

Marriage of the Vicar of Badsey.

A very pretty and interesting wedding was solemnised at Solihull Parish Church on Thursday, when the Rev. William Carmont Allsbrook, vicar of Badsey with Aldington and Wickhamford, was married to Miss Evelyn Kate Hands, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Hands, of Badsey. Mr. Allsbrook has held the living for about six years, and both he and his bride enjoy a widespread popularity in the village and surrounding districts. The ceremony was held at 1.30, and the officiating clergy were the Ven. Archdeacon of Coventry, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Wilson (vicar of Earlswood) and the Rev. T. B. Harvey Brooks (rector of Solihull). The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in a Princess gown of soft ivory satin, trimmed with silk, embellished on neck and looped with orange blossom. She wore a veil and wreath of orange blossoms and carried a bouquet of choice white flowers. She was attended by four bridesmaids—the Misses E. M. Orchard, A. E. Payton (cousin), E. Wilson, and M. Holmes—who were attired in semi-princess dresses of ivory chiffon taffeta, with sleeves and yokes of ninon-de-sois and trimmed with embroidered insertion. They wore the palest of pale blue chip hats, which were trimmed with pale blue ribbon and pale pink roses, and carried bouquets of pale pink flowers trimmed with pale blue ribbon. Miss Dorothy Hayden (dressed in pale pink silk) and Master Anthony Preston (attired in a blue silk smock) acted as train bearers. The bride's mother wore a dress of satin striped silk voile, over white silk ninon-de-sois, trimmed with jet roulons. Mr. E. Pagot Dewhurst, L.C.S. (an old college friend of the bridegroom) acted as best man. The service was fully choral. While the guests were assembling in the church the organist (Mr. Courtenay Woods) played the bridal march from Lohengrin and Offertoire (Salome). The choir met the bride at the west door and preceded her to the screen singing "Thine for ever." The other hymns were "O perfect love" and "Through all the changing scenes of life," the latter being sung during the signing of the register. The party left the church to the strains of Mendelssohn's well-known Wedding March, and the bells also sent forth a merry peal. The event was also honoured by a peal on the bells at Badsey. After the ceremony a reception was held at Oakmeadow, Solihull, the residence of the bride's uncle, Mr. G. H. Payton, and later in the day the happy pair took their departure en route for Derbyshire, where the honeymoon is being spent. The bride's going-away dress was of swale serge, the cuffs and collar being braided with Luck Russia braid, and she wore a black crinoïde picture hat trimmed with two handsome ostrich feathers. The whole of the dresses were supplied by Mrs. Voice, of Riverdale, Evesham.

Among the many presents, a list of which is appended, were several of a more or less public character, which testify to the high respect of Mr. Allsbrook and his bride.

- Rev. H. A. Williams—Wedgwood tea plates on brass stand.
- Archdeacon and Mrs. Arbuthnot—Silver dessert dishes.
- Miss E. Wilson—Silk sunshade.
- Mr. G. E. Smith—Gossip chair.
- Mrs. James—Pearl and poridot brooch.
- Miss Oldaker—Silver eau de cologne case.
- Mr. and Mrs. Tyler—Brass dinner cang.
- Mr. Moisey—Glass and silver communion cruet.
- Miss Joice Jeffries-Davies—Leather writing case.
- Miss M. Sladden—Cushion cover.
- The Misses K. and E. Sladden—Irish lace handkerchief.
- Miss L. McDonald—Lace collar.
- Dr. and Mrs. Leslie—Early morning tea set on tray.
- Mrs. and Miss Hoddinott—Salt cellars.
- Mrs. Clifford and Miss M. Smith—Book.
- Mr. and Mrs. Rowlandson—Set of books in leather case.
- Mr. R. Webb—Safety razor.
- Mr. A. E. Hands—400-day clock.
- Miss M. Minet—Book.
- Miss Emma Warner—Tray cloth.
- Mr. J. E. Payton—Silver clock and calendar.
- Misses J. and M. Bealey—Silver-mounted purse.
- Miss Orchard—Shaving can and cigarettes.
- Rev. H. I. Wilson—Silver vases.
- Mr. J. W. Mason—Silver match box.
- Mr. C. A. Binyon—Water colour picture of Badsey Church.
- Mr. H. Allsbrook—Coal scuttle.
- Mrs. Voice—Worcester china vase.
- Rev. F. W. Wallbrand Evans—Silver candlesticks.
- The Misses Hands—Silver button-hook and shoe-horn.
- Mrs. Havergal—Worcester china vase.
- Rev. E. Havergal—Book.
- Mr. and Mrs. E. and H. Johns—Silver tea pot.
- Mr. S. P. Leitner—Silver travelling clock.
- Mrs. Ludlow—Wedgwood flower pot.

