

May 1918

IN MEMORIAM.

FRANCIS HENRY TATHAM, PRIEST.

On Sunday, April 28th, there passed to his rest our friend and Vicar, Francis Henry Tatham. His going from us was as he would have himself wished; it was during the evening service, just after the singing of the hymn, "The roseate hues of early dawn". For twenty-eight years he laboured in the parish, and during that time won the affections and respect of all. There was hardly a joy or sorrow, a hope or fear, which he did not share with his flock. As Priest and Pastor he knew and was known by all; the aged and infirm counted on his kindly word of hope and sympathy; the young found in him a friend and adviser; the children always looked for his cheery greeting and word of encouragement. As preacher he brought to the parish his ripe scholarship, the fruit of years of patient study and teaching. Yet combined with his scholarly exposition of Holy Scripture there was a simplicity and directness in his teaching, which reached the minds and touched the hearts of all who Sunday by Sunday listened to his sermons. Perhaps he will best be remembered for the width of his sympathies, which embraced everything that went on both in and out of the parish, and for the keenness which he put into everything he did. The war, which weighed heavily upon his mind, called forth from him that true and sane patriotism which prompted him to urge upon his people the duty of husbanding our resources in every possible way. Latterly his health began to fail, and we missed his presence with us in Church and parish. Since Easter he grew much weaker, and this prepared us to receive the news of his going from us on the fourth Sunday after Easter. Of him it can be said, as of many others, "He endured, as seeing Him that is invisible." Our sympathies go out to his widow and family in their bereavement. May they be comforted, and may he rest in peace.

A. E. B.

"AN ENGLISH GENTLEMAN."

I have chosen the above title for this brief notice of one who was very dear to us all and who has now, alas! been taken from us, because I know of no descriptions which sums up so aptly all that is best in a man and which fits so completely of the late Vicar of Wing.

Francis Henry Tatham came of a well-known Highgate family. He was a scholar of Highgate School, and then a scholar of Trinity, Cambridge, obtaining a 1st Class in the Classical Tripos in 1867. Soon after this he took orders. From 1868-75 he was assistant master at Westminster School, and from 1875-1890 headmaster of Hereford Cathedral School. From 1890 to the time of his death he held the living of Wing, so he has been amongst us, friend and counsellor, for nearly 30 years – a generation in the life of a man. I say with all sincerity in that time he made no enemy. Further, we are all the gainers by his life, the losers by his death.

Gentleman and Scholar! Scholarship is impalpable and indefinable. A delicate and spiritual thing of all the greater value in these days of materialism. He was imbued with it. *Integger vitæ, sceleris purus.* "A man of blameless life, and free from sin." It is true and we know it.

For 30 years nothing took place in Wing for the improvement of the village, socially and morally, with which he was not associated. The Schools, the Dispensary, the Hall, the Flower Show..... it is difficult to think of anything in Wing which will not miss his sage advice, his fostering care. I will not speak of his private benefactions, he would not like it. But many of us could tell of them.

Within a few years Wing had lost three loving and careful hearts, Charles Cotes, Leopold de Rothschild and Francis Tatham. Who is to fill their places? We must make the effort, and their examples are before us as our models. I could say much more for out of a full heart the mouth speaketh, but space forbids. I will not dwell on his care and love for our grand old Church, sacred legacy of the ages, nor of him as our Priest, for of that another has written. Only one

thing other I will say. He was fortunate in his marriage to Mrs. Tatham in her widowhood our hearts go out for what she has lost. But she has the abiding memory.

J. R. R. T.

My dear Friends,

I am not able to thank you all individually for the many kindnesses you have shown to me and mine during this time of sorrow, but I should like to express my gratitude to you all, especially to those who showed their affection during the Vicar's illness; to those who were his "guard of honour" in the Church and who carried him to his resting place, to those who sent such beautiful flowers; and to those who showed their love and respect to him by their presence in the Church at his laying to rest. May his memory remain with you always.

Your sincere friend

BERTHA M. TATHAM.

LETTER FROM REV. A. E. BAYNES.

Dear Friends,

It was very kind of you to think of me at the end of my three years' work amongst you, and to give me such a generous present. I cannot say how much I appreciate both it and the good will and kind thoughts which prompted it. You will be interested to hear that I have purchased a grandfather clock with it, which will always remind me of my kind friends at Wing. It was a most happy three years amongst you, made so happy by the kind welcome you gave me, and the friendship I formed amongst you. I thank you very much for the presentation and your good wishes.

Your sincere friend,

ALEC. E. BAYNES.

MOTHERS' MEETING – Mrs. Tatham hopes to resume the Meetings on Thursday, May 16th.

It may interest our readers to have recorded the names of the Assistant Curates who have worked with the late Vicar during the last 28 years.

1891-3 -	Rev. F. L. Bell.
1893-01-	Rev. A. B. F. Cole.
1901-04-	Rev. E. G. Muschamp.
1905-06-	Rev. C. J. W. Old.
1907-08-	Rev. P. J. Loseby.
1908-12-	Rev. J. H. Cuthbertson.
1912-15-	Rev. G. V. Kendrick.
1915-18-	Rev. A. E. Baynes.

HOLY BAPTISM.

Feb 27. – Mabel Dimmock, daughter of Reginald A. and Florence J. Noke.

April 7.- Gladys Winifred, daughter of Harold Joseph and Ruth Lovell.

BURIALS

April 26.- William Kenning, aged 21.

OFFERTORY RECEIPTS

	£	s.	d.
April 7 th .- 1 st Sunday after Easter	1	18	0
14 th .- 2 nd	1	12	0
21 st .- 3 rd		16	8
28 th .- 4 th	1	5	7