

## June 1916

**THE WAR.**- The principal events of the last month as far as we are concerned at home have been the terrible insurrection in Ireland, causing the loss of many valuable lives, both of soldiers and civilians, and immense destruction of property in Dublin. It has been a lamentable affair from the first, and but for the wilful blindness and timidity of our Government, might have been prevented altogether. The other event is the passing of the Compulsory Service Act, which is bringing home to us indeed the seriousness of the life and death struggle in which our country is engaged, and the urgent call for patriotism and self-sacrifice on the part of ALL, combatants and non-combatants; young and old, men, women and children, for we can all do something and bear or lighten the burden that God has been pleased to lay upon us in this, the Day of our Visitation. Abroad the war is raging with undiminished fury and with (as yet) no decided result, either by land or sea.

We have many letters from our Wing men at the front, many of them written actually in the trenches and amid daily scenes of death and carnage, but all showing such gallant and cheerful and patient spirit, for which we may well thank God. I should like to publish many of them in the Magazine if there was room. I select one extract from a letter of Walter Samuels, 17<sup>th</sup> Lancers, as it refers to a very practical and pressing matter, viz., the employment of women in the fields. He says: "How are the women coming up for the working on the land round our way? I would like you to come here and see for yourself, as there's old women about 85 and young girls, anything between 13 and 24, all of them getting at it with a will. There's no such thing here as having meetings as to who will come forward or anything like that. These people know very well that all the men folk are gone, and it's up to them (the women) to work the land, and I say they are doing it with a will."

(Women of Wing, please copy.- Ed.)

We are thankful and delighted to see Lieut. Anthony Rothschild home on leave after 15 months of strenuous work in the East. He was with his regiment, the Bucks Hussars, at Gallipoli, and, though wounded, remained at his post, and since the withdrawal he has been in Egypt and took part in the successful campaign against the Senussi tribe.

**THE SCHOOLS.**- Mr. Long will soon be called up with the rest of his class. The Education Committee felt unable to press for his exemption, as they considered other claims of more importance. His absence from Wing will put us about in many ways, and we can ill dispense with his valuable work. Miss Baldrey, who has been acting as a V.A.D. nurse at Fazakerley Military Hospital, Liverpool, has returned to her school duties. Mr. Earnest Samuels is with his regiment at Plymouth.

**THE NATIONAL MISSION OF REPENTANCE AND HOPE.**- Next October (week as yet unfixed) a great mission will be held all over the country. We can all, I think, see how fitting this great effort is in these days of widespread anxiety and distress, and how very much it can strengthen our hands as a nation and its individuals if we use it aright. But, that it may be of real and lasting help to us, we must prepare for it beforehand. My idea of preparation is that we should never omit to ask for God's blessing on the Mission in our daily and private prayers; that we should hold services of special prayer and intercession both in Church and elsewhere; and that we should always hold the Mission in view at our Thursday celebration of Holy Communion and do all else with God's help to make it an occasion of real repentance and hopefulness and encouragement for our neighbours and ourselves.

**EMPIRE DAY.**- Empire Day was duly celebrated on Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, at the Schools. We were unable to hoist the Church flag, the blizzard of March 28<sup>th</sup> having unfortunately damaged the

wire rope, but the Union Jack at the School was flown, and the children were marshalled in the playground at 2 o'clock. The National Anthem was sung (as always in these days) with peculiar fervour. Then all saluted the flag. The Vicar and the schoolmaster addressed the children. Each of the three schools in turn sang songs, and filed past the flag staff in turn, depositing their offerings of eggs in one box, and of pence in two other boxes according to the choice of the donor. The eggs (84 in number) were for the military hospitals. The boxes produced 19s. 9d. for parcels to be forwarded to prisoners, and 12s. 3d. for Y.M.C.A. Huts. A large number of mothers were present in the background.

**DAYLIGHT SAVING.**- Our clocks were put on one hour in accordance with the Act of Parliament at midnight on Saturday, 20-Sunday, 21, and in spite of gloomy forebodings the change has caused no confusion and bids fair to be welcome to most people. We cannot expect our sundials to adapt themselves to our altered circumstances, but otherwise it is a boon-particularly to labourers and gives them a longer evening to work on their gardens, while those who have hitherto been accustomed to get up at the same hour winter and summer are surprised and almost ashamed to find how many hours of glorious sunshine they have hitherto wasted in bed. The change back again to the proper time will be made on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

**SERVICES FOR ASCENSION DAY AND WHITSUNTIDE.**- Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup> (Holy Thursday) is the Ascension Day. When we remember what this means to every Christian, it is sad to think what little notice is taken of it in this country (I say "this country" for it is not so in France and in other countries). The services at the Parish Church, are; 7, Holy Communion; 10, Matins; 4, Service for Children; 7.30 p.m., Evensong; and on the Sunday after Ascension, Holy Communion, 8 and 11.15. On Whit-Sunday, Holy Communion, 7, 8 and 11.15. On Whit-Monday 11 a.m. Tuesday 8. St Barnabas Day will be observed on Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **EXTRACTS FROM THE PARISH REGISTER.**

##### **HOLY BAPTISM.**

May 7<sup>th</sup>.- Ivy Muriel, daughter of Herbert Reginald and Alice Rickard, of Burcott.

7<sup>th</sup>.- Violet May, daughter of Harold Joseph and Ruth Lovell, of Burcott.

10<sup>th</sup>.- Francis Leslie, son of John and Mary Eleanor Edgar, of Ascott.

##### **BURIAL.**

May 25<sup>th</sup>.- Elizabeth Woodward, aged 45.

#### **OFFERTORY RECEIPTS.**

	£	s.	d.	
May 7 2 <sup>nd</sup> S. aft. Easter	1	18	9	Sick and Needy.
14 3 <sup>rd</sup>	1	4	10	Church Ex.
21 4 <sup>th</sup>	4	6	2	Additional Curates Soc.