

**April 1918**

**LETTER FROM THE VICAR.**

My dear friends and parishioners,-

I have to announce what will not, I know, be news to most of you, or a surprise to any of you, viz., that I am about to resign the office that I have so long held as Vicar of Wing. As the Psalmist says: "I see that all things come to an end: but Thy Commandment is exceeding broad." And as I look back upon the 28 years which I have spent in Wing, my mind is filled with various emotions, - first, with gratitude to God for His unnumbered mercies to me and mine during this long period since I came a stranger among you, and for calling me to a work which, however unworthily performed, has made my life such a happy one. And the second thought is this very sense of unworthiness, that with all the advantages and opportunities of my position I have fallen far short of using them as I might have done. A quarter of a century naturally witnesses many changes, and memory travels back to the many friends in every rank of life who have passed away in the interval. As I "think" round the village, there is hardly a house that has not changed its occupant many times over, and the village itself has undergone an almost complete transformation. But, of course, the greatest and most far-reaching change of all is that caused by the war, which is having such a terrible effect upon our country and upon every one of us. It is a stern ordeal through which we are passing, and we can only pray "Lord, increase our faith" and that we may, each of us, according to his ability, play our part manfully and be steadfast unto the end.

Your faithful friend and pastor,

F. H. Tatham.

**THE SCHOOLS** – The Easter Holiday began on March 28, and the School will reassemble on April 8. The boys have taken full advantage of the fine weather in their gardens and on the Victory Patch. Their war savings for the last three months show the following creditable results:- January - No of members 16, amount £16 13s. 4d.; February – No. of members – 19, amount £4 11s. 8d.; March – No. of members 56, amount £13 9s. 4d. Total £34 14s. 4d.

**PARTING PRESENT TO THE REV. A. E. BAYNES** – Though rather late in the day the following announcement was circulated in the village last week (we need not say it was universally welcomed and met with a ready response, though we fear some may not have heard of it):- "We all feel that in parting with our dear friend, the Rev. Alexander E. Baynes, after his 3 ¼ years to service as Assistant Curate of Wing, we must beg his acceptance of some slight remembrance of his helpful and devoted ministrations amongst us (particularly to the sick and sorrowing) both in Church, in the schools and in our homes, and also of our personal respect and affection for himself, and of our hearty good wishes and our earnest prayers that 'God's blessing may rest upon his labours' in the new sphere of work to which he has been called." The presentation was made at the Vicarage after Evensong on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> (Mr. Baynes' last Sunday among us). The Vicar, in thanking him for his invaluable services and for all that he had done for the parish, and particularly for him (the Vicar) during his long illness, begged him to expend the money in some article which would be useful to him in his new home and would, perhaps, remind him of the many friends he leaves behind him and the gratitude for all that he has been to us. The amount collected was £11 8s. 6d., and may possibly be increased.

**EASTER DAY** – Besides the sacred associations, the Easter Sunday this year will be forever associated with the great advance of the Germans upon our Western Front and our intense anxiety as to the result. We are all so personally interested in it; so many have sons, or husbands, or brothers in France that it is difficult to think of anything else. We are thankful to state that many in Wing have received held cards and some letters from their lads since the push began. The Celebrations of Holy Communion in Church showed a reduced attendance this year. Mr. Baynes was assisted by the Rev. Frederick Conway, M.A., an Assistant Master of the Merchant Taylors' School, who will also conduct the services on Sundays, April 14 and 21. After that the Rev. Dickinson, formerly of Drayton Parslow, will supply the vacancy (it is hoped) for the months of May and June.

**EASTER VESTRY** – This was held in the Schoolroom on Easter Monday, at 12. It was hoped that, as the hour was later than usual and this was the Vicar’s last appearance, there would be a large attendance. But this was not so. We hop to publish the Church Accounts for Easter 1917-18 next month. Mr. Gates and Mr. W. F. Manning were re-appointed Churchwardens, and Messers. H. Caves, E. Cleaver, B. F. J. Gates, R. Ayres and W. Merry, sidesmen. The Easter offering (several leading parishioners being away from home) amounted to £4 17s. 3d.

**RED CROSS**

**SPECIAL BUCKS EFFORT FOR 1918.**

The Council has decided to hold “A TOMBOLA” (or draw for prizes),

to take place at Aylesbury in June. It is hoped that a very large sum may be realised and with this object in view, the prizes given are numerous. The Red Cross Funds are woefully short and the last thing that the nation would desire would be that the work of the Red Cross should be restricted for want of adequate support. Bucks stands in the front rank of the counties which have helped on this noble work, and a special appeal is now made to beat all previous records. The prizes will be land, houses, works of art, antique furniture, jewellery, plate, dresses, furs, etc., etc. Tickets are 1s, each, and the Wing Committee have applied for 1,600 (roughly the total of the population), as they feel that to sell that number would be a worthy goal to aim at for such a great cause. Every house will be visited during the next few weeks, and everyone who takes a ticket will have an equal chance of winning a prize.

**HOLY BAPTISM.**

March 13<sup>th</sup>. – Grace Allman, daughter of Joseph and Rose Allman.

March 17<sup>th</sup>.- Olive Helen Redrup, daughter of Norman and Kate Redrup.

March 20<sup>th</sup>.- Ivy Lathwell, daughter of George and Amy Lathwell.

March 30<sup>th</sup>.- Percy William, son of William and Florence Kenning.

**MARRIAGE.**

March 30<sup>th</sup>.- Edward James Brown to Annie Rogers.

**BURIALS**

March 11<sup>th</sup>.- Elizabeth Page, aged 83.

**OFFERTORY RECEIPTS.**

	£	s.	d.	
Mar. 3. Lent III	1	15	7	
“ 10. Lent IV	2	16	0	Sun. School
“ 17. Lent V	1	15	5	
“ 23. Palm Sunday	1	13	9	
“ 31. Easter Day	4	17	3	Easter Offering.