PRESENTATION TO THE VICAR.

An interesting gathering was held in the Old School on Monday evening for the purpose of presenting the Vicar (the Rev. W. C. Allsbrook) with a silver tray—the gift of the parishioners of Badsey, Aldington, and Wickhamford—on the occasion of his marriage. Although there was little time for collecting subscriptions, the organisers of the movement met with a very hearty response to their appeal, and were enabled to purchase the handsome present mentioned above. The committee who undertook the arrangements and collected in the three parishes were Messrs. C. A. Binyon, J. H. Macdonald, H. Richards, G. Moisey, H. Keen, A. Sparrow, Mrs. H. Keen, Mrs. H. Byrd, and Miss Holmes.

Mr. C. A. Binyon presided over the gathering on Monday evening supported by



Photo [Whitlock & Sons, B'gham]



Photo [Fred Gogg]

REV. W. C. AND MRS. ALLESBROOK.

LIST OF PRESENTS.

- Bridegroom to bride—Pearl and sapphire ring.
- Bride to bridegroom—Gold cross.
- Bride's father—Cheque.
- Bride's mother (to bride)—Necklet and bracelets.
- Bride's mother (to bridegroom)—Attache case.
- Parishioners of Badsey, Aldington, and Wickhamford—Silver tea tray.
- Organist and choir of Badsey—Silver flower vase.
- Teachers and scholars of Badsey Sunday School—Silver-mounted scent bottle.
- Vicarage Sewing Class—Tea set.
- Tenants on Badsey giebe estate—Silver cruet stand.
- Star Football Club—Silver rose bowl.
- Mrs. Keyte—Old china bowl.
- Mrs. Harrison—Silver-mounted rose bowl.
- Mrs. Hastings—Silver card case.
- Mrs. Orchard—Brass hot water cans.
- Miss Orchard—Silver-backed clothes and hat brushes.
- Miss F. Orchard—Copper tea kettle on stand.
- Mrs. Hope—Silver serviette rings.
- Rev. C. and Mrs. Preston—Occasional table.
- Mr. and Mrs. Wade—Worcester china vase.
- Miss Wade—Cushion.
- Rev. F. and Mrs. Ashworth—Silver-mounted mullineer.
- Rev. C. Jerram Hunt—Book.
- Miss S. Rice—Book.
- Rev. H. and Mrs. Wilkinson—Worcester china vase.
- Captain J. Orchard—Silver butter dish and knife.
- Mr. D. S. Orchard—Silver mullineer.
- Mrs. F. Smith—Silver candlesticks.
- The Misses M. and D. Tetley—Photo in enamel frame.
- Mrs. Hall—Silver butter knife.
- Mr. and Mrs. Lees-Milne—Silver candlesticks.
- Miss Muriel Holmes—Tortoiseshell handled umbrella.
- Rev. Preb. and Mrs. Payton—Silver-topped preserve jar.
- Rev. H. and Mrs. Clifford—Venetian glass vase.
- Mrs. Leveratt—Photo frame and ash tray.
- Mrs. Ashwin—Silver flower pots.
- Mr., Mrs., and the Misses Kelland—Asparagus tongs.
- Mr. and Mrs. Sladden—Worcester china vases.
- Rev. W. H. Shawcross—Book.
- Rev. A. C. Sgile—Book.
- Mrs. Howins—Cushion.
- Miss Timmins—Book.
- Miss P. Timmins—Book.
- Miss M. Payton—Hall brushes on oak bracket.
- Miss B. Payton—Silver-topped marmalade jar.
- Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Payton Amethyst and diamond ring.
- Mr. C. Payton—Silver photo frame.
- Mr. and Mrs. P. Boswell—Sardine dish.
- Mr. and Mrs. Dewhurst—Grebe-stole and muff.
- Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Wilson—Cut glass and silver salad bowl.
- Rev. M. and Mrs. Watkins—Pitchford—Silver hot water jug.
- Mr. and Mrs. A. Payton—Glove and handkerchief sachets.
- Rev. O. E. and Mrs. Hayden—Oak-framed pictures.
- Rev. T. Hands—Gladstone bag.
- Mr. C. C. Ord—Pictures in oak frames.
- Mr. S. Leitner—Pearl pendant and chain.
- Rev. J. M. Walker—Silver cigarette case.
- Rev. W. Hawkey—Book.
- Rev. W. Hawkey—Hugges—Mullineer.

a good number of parishioners. Among those present, in addition to the whole of the Committee mentioned above were Mrs. Ashwin (Pool House), the Rev. W. C. Allsbrook, Mrs. and Miss Hands, Mr. R. Taylor (churchwarden for Wickhamford), Mr. and Mrs. W. Keen, Mrs. H. Keen, Mrs. Moisey, Mr. J. Agg, Mr. J. Knight, Mrs. S. Churchill, Miss Orchard, Mr. T. Knight, Mr. G. Marshall, Mrs. Howel's (Aldington), the Misses Macdonald, and Miss Crisp (Brotforton).

