

APRIL,



1918.

EASTINGTON
PARISH CHURCH MAGAZINE.

VOL. XIII.

ONE PENNY.

Rector—REV. G. T. ALTIMAS WARD, M.A.

Regular Services, Classes, &c.

- Holy Communion*..... 8 a.m.,—**Second** and Fourth Sundays in the month.
Holy Communion..... 11.45 a.m.,—**First** and Third Sundays.
Holy Communion..... 8 a.m.,—**On Festivals** and Holy Days.
Matins & Evensong..... 11 & 6.30.—**Every** Sunday.
Evensong..... 7 p.m.,—**On Saint's** and Holy Days.
Litany,..... 11.30 a.m.,—Second and *Last* Sundays.
Holy Baptism,..... 2.30 p.m.,—*Last* Sunday in the month.
Sermons,..... 11 & 6.30,—**First**, Second, Third and Fourth Sundays.
Children's Service,..... 2.30 p.m.,—*Last* Sunday in month.
Sunday Schools, 9.45 & 2.30—**Every** Sunday.
Advent & Lent,..... 7 p.m.,—Evensong on Fridays.
Girls' Bible Class..... 2.45 p.m.,—**Every** Sunday.
Intercessions,..... 11 or 6.30—*Last* Sunday in month.
As Announced,.....—Confirmation and Communicant Classes, Guilds, Mother's Meetings, Lantern Lectures, &c.

The Finances of Eastington Church being wholly dependent on the ordinary Offerories it is hoped that any absent at one service and present at another, will contribute for both.

THIS MAGAZINE CAN BE HAD FROM THE RECTOR, OR FROM MRS.
J. TUDOR, CHURCHEND, OR MRS. WENT, ALKERTON.

APRIL, 1918.

SHALL WE PROFIT ?

I THINK I may assert with some confidence that Sickness,—pain and suffering, sorrow and loss—marked out the spiritual progress of four of the greatest men in history—S. PAUL, PASCAL, Dr. PUSEY, and JOHN HENRY NEWMAN. Thousands of others have, and continue to travail in pain and bereavement as well as these men, but what sickness may or may not mean to these thousands I cannot tell. In the case, however, of these four great men, I think I am safe in saying that the “iron that entered into their souls,” the shafts that went so deep into their life’s struggles, meant for them something more than mere physical suffering. Their sorrows and afflictions were, I believe, the *starting points* for new insight, new service, new faith, new love, and *increased* devotion to GOD.

The present war-tragedy smites all,—nations as well as individuals,—fathers, mothers, widows and orphans,—to all alike the war brings the same kind of sorrow and loss. The same chain of *Causes* lies behind the war, however that tragedy is viewed. The action is there, clear and unmistakable. But what the *re-action* upon the peoples who make up the nation is, is not so clearly determined.

These terrible tragedies in our lives may leave us insensible, with nothing worthier than an effort to *forget* our losses,—a result deplorable to the last degree; or, on the other hand, we may try to bear our burdens of Faith,—which, GOD grant, may be one of lessons our sad trials will teach us. One thing at least which does stand out before us is—that the present sufferings are a clear *Invitation* and a *solemn Opportunity* for Nations and Individuals to tread a new, a better and a cleaner way,—call it Purifying, Purgative or Purgatorial, if you like.

KINGSLEY I think it was who said, (and was thoroughly Christian in saying it,) “That in the hour of an epidemic it was not enough to pray, and to leave uncleansed the hovels where the disease was bred.”

As it was with the Romans and the Greeks, so it is with us,—there was much that was sad and shocking, and even revolting in our pre-war lives; much that was perilous in our principles; and still more that was wholly indefensible in our religions; and each and all needed a thorough cleansing.

The *way*, (as we see it,) was not chosen by us. Nevertheless, the way, as it *has been* chosen,

gives the opportunity or occasion for the purifying of our souls. The vital question is—Shall we profit by the invitation ?

