.

It is regrettable that 10 prizes should have been wrongly awarded. The reason of the Rule is obvious, it tends to heap too many prizes upon one person. Any one who receives a prize for the Best Cultivated Garden or the Best Collection of Vegetables cannot take any other prize except for Garden Herbs or a Bunch of Flowers.

The Show was pronounced a good one by those who kindly acted as judges. An extra prize for Winter Onions was given to Edward Horne.

It is proposed that on future occasions those who exhibit Wild Flowers should arrange them after School the previous day in the presence of a judge, and should also give a list of the names of the flowers exhibited.

The following children received prizes for regular School attendance during the year 1890.

From 433 to 400 attendances:—

* W. Wyatt
Alfred Cox
Rose Wyatt
Gertrude Cox
Maurice Cox
Fanny Horne
Martha Day

* Gertrude Hopgood
Walter Cox
Fred Manning
* Tracey Wyatt
* Florence Allen
Agnes Cox

* *These made the highest possible number of attendances.*

From 429 to 420 attendances:—

Cameron Rhind
John Coombes
Joe Lamperd
Douglas Harris
Edith Manning
Arthur Cox
John Thame
Lois Allen
Mabel Manning
Edith Martin
William Allen

Albert Day
Frederick Dixon
John Harris
Emily Groves
Lavinia Wilson
William Fowler
Alfred Allen
George Horne
Annie Claydon
Nelly Cox
James Claydon

From 419 to 410 attendances:—

Frederick Coombes
Harry Wallace
Esther Horne
John Bond

Frederick Newman
Frank Sessions
Louisa Fowler

From 409 to 400 attendances:—

Lizzie Coombes
Sarah Davis
Harry Abrey
George Coombes
Alfred Harris

George Rhind
Kate Cox
Samuel Newman
Frederick Sessions
Isabella Lamperd

Sums varying from 4/- to 1/6 each with a Prayer and Hymn Book were given by Mrs. Benyon to each of the above 52 children.

Miss Benyon asks us to print the following communication which we have much pleasure in doing.

The Needlework Guild for Berks and Bucks was started by Princess Henry of Battenberg. Its object is to help the various Charities and Hospitals in these two Counties, and last year several well-known Charities were greatly benefitted by it.

All clothing is thankfully received, though chemises, skirts, and petticoats are most needed. The Princess is the Head of the Guild, and there is a President, Vice-presidents, and Associates. The Associates duties are not arduous, they have simply to send every September two garments to their Vice-president, who forwards them to the President, and she sends them to the Princess at Windsor. The garments sent from this Parish are all useful, and will be most acceptable and serviceable. The President is Mrs. Murdoch, and the Vice-president for Englefield is Miss Benyon. Every year there is a Meeting of the President and Vice-presidents to settle where the garments will be sent.

The following are Associates:—

Mrs. Benyon	Mrs. Hand
Mrs. Bligh	Mrs. Nunn
Mrs. Cook	Mrs. Robinson
Mrs. Coombes	Mrs. Russell
Miss Davies	Miss Webb
Miss Mary Davies	Mrs. Wheeler

Making the School free has brought us 25 new depositors in the Penny Bank, and one woman has joined Dr. Cox's Medical Club. This is not a bad beginning—we still cry “more,” especially for the Medical Club.

We omitted to mention the pleasant evening spent at the Club on the day of the Harvest Home, when part of the Band, by kind permission, played and Members sang songs and otherwise enjoyed themselves until about 11.30.

The School has re-opened with a very good attendance and several new comers; the slot for the slates and the shelf under the desks are most useful, and a coat of varnish on all desks and benches, together with much soap and water, has made everything nicely sweet and clean.

The iron gates of the Chancel Screen are now in position, and give a beautiful finish to a fine piece of work. The old Altar is placed under the triptych, and now has its own proper covering and ornaments. That part of the Church will now be used for daily service. Some book-desks for the use of the Choir boys are still to come.

Our oldest inhabitant, Mrs. Ham, who had reached the great age of 98, was buried by the side of her husband on September 12th. She did not keep her bed, and was in possession of a good many of her faculties to the end of her life.

