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**Badsey—with—Aldington and Wickhamford**  
*Parochial Magazine.*



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# Badsey with Aldington & Wickhamford Parochial Magazine.

## THE BILL. CHURCHMEN MAY ACCEPT IT.

Perhaps the most important meeting of protest hitherto held was that which took place at the Albert Hall on Monday, July 9th. It was a meeting of laymen only, women and clergy being rigorously excluded, and was intended to give the lie to the assertion that opposition to the Bill is confined to, or at any rate due to clergy, district visitors, and "ecclesiastically-minded laymen." No fewer than 10,000 men responded to the call to arms, and shewed by their earnestness and enthusiasm that either our adversaries' contention is both foolish and futile, or the three despised classes enumerated above are possessed of an influence hitherto unsuspected.

Lord Hugh Cecil was the chief speaker, and carried the whole meeting with him. He gave sound reasons for believing that the Government's policy, if successful, is bound to lead "through all sorts of theological deadness to Unitarianism, and ultimately to unbelief." "We will never accept this Bill," he said, "though it pass both Houses by overwhelming majorities — (cheers) — never accept it but, indeed, as a declaration of war." (Prolonged applause.)

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At a meeting of the Representative Church Council held on Friday, July 6th, and attended by Bishops, Priests, and Laymen of all shades of thought, opposition to the Bill was practically unanimous. The only speaker who defended the Bill was Canon Hensley Henson, who favoured the measure as the only means of avoiding a conflict.

The Dean of Canterbury pointed out that it was impossible to avoid a conflict on this question. No doubt all of them often echoed the phrase of the Psalmist, "Woe is me that I sojourn in Mesekh, that I dwell in the tents of Kedar! My soul hath long dwelt with him that hateth peace." A great scholar and divine once said to him, "I have been trying to get out of that province of Mesekh all my life and I cannot, and I do not believe it possible." "And," continued the Dean, "as long as you have people who have radically different views from you of what religious education ought to be you will have to fight for your own." (Cheers.) For his own part the only thing he dreaded was lest any who spoke for them should indicate a readiness to compromise on this question for the sake of a false and temporary peace. (Cheers.)

The following resolution was passed:—"That Part I. of the Education Bill, 1906, cannot be accepted, even as a tentative settlement of the subject of religious instruction in elementary schools."

It was once hoped that the life of Mr. Birrell's "infant prodigy" might have been materially prolonged by the judicious application of quack remedies. The unexpected development of serious symptoms, however, occasioned a hasty consultation of specialists, who decided that nothing short of a severe surgical operation could possibly avert a speedy demise. Accordingly, on July 10th more than a quarter of its poor little body was entirely cut away by its own heroic father, and all sympathisers must earnestly hope that the House of Lords may have pity on its mutilated but still animate form, and put an end to its own misery and its friends' anxiety by a sudden and painless death.

## RELIGIOUS EQUALITY.

On July 4th two Church parents were summoned before the Barnsley magistrates for keeping their children away from school on Ascension Day, in order that they might attend Divine Service. In spite of their plea that Ascension Day was a day "exclusively set apart for religious observance by the body to which the parents belong" a fine was imposed. *No action was taken with regard to Roman Catholic parents and two cases against non-Church parents were dismissed.*

## CONSISTENCY.

The main business with which the so-called "Free" Churches are at present occupied is to secure for believers in any religion or no religion the privilege of teaching what is to be offered to the country as the Christian Faith. And yet when it was proposed, a short time ago, to establish a rota of ministers to conduct funeral services in the Manchester Cemetery, the Free Church Council drew the line at Unitarian ministers, and passed a resolution against their inclusion. They could not commit the burial of professing Christians to those who 'deny the Lord.' In other words, the Free Church Council regards undenominationalism as too bad for the dead, but good enough for the living.

## SEWING CLASS.

The following Balance Sheet shows the present financial position of the Vicarage Sewing Class.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Brought forward	4 0 0	Purchase of	
Per Mrs. H. Keen		Materials	7 10 2
(sale of goods		In hand	10 1 3½
left over from last			
year)	0 17 2		
Sale of work	10 7 11		
Tea and Sale of			
Rummage	2 6 4½		
	£17 11 5½		£17 11 5½

The above balance sheet does not give an accurate idea of the labours of the Sewing Class during the last winter session, as a considerable quantity of work still remains unsold. Miss Pendlebury has nearly £4 worth of useful garments for sale, which she will be pleased to show intending purchasers. We offer our best thanks to Miss Pendlebury for superintending the work of the class, and for doing very much more than her share of the manual labour

#### THE VICAR'S HOLIDAY.

The Vicar will be away from home during the whole of the month of August. The Bishop has given permission to the Rev. P. H. Badcock, of Leamington, and the Rev. J. F. Phelps, of Oxford, to officiate during his absence. Mr. Badcock was for some years rector of Gussage S. Michael, Salisbury. Mr. Phelps, who has seen over thirty years' colonial service, has held various offices of importance in the Diocese of Newfoundland, being for some years Vice-Principal of S. John's Theological College, and afterwards Precentor of the Cathedral and Registrar of the Diocese; he is now Honorary Fellow of Augustine's College, Canterbury. Mr. Phelps is not a stranger to Badsey, as he took the Sunday services on more than one occasion when the benefices were last vacant.