I strongly hold that for a whole nation, as well as for its individuals, the unspeakable tragedy of the war, with all its wealth of irreparable loss, may,—nay, ought,—to be turned into glorious treasures of Faith, and Hope, and Love. I feel,—(and would that others could feel alike)—that even that sorrow of sorrows,—the loss of unfinished lives, the loss of the hearts of heroes, the loss of gallant sons who were the joy and stay of others,—may, as I hope it will, revive in the heart of the nation as well as of its individuals, a new and confident faith in the life that is eternal. A nation, of course, can never cease to mourn the loss of its youth,—a loss, alas, of an irreparable jewel,—but that very loss will not be without its gain if these boys, these sons, these heroes that have prematurely laid down their precious lives,—become the *pioneers of our generation* in the world beyond Death.

Though England to-day mourns in her tens of thousands the loss of the flowers of her flock, and has given her hostages to the future; still, if those sacrifices bring a cleansing flood, and a purifying river, then, however sad, however tragic and however heart-breaking may be the loss, it will not have been in vain if only we that are left view the loss in its true perspective, accepting GOD’S purgatorial sentence, and profit by the lesson, however deep, however tragic, and however heart-rending it may be to each and all of us, and GOD knows it is all three.

22-3-18.

G. T. A. WARD, *Rector*.

Confirmation.

At the Confirmation in Stroud on Tuesday, March 5th., I had the pleasure of presenting the following candidates,—Gwendoline Hilda Shill, Phyllis Jessie Elizabeth Shill, Lilian Gaultier, Violet Annie Dowdeswell, Kathleen Mary Warner, Florence Mary Harris. The 1918 class was one of the most attentive I have had for some time. I am indebted to Miss B. Keys for kindly being with the candidates on the day of Confirmation.

Foolish.

Every article unfixed in price at once doubled, trebled and even quadrupled in price. Result.—a price was fixed. Pork is still unfixed. Result,—what was 10d. per lb. is now 2s.6d. What will be the result? A fixing of price, of course. To meet his lack of big profits on beef and mutton the vendor is now putting it on the unrestricted article. It is a short-sighted policy, to describe it mildly.

The Magazine.

Under ordinary circumstances it would be a pleasure to find the circulation of the *Parish Magazine* increasing, (as it has again for 1918,) but the drastic shortage of paper makes me a little anxious about the supply. I will do what I can to meet it.

School Managers' Meeting.

A meeting was held on Feb. 28th. Present,—The Rector, (Chairman), Messrs. E. Hooper, J.P., W. J. Smith, A. W. Keys, A. F. Daniels. Routine business was transacted, and finances examined.

School Endowment Trust.

The Trustees met on March 6th., and decided with regard to the usual Exhibitions for scholars.

One Way of Doing Things.

The replies in Parliament are about as misleading as War *Communiqués*. From what one reads of the work done by military authorities, one would think that they were the "best of all authorities." If, however, you examine into their ways a little more closely you will find that the stupidest of business men would not do the absurd things they do. I say nothing of how frequently the same account has been paid over and over again. I say nothing of the scandalous waste of the taxpayers' money on the Frampton-Frocester railway. I say nothing of the crass, rank injustice of taking the little food left for parishioners. But in the name of decency and common intelligence I do protest against the latest folly,—the surreptitious inveigling of local farm and other labourers from their steady and necessary work, by offering them more than twice the wages they had. Have not the authorities had sufficient warning from their stupid efforts in the same direction in the early days of the war? Will they never learn? Or is it that they are too grossly ignorant? If the folly is pursued I hope the farmers and others will "down tools." It really seems the only way to bring such people to their senses. Since writing the above I have been informed that the Quedgeley gentlemen have offered £2. a week to a local man who was well content with his 25s. a week for necessary work in which he has served since his boy-hood. Can no check be put upon such criminal stupidity?

The Local Pensions Committee.

I am not a "man of affairs," if I was I should soon want to know something of the workings of the Local Pensions Committee, and the ways in which supplementary aid is given to applicants. A case has been referred to me recently from

Cheltenham, and I strongly recommended no aid to be given. Why? Because the applicant was in receipt of a pension for herself and some seven or eight children. To anyone who could not live and pay her baker, rent or other debts on so ample a sum as these numbers obtain, it would be unkindness to put more money in her possession for waste.

