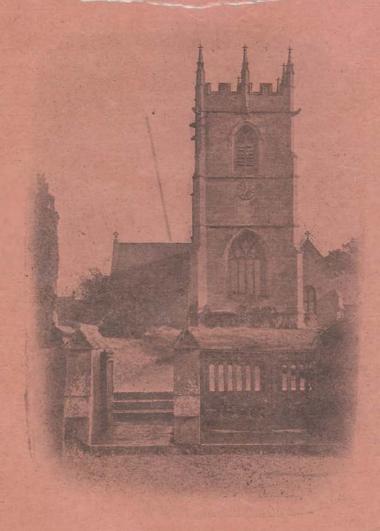
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THE MARRIAGE LAW.

The present Government have once more shown their concern for the law-breaker, and their desire to gratify him at the expense of the peace of the Church, by passing the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill. Marriage with the sister of a deceased wife is now agreeable to the law of the land, although contrary to the law of the Church, and the new Act is further indulgent to the lawless and refractory in being made retrospective, thus declaring that all (with few exceptions) who have broken the law in the past deserve to be rewarded by the State:

The new Act, however, whilst directly inciting the clergy to violate the law of the Church by officiating at marriages which the Church declares "incestuous," is kindly and considerate in not penalising such as are loyal. Without entering into the merits of the case for such marriages, the plain duty of such members of the Church (whether clerical or lay) as approve of them would seem to be, not to adopt the policy encouraged by H.M. Government, and break the law until it is altered to suit them, but to obey the Church's law until such time as they can persuade the Church that she will conform more nearly to the standard of Christ by modifying it. Until such unions are legalized by the Church-may the day be far distantthe proper place for their celebration is the Registry Office.

Had the new Act attempted to force the clergy, under penalties, to officiate at such marriages, we might reasonably have considered ourselves within measurable distance of disestablishment, which the Church herself would have demanded; and, even as matters now stand, the new Act may safely be regarded as a definite step towards the separation

of Church and State. Archbishop Magee saw the inevitable result of such legislation as this when, in 1882, he wrote as follows:

"Whenever the State treats, and requires the Church to treat as married those whom the Church declares to be not married or marriageable, then will come a strain that will snap, or go near snapping, the links that bind Church and State. . . . The question will practically arise, not as regards marrying the widower and sister-in-law (this is not to be required of the clergy) but as regards admitting them, when married, to Holy Communion. For those who regard such marriages as 'other than God's Word doth allow,' I hardly see how they could so, or advise others to do so; and, if they cannot, there arises a most formidable dispute between Church and State.

CHOIR OUTING.

The Badsey Choir Outing is to take the form of a trip to Weston-super-Mare, on Monday, Sept. 9th. It is only three years since we last visited Weston, yet—so quickly do boys shoot up—not one of our present boys was a member of the choir on the occasion of our former excursion, so that it will be new ground for most of our party. But even for those who joined our excursion in 1904 the proposed trip will possess novel features, as we intend making the greater part of the journey by steamer. The train is timed to leave Evesham (Midland) at 6.50, and runs in connection with one of Messrs. Campbell's steamers sailing from Sharpness at 9 a.m. Weston should be reached soon after 11, and the boat leaves again for Sharp-

ness at 6.45, thus allowing over seven hours on shore. Arrangements have been made for dinner and tea at Huntley's Beach Restaurant. Given a fine day the excursion should prove most enjoyable.

The following subscriptions have been received:

		12.00	£	s.	d.
Mr. Alcock	5	2 200	0	5	0
Mrs. Hands			0	5	0
Mr. and Mrs. Slad	den		0	5	0
The Vicar			0	5	0
Mr. O. Moisey	***		0	3	0
Mrs. Ashwin			0	2	6
Mrs. J. Mason			0	2	6
Mrs. Mustoe			0	2	6
Mr. A. E. Sladden			0	2	6
Mrs. H. Byrd			0	2	6
Mr. Binyon	***	***	0	2	6
Mr. H. Keen			0	2	6
Mrs. Cull		•••	0	2	6
Mrs. E. Crisp	9 2		0	2	6
Mrs. Sparrow			0	2	0
Mr. Leveratt (the	late)		0	2	0
Mrs. McDonald	***	44.	0	2	0
Mrs. W. Wilkins		•••	0	2	0
Mrs. W. Hartwell			0	2	0
Mrs. E. Knight			0	2	0
Mr. A. E. Jones	1		0	2	0
Mrs. Evans			0	1	0
Mr. J. Keen			0	1	0
Mrs. T. Marshall	***	100	0	1	0
Mrs. C. Jones		***	0	1	0
Mr. Kelland		***	0	I	0
Mrs, H. Kelland			0	1	0
Mr. E. Mustoe	2		0	1	0
Mrs. A. Sears		***	0	1	0
Mrs. W. Ballard	344	***	0	1	0
Mr. Wheatley		241	0	1	0
Mrs. Warner	***	***	0	1	0
Mr. W. Knight	***	***	0	1	0
Sums under 1s.			0	7	10
	100		O.C.	10	
	Total		23	19	4

To this total must be added last year's balance of 9/4, and 30/- from the Church Expenses Fund, making in all £5 18s. &d. The cost of the outing will be between £6 and £7, and any further contributions may be sent to the Vicar.

NOTES AND NEWS.

Mr. E. Ballard, who has acted as clerk and sexton since October last, has informed the Vicar that he is compelled to resign both these offices as he is unable to spare the time which the work demands. Mr. Ballard's resignation has been accepted with regret as he has proved himself an admirable Church officer. The Vicar will be glad to receive applications for either or both of these posts. The 'annual and accustomed salary' of the clerk is £4, and his fees now amount to about 30s. per annum. The sexton, who is required to . light the fires and do certain other work in and about the Church, receives £4 per annum and 4/6 for every grave dug. The two offices may be held by the same person.

We record with deep regret the death of Mr. S. Leveratt, late of Badsey. Mr. Leveratt only resided in Badsey for about four years but in that brief period he made many friends and was universally respected. He was a most liberal supporter of the Church, and indeed no one who asked his help in any good cause ever came away emptyhanded. He died almost suddenly on August 27th while away on a visit. The Vicar officiated at the funeral which took place at Norton on August 31st.

THE REGISTERS.

BADSEY. - BAPTISMS.

August 18.—Cyril Francis Jinks.
,. "—Winifred Emily Ballard.

BADSEY, -MARRIAGE.

August 28-Thomas Henry Hall and Louisa Elizabeth Keen

BADSEY .- BURIAL.

August 31.-Hannah Newbury, aged 65 years.