The arrival of the Vicar with his fiancée was signalled by an outburst of applause. Mr. Binyon, in the course of a few remarks, said it was generally the case in a village like Badsey for the holder of a public office to be scrutinised and criticised by the parishioners. But this was not what they were met there for. It was to ask the Vicar's acceptance of an absolutely spontaneous gift from the three villages in which he was interperson. The movement was started not by one person but by many, and it was only when he knew that all classes of society were connected with it that he interested himself with the scheme. Miss Hands' name had also been associated with the gift, and he thought he was expressing the unanimous views of those present, when he said she had won the esteem of all of them. (Applause.) He did not remember ever hearing one word spoken against her. In giving their Vicar and Miss Hands that present they offered with it their best wishes for their future happiness. He then asked Mrs. Ashwin to make the presentation.

Mrs. Ashwin did so, and in a few but appropriate words wished the Vicar and Miss Hands every happiness and prosperity in their future life.

The Vicar feelingly returned thanks. He heartily thanked them for that outward expression of their goodwill. He was told when he came to Badsey that there were two facts about the village which needed careful consideration before accepting the living. The first was that market gardening was on the decline, and the second that the people of the village never appreciated their Vicar until he had either departed this life or left the district. He had been at Badsey six years, and market gardening was still as flourishing as ever, and with regard to the second and more serious consideration this tangible token of their regard was sufficient to show that his informer was again mistaken. (Applause.) They had even gone out of their way to give him demonstrative proof of the appreciation they felt for him—the least worthy of the four vicars whom most of them present had known. He asked them to believe him when he said how deeply he felt their kindness and also their appreciation of the future partner of his joys and sorrows. They both deeply appreciated the kindness shown them, and he trusted that they would now be inspired and enabled to do their duty still more faithfully.

Miss Hands, in a neat little speech, also returned thanks.

Mr. Macdonald then handed the Vicar a small album containing a list of subscribers to the present, saying that contributions towards one or other of the wedding presents had been received from practically every house in the parish. He associated himself with Mr. Binyon's remarks and wished the Vicar and Miss Hands every happiness and prosperity in their future life.

Mr. Binyon took the opportunity of thanking those who had taken the trouble to collect subscriptions. The whole of the work had been done cheerfully and voluntarily. The tray bore the inscription: "Presented to the Rev. William Carmont Allsbrook, and Evelyn Kate Hands, on the occasion of their marriage, from the parishioners of Badsey, Aldington, and Wickhamford, June 24, 1909."

Local and District News.

EVESHAM.

COUNTY PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY.—Before Mr. J. Ashwin (chairman), and Messrs. A. H. Martin, T. Byrd, W. FitzHerbert, and J. Smithin.

LICENSING.—Alfred Edward Carter applied for the completion of the transfer of the Baker's Arms, Broadway, from himself to Thomas Alfred Harris.—Granted.

ARREARS. — Mr. R. R. Smith, relieving officer for the Honeybourne district, applied for a judgment summons against Joseph Hartwell, Badsey, for a maintenance order.—Granted.

A FAMILY AFFAIR. — Alfred Skinner, painter, and Lizzie Skinner, his wife, of High-street, Broadway, were summoned for using indecent language on June 5. Both pleaded guilty.—P.S. Jones said on Saturday, June 5, at about 10.30 p.m., he was on duty accompanied by P.C. Davis, and heard a noise coming from Skinner's house, which is in a court just off the High-street. They went into the court, and heard defendants quarrelling and making use of bad language. He went in and found both were under the influence of drink. He had had occasion to warn them before. Skinner said he had come home wet and his wife was a bit put out with him.—Fined 10s. and 7s. 6d. costs each.

No LICENSE.—John Sidney Cull, baker's assistant, Badsey, was charged with keeping a dog without a license on June 5.—He pleaded guilty.—P.C. Hill said on the day in question at 3.20 p.m. he visited Mr. Cull's house and saw a cross-bred dog there. In answer to witness defendant said he had forgotten to take out a license.—Defendant said the dog had been ill at the beginning of the year, and he had forgotten to take out a license. He had since done so.—Fined 5s. and costs.

BADSEY.

SUCCESS.—Lucy Florence Hill, aged eleven years, daughter of P.C. Hill, of Badsey, secured a secondary school entrance scholarship to the Evesham Grammar School on May 15.