James and Fred Coombes have been passed as Change Ringing Members of the Diocesan Guild of Bell Ringers. Some pictures similar to those in Church have been given to the Belfry, which now looks and feels (as it ought) quite like a part of the Church.

We hope, as already announced, to commence Night School the first Monday in October. No boy need do either wood carving or boot mending, but painting or drawing, and a weekly lesson in arithmetic, with an occasional turn at reading or writing are necessary for all. We wish to have an Examination in the three R's and in Drawing at the end of the season—those who pass will receive a prize. From 8 to 9 the usual games and refreshments.

We give a Balance Sheet of the Boys' Cricket Club for the past twelvemonth:—

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
Balance in hand	0	10	6
Mrs. Benyon	2	0	0
Due to Treasurer	0	0	3
	<hr/>		
	£2	10	9

PAYMENTS.

	£	s.	d.
Football and Bladders	0	12	0
Repairing 3 Bats	0	6	3
„ Footballs	0	1	0
Three Balls	0	15	0
Two Bats	0	10	0
Football	0	6	6
	<hr/>		
	£2	10	9

A General Meeting of the Members of the Cricket Club was held on Tuesday Evening, September 22nd, by permission, in the Workmen's Club.

The following Report and Balance Sheet were presented :—

REPORT FOR SEASON 1891.

To the Members of the *Englefield C.C.*

GENTLEMEN,

In presenting to you the Annual Report for the Season of 1891, I have to congratulate you on the position of the Club, numerically, financially, and otherwise. There are 35 Members—29 ordinary and 6 honorary; the standard of Cricket has been greatly improved, and the only weakness in the teams which have represented the Club during the past season has been in the “fielding.” The season commenced on May 2nd with a match between the Married and Single Members, and closed on September 12th with a similar match. Twelve inter-club matches have been played—of which 4 were won, 1 drawn greatly in favour, and 6 lost. Those won were against Bradfield, Wasing, Burghfield, and Yattendon; that “drawn” was against Yattendon; and those lost were against Biscuit Factory (2), Woodley (2), Bradfield, and Mr. Ackermann’s team. The “prize bat” was won by A. E. Robinson, with an average of 13 runs per innings. During the return match with Biscuit Factory C.C., 13 members and the umpire were photographed; one copy has since been presented from the Club to the Workmen’s Club, and adorns the club room walls, and another has been presented to our worthy President from the members.

Financially the Club has a balance to the good of £1/19/2.

The Club has again recognised the great kindness of its worthy President for his again lending the ground, and for his continued support.

A. E. ROBINSON, *Hon. Sec.*

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
Balance in hand	...	...	...
R. Benyon, Esq.	...	...	...
Rev. A. Heigham	...	...	...
L. E. Bligh, Esq.	...	...	...
Mrs. Butler, 5/-; Mr. Todd, 5/-; Rev. W. Phillips, 7/6	...	...	...
Proceeds of Concert	...	...	...
Twenty-nine Members	...	...	...
	£12	0	3½

PAYMENTS.

	£	s.	d.
Canvas, and Making	0	18	1½
Man's time with Tent, &c.	1	3	0
Presentation Bat—1890 and 1891... ..	1	15	6
Cricket Materials	4	8	9
Photograph for Club Room and Umpire... ..	0	8	0
Mowing, 10/-; Watering, 1/-	0	11	0
Brake, 8/6; Umpire, 2/3	0	10	9
Mending, 1/1; Parcels and Postage, 4/11	0	6	0
Balance in hand	1	19	2
	<hr/>		
	£12	0	3½

The Captain (F. Cosburn) was cordially thanked for his efforts on behalf of the Club, as was also the Hon. Secretary and the other Members of the Committee. It was resolved to request Mr. Benyon to accept a framed photograph of the eleven.

Mr. F. Cosburn, on behalf of his father, offered to continue to print the list of matches as he has heretofore done, for which he was heartily thanked.

A FOOTBALL CLUB Meeting followed immediately; the following Officers were elected and Balance Sheet presented.

Captain—A. E. ROBINSON.

Sub-Captain—A. DOUST.