The Vicar of Bretforton has kindly promised to act should the services of a priest be required on a week-day.

#### NOTES AND NEWS.

There will be no week-day services from July 30th to September 1st inclusive.

Many of our readers will regret the removal of Mr. and Mrs. Idiens from Wickhamford. Mr. Idiens has filled the office of churchwarden almost ever since he came to the parish, and in the departure of Mrs. Idiens not a few will lose a kind and sympathising friend. Mr. A. M. and Miss Idiens have long shared the duties of organist, and Miss Edith Idiens has for some months past carried on the Sunday Class which her sister formed some years ago. We take this opportunity of thanking them all for their help in the parish, and wishing them every happiness in their new home.

The Sunday School will be closed on Sundays August 12th, 19th, and 26th, but there will be the usual Children's Service on the 19th.

#### FESTIVAL OF PARISH CHOIRS.

The following account of this Festival is given in the *Guardian*:—"A very successful Festival of Parish Choirs has been held at All Saints' Church, Evesham, when fourteen choirs from Evesham (All Saints and St. Laurence), Stratford-on-Avon (Holy Trinity and St. James), Hampton, Badsey, Norton, Harvington, Dumbleton, Church Lench, Broadway, Fladbury, Weston Subedge, and Salford Priors attended, mustering 307 voices,

with fourteen clergy. The opening hymn, sung as the surpliced choirs entered in procession, preceded by the fourteenth-century cross of the ancient abbey, and two cornet players, was "Brightly gleams our banner," to a tune by the late Miss Frances Ridley Havergal. The service was intoned by the Rural Dean (the Rev. J. M. Walker, Vicar of Evesham), who was secretary of the festival committee. The Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis were sung to J. H. Maunder in G. The First Lesson (II. Chron. v. 11) was read by the Rev. E. Havergal, Vicar of Hampton, and the Second (Revelation v. 8) by the Rev. C. Jerram Hunt, Rector of Fladbury. There were two anthems, S. S. Wesley's "O Lord my God," and Sir John Goss's "O taste and see," the verse part in the latter, as well as in the Magnificat, being taken by the Evesham All Saints' Choir. The sermon was preached by the Rev. George Arbuthnot, Vicar of Stratford-on-Avon, from Rev. v. 9. The hymn before the sermon was "Come, let us join our cheerful songs," to the old-fashioned tune, "Cambridge New," by Dr. John Randall, with the refrain at the end of each verse. After the sermon "Let all the world in every corner sing" was sung to Elvey's tune "Undique Gloria;" "Come gracious Spirit" to Dr. B. B. Rogers's "Te Deum Patrem" tune (sung annually on May 1st on the tower of Magdalen College, Oxford); "O God of Jacob" to Barnby's "Holy Trinity"; and "Saviour, again to thy dear Name" to Hopkins's "Ellers" (by permission of Victoria, Lady Carbery). The Rev. W. C. Allsebrook, Vicar of Badsey (sometime Chaplain of Christ Church and New College), was a very efficient conductor, and Mr. A. M. Slatter, A.R.C.O., Organist of All Saints, Evesham, was a sympathetic accompanist. The attempt to improve choir-singing by annual festivals in this district has been received with much favour by choirs and clergy."

We understand that the festival has once more proved a financial success. This is very satisfactory seeing that no subscriptions were solicited, the committee relying solely upon the sale of festival music and the free-will offerings of those who attended the service.

The Choirs were entertained to tea in the Workman Gardens, and were afterwards photographed before the Bell Tower. The photograph is an excellent one, and copies may be had from Mr. Reeks, price 3/- each. The portraits of the Badsey boys are both 'fine' and 'large,' an irrepressible sense of their own importance having prompted them to take up a position in the very front row.

#### THE REGISTERS.

##### BADSEY.—BAPTISMS.

July 15th, Marjorie Evans.

" 21st, George Knight.

##### BADSEY.—BURIAL.

July 23rd, George Knight, aged 7 hours.

##### WICKHAMFORD.—BAPTISM.

July 1st, Sarah Elizabeth Jones.