Normality.

Most of the soldiers billeted on the parish have been transferred to Frampton, and our village is again resuming its normal life. There are some results from the billeting that many will regret.

Abnormality

Since writing the previous paragraph a new batch of soldiers have been billeted on this parish, and, I regret to say, the parish is once more in a state of commotion and moral turmoil. The scenes on our public roads after dark are not a credit to either the men, the giddy, foolish young girls, or their parents. I sincerely hope that the county police will be vigilant in reporting any licensed house that supplies any man, not in a fit state, whether he be officer, sergeant or private. On Sunday, March 10th, we had some scenes that were not creditable. We have a number of officers here, and I strongly hold that one at least should personally patrol the roads from five to ten o'clock at night. They are not overburdened with military or other work, and they should be taught that soldiering,—whether for officer or private,—is no longer toy-work, but work returned for pay. The social side of soldiering is a thing of the past.

£3,400 GONE AS TRAY.

I have been told that sometime ago sugar was supplied by Mr. A., from Bristol. A. sent his bill to department C. C. wrote that it must go to D. D. wrote that it must go to E. Meanwhile C. sends A. a cheque for £1700. By next post D. sends £1700. Next post E. sends £1700. A. returns cheques to D. and E. Next post D. and E. re-forward cheques to A., saying he must keep them. They are still in A's safe. I wonder under what column these items will appear in Government ledgers?

HOW THE MILITARY MANAGE THINGS.

A short time ago a small article was bought. Officer—Is the price a fair one? Orderly—Yes. Then buy it. A bill for 7s. was sent to head quarters. Foolscaps followed. Purchaser is reprimanded. Head quarters send a Valuer from Salisbury. Day, and railway expenses are lost. All are reprimanded, the 7s. article is revalued, and more is offered to the seller than he asked! That's the way to spend—other people's—money.

THANKS.—I desire to thank all who have returned me their Waf and Stray Collecting Boxes.

F. HOWELL.—We were all glad to see Fred Howell amongst us, and looking so well.

TOBACCO.—"I do not challenge the justice," [writes a correspondent,] "of your severe comment in the March Magazine upon our gross extravagances. But why omit the waste on tobacco?" Quite right; nor do I challenge the justice of your comment. I did not forget it, but I had not the figures by me at the time.

Question and Answer Column.

PROPHECY AND THE WAP.

(Short Notes of Sermons preached by the Rector in Eastington Parish Church.)

TURKEY IN PROPHECY. (10-2-18)

To-night's subject is based on the words which tell of the 'over-flow' of the Euphrates. Rev. ix. 14.

Question.—In what way can this prophecy be reasonably applied to the rise of the Turkish Empire?

This question can only be answered by knowing what S. John meant by the word "over-flow."

Jeremiah xlvi, 8, answers. He prophesied on the "over-flow of the Nile," and it was followed by the invasion of Egypt by Nebuchadnezzar. (So did Isaiah, in viii, 8.

When the great rivers of the East are used by the prophets, it is generally understood that the rivers themselves are not referred to literally, but as representatives of the peoples living in the vicinity of those rivers.

Prophetically, then, the use of the Euphrates may refer to those living near to that great river.

Historically, this will fully apply to the Turks, for, originally they came from the neighbourhood of the Euphrates,—from Turkestan.

The prophetic over-flow would then seem to indicate the sudden rise to power of some peoples in the neighbourhood of this great river.

Turkey alone suits this prophecy.

Some facts.—Till the 8th. century Turkey was an unknown, at least an insignificant, state on the eastern shores of the Euphrates. Little by little Turkey pushed westward, till, in 623 Mohammed attacked the whole Christian world in Asia, Africa and Europe. From thence, down to the taking of Constantinople in 1453, the Turks conquered everywhere, stopping short only in Europe at the gates of Venice and Vienna, receiving their first and fatal check at the battle of Lepanto, 1571.