Committee—

J. CLAYDON, TOM COX, H. DUCKETT, H. SHACKLEFORD,
C. STURGEON, J. WORLEY.

Hon. Secretary—A. E. ROBINSON.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
Rev. A. Heigham, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Todd, 1s.	0	3	6
Members' Payments	1	4	6
Balance due to Treasurer	0	4	9
	<hr/>		
	£1	12	9

PAYMENTS.

	£	s.	d.
Footballs	1	1	0
Mending, Telegrams, Postage, &c.	0	11	9
	<hr/>		
	£1	12	9

BAPTISM.

“Suffer little children to come unto Me.”

30th August.—Ernest Henry, son of William and Ann Fowler,
of Mayridge.

BURIAL.

+ R. E. P. +

12th September.—Elizabeth Ham, aged 98, of Englefield.

A. L. C. H.

ENGLEFIELD PARSONAGE,
READING,
26th September, 1891.



St. Mark's, Englefield.

LOCAL SHEET.

No. 71.

NOVEMBER, 1891.

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

Considering the wetness of the summer, our Bathing Season was not unsuccessful, the names of 39 boys were on the list, 6 learnt to swim, 15 could already swim, the rest were beginners or older boys. The bath was opened on May 14th, and closed on September 30th, the temperature of the water varied from 62° to 70°. The number placed after the name represents the number of times the boy bathed, and the names printed in italics are beginners.

Fred Dixon, 48
J. Claydon, 44
*F. Manning, 44
*M. Cox, 43
D. Harris, 43
*Eric Rhind, 41
*Alfred Cox, 40
*Arthur Cox, 39
Geo. Coombes, 36
Geo. Rhind, 34
Walter Cox, 33
John Coombes, 31
Tracey Wyatt, 29
*H. Wallace, 27
W. Wyatt, 26
J. Thame, 26
Alf Thame, 26
Alf Allen, 25

Ed. Wheeler, 24
J. Bond, 20
Roderick Rhind, 16
Cameron Rhind, 13
Robert Allen, 12
Fred Cooper, 12
S. Allen, 10
J. Vince, 6
Chas. Claydon, 6
Stephen Claydon, 6
A. Manning, 5
W. Allen, 4
J. Harris, 4
Hubert Cox, 4
Albert Cox, 3
F. Russell, 2
G. Horne, 1

* Learnt to swim this year.

It is proposed to open the Dinner Kitchen for the Winter, on Monday, November 2nd. The plan of paying in advance did not bring us the extra custom which was expected, so this year we go back to the old system, viz: half-penny for each dinner, those who desire can pay the 2½d. on Monday Morning. The Dinners will be the same as last year, and will we hope be found good and sufficient.

At the Harvest Home we did an involuntary injustice in saying that only two women belonged to Dr. Cox's Medical Club, when there were really twice as many, since which three others have joined. They are all deserving of honourable mention, would that many others might follow their example.

Mrs. T. Cox.
Mrs. E. Horne.
Mrs. J. Martin.
Mrs. H. Martin.

Mrs. Bond.
Mrs. Claydon.
Mrs. Dixon.

We shall be glad to hear of any omissions.

All our "Penny Bank" money in the Reading Savings Bank has now been transferred to the Post Office Savings Bank, a convenience to Mr. Robinson, who pays money for depositors into the Bank, and to whom a walk to Theale is far less inconvenient than a journey to Reading, and a convenience also to the depositors who can now withdraw or deposit at any Post Office in the United Kingdom.

The weather has been bad for Night School, but we have made a start, and are quite sure that if the scholars enter into the various subjects with a determination to work and profit by their work, they will not be disappointed at the end of the season.

We urge punctuality and regularity, for we are under Government Inspection, and registers must be marked and closed at five minutes past seven.

Four Football Matches have been arranged; two against Woolhampton College, and two against the Reading Rovers, the first match is to be played on Saturday, October 31st.

The boys have by Mr. Benyon's kindness some goal posts placed on their ground, and carry on their football with considerable spirit.

May we without offence beg those whom it concerns to give an eye to their snow-plough, and be prepared to sweep our thoroughfares at the first downfall. The loss of School attendance is very serious during the winter, because our inspection takes place in January; but if the roads are not swept free from snow it is almost impossible for children to get to school, more especially from Mayridge, Common Hill, Chalk Pit, and Lone Barn. From Appleton's corner to Parker's corner was a sad piece of travelling last year, and though it takes a long time for the two men engaged to sweep the whole length of the carriage road from the lodges to the house, a snow plough would do it all in ten minutes.

