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Badsey_with_Aldington & Wickhamford Parish Magazine.

FESTIVAL OF PARISH CHOIRS.

A Choral Festival was held at All Saints' Church, Evesham, on the evening of S. Peter's Day. The music was rendered by the combined choirs of eleven parish churches_viz., All Saints and S. Laurence (Evesham), Hampton, Fladbury, Norton, Church Lench, Harvington, Offenham, Badsey, Weston-sub-Edge, and Dumbleton. The Rural Dean officiated as precentor, the Vicar of Badsey conducted, and Mr. A. M. Slatter, A.R.C.O., organist of All Saints, presided at the organ. As compared with that of previous years the singing showed a marked improvement all round, which was doubtless due, in part, to the work done by way of preparation for former festivals, but also in a large measure to the time and labour devoted by Mr. Slatter to the training of individual choirs. The lessons were read by the Rev. W. F. Adams, rector of Weston-sub-Edge, and the Rev. E. Havergal, vicar of Hampton. The pulpit was occupied by the Rev H. Scott Holland, canon and precentor of S. Paul's, who preached a most eloquent sermon. Taking his text from Rev. v., 13, 14, and introducing his subject and illustrating it throughout by reference to Chantecler_the French play which recently attracted such attention-Dr. Holland argued that music could only be regarded as good when it reflected and gave expression to the actual experiences of life. This was the criterion by

which the merits of secular music were judged, and sacred music ought to be tested by the same standard. The mere prettiness of a melody was not sufficient to justify its inclusion in the Church's repertoire, which should be rigidly confined to music which, like the glorious old tune that had just been sung ("O Amor, quam exstaticus"), one could recognise as really expressing the joys or sorrows, the hopes or fears of the every-day life of men and women.

The collection amounted to rather more than $\pounds 4$.

Mr. Wheatley very kindly drove the Badsey choristers home after the service.

NOTES AND NEWS.

About thirty members of the Worcestershire Naturalists' Club visited Wickhamford on Thursday, May 19th. The Vicar conducted the party over the Parish Church, whilst Mr. Lees-Milne kindly showed them round the Manor House grounds and afforded them an opportunity of inspecting the venerable dovecot.

The Vicar and Mrs. Allsebrook hope to give a tea-party at the Vicarage, on St. James's Day, to children attending the Sunday Schools.

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ORGAN FUND.				THE REGISTERS.	
1909. Brought For	rward		£ s.	d. 2	BADSEY.—BAPTISMS, June 19.—William Thomas Eden.
Nov. 14. Collections			16	5	BADSEY.—BURIAL.
Dec. 12. Collection 1910.			2	3	June 30.—Thomas Bearcroft, aged 5 years.
Jan. 9. Collections				111	OFFERINGS FOR THE MONTH.
Feb. 13. "			17	2	Badsey. Wickhamford.
1nterest to I	ecember 31:	st.	7	0	£ s. d. £ s d.
Mar. 13. Collections			18	1	June 5.—Sick and Needy 0 2 0 0 3 7 ,, ,,—Church Expenses 0 15 2 0 6 8
April 10. ,,			15	7	, 7.—Sick and Needy 0 1 0 , 12.—Organ Fund 0 9 2 , , , — Church Expenses 0 5 0 0 6 2 , 19.—Sick and Needy 0 0 7 0 2 0
May 8. ,,			16	2	
June 7. Church Box			9	2	
,, 12. Collections			9	2	,, Church Expenses 0 9 1½ 0 7 4½
			-	1	,, 26.—Sick and Needy 0 5 9 ,, ,,—Church Expenses 0 19 7½ 0 3 10½
			£51 10	5	,, 29.—Sick and Needy 0 0 8
					£3 8 0½ £1 9 8