Up to 1571, no other power meets so amply the prophecy of S. John respecting the over-flow of Euphrates. (Rev. ix, 14.)

Since 1571 Turkey, (always a European usurper,) has been engaged in one continuous effort merely to keep her earlier conquests.

Thus the Euphrates has prophetically 'over-flowed,' and S. John's prophecy has been fulfilled in historic fact in the national events connected with the Turkish empire.

We should not forget that if such prophecies as these do and have come true, that there are other prophecies so immediately concerning ourselves as to make their neglect little short of a crime.

THE DRYING UP OF THE EUPHRATES.—THE DECLINE OF TURKEY. (17-2-18.)

Based on Revelation xvi, 12.

To-night we are to consider what seem to be indications in the modern history of the once powerful Turkish Empire pointing to a fulfilment of the 'Drying Up' process.

It will be conceded I think that loss of Sovereign authority on the one hand, and actual loss of territory on the other are clear indications of the Decline or Drying Up of the powers of any Empire. I judge the Decline of the Turkish Empire as Gibbon did the Roman Empire.

Up to the year 1571 Turkey was all-conquering. In that year, under John of Austria, Turkey met with her first defeat at the battle of Lepanto. From 1571 to 1820 Turkey has no history save that of crime, no progress save

in the domain of massacre and rapine.

In 1827 the Greeks revolted, and the present Greek Kingdom was set up. Moldavia and territory north of the Danube was freed. In 1844 England compelled Turkey to give Religious Toleration to all her subjects.

In 1866 Egypt became independent. In 1882 England occupied Egypt. In 1915 England deposed the Khedive, created a Sultanate, and assumed a Protectorate.

Morocco, after 400 years, is Independent. Tunis and Algeria are French colonies. Tripoli is Italian. A new King of Arabia rules at Mecca, and HALF of PALESTINE is now in ENGLISH HANDS. Thus Turkey in Europe, Asia, and Africa is but a skeleton of herself. No Prophecy could be more suggestively realized.

Parish Register.

BAPTIZED.

Warner, Donald, s. of H. & W Warner,	Jan 28, 1917
White, Gwend., d. of W & E White,	Mar 25 "
Prout, Marg. K, d. of L & M Prout,	June 17 "
Kindrick, Geoff., s. of A & E Kindrick,	Nov 25 "
Shill, Doris E., d. of R & J Shill,	Jan 13 1918
Shill, Gwen. H., d. of " "	" " "
Shill, Phyllis J., d. of " "	" " "
Shill, Flora W, d. of " "	Mar 10 "

MARRIED.

Guilding-Holmes.—J E to M E,	May 23, 1917
Gabb-Dell.—A C to Amy	June 23, "
Young-Keene.—S to A M,	June 30, "
Lewis-Abraham.—E A to M,	Nov 24, "
Coleman-Cowley.—R A to F A	Feb 23, 1918

BURRIED.

Sherman, Ann, 96 years,	May 15, 1917
Gregory, George, 85 years,	June 20, "
Leighton, Julia, 58 years,	Aug 7, "
King, George, 21 years,	Oct 2, "
Hayward, Eliza, 53 years,	Oct 22, "
Briekerton, Leslie, 4 years,	Nov 28, "
Clutterbuck, Sarah, 88 years,	Nov 29, "
Davis, Oliver, 63 years,	Dec 22, "
Young, Jane, 75 years,	Dec 29, "
Sparks, Caroline, 78 years,	Jan 5, 1918
Gwinnell, Mary, 78 years,	Jan 5, "
Cowley, John, 66 years,	Jan 16, "
Cowley, Eliza, 65 years,	Jan 19, "
Phipps, Lucy, 27 years,	Jan 25, "

Burnt Bricks.

Burnt bricks were used in the earliest days of human civilization. Romans introduced them into England.

Pressure.

The pressure of the atmosphere on a man of average stature is about 15 tons to the square inch. Being equalized it is not felt, but he would hesitate to carry a quarter of a ton.