Amongst fresh Wild Flowers found during the past summer we must mention

Bur Marigold
Ladies' Tresses
Yellow Procumbent Wood Sorrel
Ploughman's Spikenard

It was not a good summer for field rambles, but we are glad to have added the above to our collection.

The Clothing Club closed to-day (October 26th); the tickets on the various tradesmen will be sent to the depositors in the course of another week.

The village has lately been visited with a good deal of sickness, and hospital nurses, and hospital tickets both for Reading and sea-side resorts, have been in great request. We are glad to report that all are now going on well.

There have been several changes in the village lately—W. Peepall has left and his cottage is occupied by G. Fisher, into whose place has moved Widow Trinder; William Smith has left the village and his neighbour, A. Cottrell, is about to move from Wickcroft Cottages to the one lately occupied by Woodley. Mrs. Gold, at the ripe age of 82, has given up her land and cows but keeps her house, and will we hope live yet many years to enjoy a pension kindly given her by Mr. Benyon. Thomas Thame has come with his family from Stanford Dingley into No. 40, Chalk Pit Cottages.

The following have lately been elected members of the Workmen's Club:—Messrs. William Knight, William Fuller, Charles Duckett, John Stones, William Cox, William Allen, H. Newman, H. Earl, J. Rabbits, Gideon Elliott, Egbert Allen, Thomas Harris, Frederick Cox, and William Manning, Jun. Our numbers now are larger than has been usual in the history of the Club, and we are very glad that continued prosperity and usefulness attend the Workmen's Club. No one under 16 years of age is admitted either as a member or a visitor.

We had hoped before now to have commenced a Men's Bible Class on one or more Sunday Afternoons in each month, but it has proved more than we could undertake; however Advent is a good time for beginning any good work, and we propose, on Advent Sunday, November 29th, to make a start. The Bible Class will, by permission of the President and Committee, be held in the Workmen's Club, the hour fixed is half-past three, and all persons will be welcomed who are of sufficient age to become members of the Club.

The Book-desks for the Choir Boys have been placed in the Chancel, and were used for the first time on Sunday, October 25th, they are a great comfort to the Boys, and do not at all obstruct the view of the Altar. All the proposed work has now been completed, and so far as we know, all the Parishioners are agreed that what has been done is a great improvement to the Church, to its dignity, and its beauty; and will conduce, we earnestly hope, to the more reverent and hearty worship of God in our "holy and our beautiful House."

BAPTISMS.

"Take this child and nurse it for Me."

- Sept. 27th.—Gladys Linda, daughter of George and Hannah Wood of Englefield.
,, ,, —Albert Edward, son of Henry and Fanny Shepherd of Englefield.
Oct. 25th—Marian Lilly, daughter of David and Mary Ann Horne of Englefield.
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THE PARSONAGE,
ENGLEFIELD,
READING,
26th October, 1891.

A. L. C. H.

St. Mark's, Englefield.

LOCAL SHEET.

No. 72.

DECEMBER, 1891.

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

There are enclosed with this number of the Local Sheet, two tracts concerning Advent, to which we draw your attention. Advent is not a season exactly similar to Lent, but all Church people must feel that it is a time which should not be passed by without serious thought ; it has a two-fold lesson :—prepare for our Lord's Second Coming, and prepare also to celebrate in a Christian manner the Anniversary of His First Coming. You will find in these tracts good advice on both these points.

The Preparation Service for our Christmas Communion will be on Friday Evening, the 18th, in Church, at 7 o'clock : but beyond this there will be no special services in Advent. On Christmas Day we propose as usual, Celebrations at 7.30, 8.30, and at the 11 o'clock Service. The Evening Service will be at 3.30, and Carols will be sung afterwards.

The Clothing Club re-opens for deposits on Monday, December 7th, at noon, at the Workmen's Club, it must be remembered that only those who deposit regularly receive any interest, and there can be no promise of interest beyond 5s. We make this remark because the interest given this year has amounted to £9, a rather larger sum than the Club can afford. At the same time we hope that no persons will limit their deposits to £1, but will use the Club as a bank for savings, to be spent at the year's end as they please. The bills are not all yet paid, so we cannot give the balance sheet, but we may state that the amount deposited by 46 persons was £39 14s. 10d.

When speaking of the Services in a previous paragraph, we ought to have said that the usual Service on the last day of the year will be in Church at 7 o'clock.

Our yearly collections for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in foreign parts will be on Sunday, December 6th, some day during that week we ask that Missionary Boxes may be sent to the Parsonage.

On Christmas Day our alms will be given to the Oxford Diocesan Missionary Candidates Association, a valuable society for helping to train men for the Ministry, who could not otherwise afford to take Holy Orders.

What we have just said reminds us that on Sunday, the 20th of December, Mr. Collier expects to be ordained Deacon to the Curacy of Englefield; no need to remind you that the previous week is Ember Week, during which the prayers of Christian persons should specially be offered for those about to be ordained.

On the same day in the Diocese of Bath and Wells, the Rev. J. M. Rumsey hopes to be ordained Priest; for him also we ask your prayers.

The Dinner Kitchen opened on Monday, November 2nd, the receipts thus far have been about 10s. 7d. weekly, which means that 50 children, or thereabouts, have dined daily. The receipts thus far have just paid for bread, flour, and the cook.

By an oversight last month we omitted the name of J. Chamberlain as having been elected a Member of the Workmen's Club.

The first round of the "Games Tournament" is nearly completed.

The last of the Cookery Lessons for this year took place to-day, November 21st, completing the course of 20 lessons. The attendance of the 15 girls has been regular throughout, no lesson having been missed by any one of them: we do hope that parents keep up at home the instruction learnt in the cooking kitchen, certainly the children are quicker with their hands than they were last year, and only need practice to make them useful helps at home to mothers who can make them helpful if they will. The following list of dishes, which have all been prepared, sounds quite appetizing:

BOILING.—Boiled mutton, Scotch broth, fish and parsley sauce.

STEWING.—Lancaster stew, with savoury balls.

FRYING.—Fried liver and bacon.

BAKING or ROASTING.—Beef and mutton.

BROILING.—Chop.

RECOOKING OF COLD MEAT.—Hash, shepherd's pie.

STOCKS and SOUPS.—Bone stock, haricot soup, vegetable soup.

PASTRY.—Plain pastry for pies, suet pastry.

PUDDINGS.—Treacle, rice, currant suet, Yorkshire, scrap bread, fruit and bread.

BREAD.—White, brown, plain buns or cake.

SICKROOM COOKERY.—Beef tea, mutton broth, light pudding, lemonade.

GRUEL.—Linseed tea.

PORRIDGE.—Oatmeal, onion.

We shall hope to see Miss Asquith another year, so that our children may continue to profit by her instruction.

The Drawing Examination is fixed for Tuesday, December 1st, at half-past ten: both boys and girls are to be examined, and will we hope pass a creditable examination. Two hours a week is given to this subject, which can well be spared from the more ordinary work.

In searching the registers to find some entries for a gentleman in Essex, who was desirous to find some records of his family, we came across the following entry:—

“The first Parson of this parish of Englefield of whom we have any records, was Clement Burdett, about the year of our Lord 1542. He was succeeded by John Howsman, about the year 1588, who was succeeded by William Thompson, and he dyed 1596. In 1607 we find William Cherington, Parson of the Parish, but how long he had been so is uncertain, for there was one, John Loveday, who in the year 1598 stiles himself Curate, and in the next year, or soon after Minister, in passing the Churchwardens’ accounts at Easter; William Cherington according to the register dyed in the year 1630, in that year the Churchwardens’ accounts were passed before George Dearinge, Minister, as he stiles himself. In 1633 and 1634 we find Robert Cattesford, Rector, but there is no account of his burial here, Mr. Humphry Drake likely succeeded him in the year 1656, and he dyed in 1694, who was succeeded by his son, Humphry Drake, who dyed in 1708.”

Here the entry, with its peculiar spelling ends; before another month, we will endeavour to complete the record.

We may add that the entries in the Register Books of this Parish commence with November, 1561.

A. L. C. H.

ENGLEFIELD PARSONAGE,
READING,

25th November, 1891.