

FEB 1891

Our special correspondent was anxious to write us his first letter this month, but I told him that he must try and be patient; that we should most likely get tired of him before he was done: and that I wanted to say something myself.

I am very pleased that so many have promised to take in our Magazine, and I am sure they will be glad that they have done so. There are some who seem puzzled about what we shall do with the money. This is very clear. It will go into the Editor's pocket that he may have something at the end of the year to pay Mr George Jones's bill with. And one thing the Editor is quite certain of, and that is that he will not have enough to pay the bill unless he borrows many shillings from his private purse. You may buy the "Church Monthly" in any town in England, and we add eight pages of local matter to it and still sell it for the same price. And all the money we have to pay for the printing of these eight pages is the small percentage that James Nendick used to get when he sold the "Evening Press" for Mr. Bradley.

There are others who say they would like a little more religion. I should be very sorry if such good people thought us irreligious. We welcome the local portion of the Magazine as an opportunity of saying a good word in season, and most of the contributors have done so this month. But we do not feel bound to do so always, for the other portion of the Magazine is sure to have Godly teaching in it; and whilst I am on this matter, let me recommend you to read this month Bishop Barry's words on Gamblers. They require careful reading, at least so I found myself; but with this the meaning becomes clear. The Bible puzzles and explorations will help many to find their ways about their Bibles and to learn many beautiful texts. There is a lad at Knapton who has got answers to the puzzles, and I hope he will find in this number that his answers are right. No; the Editor has no misgivings about a want of religion in the Magazine, and is sure there is plenty of room for reports of our Entertainments, Games, and general goings-on of a good, healthy sort.

And now for a very different subject. We begin this year with a new Head to the Diocese, and we welcome him amongst us and promise him our prayers for God's blessing on his work. Dr. Magee has been for 22 years Bishop of Peterborough, and is very much beloved in his Diocese. He is in his 70th year, but is very vigorous in mind and body. Of course, we should like him to be younger, and I daresay he would not object to it himself. But there is a benefit as well as a glory in the old age of the Bishop. We shall have over the Diocese a Reverend Father with the wisdom of years and the unworldliness which comes as we turn down the last reach of the road that leads us to Eternity.

But whilst speaking of the new Archbishop we do not forget the one we have lost. Archbishop Thomson was a grand man—a Head to be proud of. He was a fine, big man, and a brave, large-hearted Christian. He was always ready to help on good works—and many were his acts of personal kindness. He was a man of war, but now he has passed on to where the Faith needs no help from argument, for Faith is lost in sight. God have mercy upon his soul.

## THE WEATHER.

JANUARY.

The cold weather which prevailed in December has continued throughout January till within a few days of the end of the month. Two or three times we have flattered ourselves it was breaking up; but as often after a slight thaw, it has frozen again, making the roads desperately slippery.

- 1st.—Rapid thaw and quite mild.  
 2nd.—Freezing again and foggy.  
 3rd.—Freezing and raining at the same time.  
 4th.—Thawing, but still very slippery.  
 5th.—Fine. Freezing.  
 6th.—Snow in the night and very cold.  
 7th.—Freezing.  
 8th.—Snow in the evening.  
 9th.—Cold, but still unpleasant.  
 10th.—Freezing. Very slippery.  
 11th.—Thawing, especially in the evening.  
 12th.—Fine. Thawing.  
 13th.—Frost again. Very fine.  
 14th.—Very cold wind.  
 15th.—Snow storms.  
 16th.—Very cold wind.  
 17th.—Freezing hard.  
 18th.—Fine. Very cold; during the night the hardest frost of the season.  
 19th.—Very cold; warmer towards evening.  
 20th.—Rain nearly all day.  
 21st.—Fine, freezing again.  
 22nd.—Fair, but dull and cold wind.  
 23rd.—Rain all day. Thawing.  
 24th.—Fair morn; heavy rain in the afternoon; frost in the night.  
 25th.—Very fine.  
 26th.—Fair, but dull; rained towards evening.  
 27th.—Very fine.  
 28th.—Dull. Drizzly.  
 29th.—Dull. Rain.  
 30th.—Fine and mild.  
 31st.—Fine—a good finish.

## RILLINGTON.

S. ANDREW'S CHURCH.

## SERVICES.

<i>Sundays</i>	Holy Communion, 8 a.m. Morning Prayer, 10-30 a.m. Catechizing, 2-30 p.m. Evening Prayer, 6-30 p.m.
<i>Week Days</i>	Morning Prayer, 8 a.m. Evening Prayer, 6 p.m.
<i>Thursdays</i>	Evening Prayer, 7 p.m.; with Choir Practice, 7-30.
<i>Holy Days and Thursdays</i>	Holy Communion, 8-30 a.m.

BAPTISMS on Sundays at 2-30 p.m.  
 CHURCHINGS before any Service.

## OFFICIALS.

Vicar	The Rev. H. S. Carpenter, M.A.
Churchwardens	Mr. R. B. Race, Mr. J. Mitchell.
Sidesmen	Mr. Groves, Mr. W. Heseltine, Mr. F. Mitchell, Mr. W. Wright.
Clerk & Sexton	Mr. E. Piercy.

## LENT.

Soon after this Magazine is printed it will be the season of Lent. February 11 will be Ash Wednesday, when the services will be as follows:—

Holy Communion, 8-30 a.m.  
 Litany and Communion, 10 a.m.  
 Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7 p.m.

During Lent there will be a Sermon at Evening Prayer on Wednesdays, 7 p.m.; the preacher will be the Rev. W. A. Felton, Curate of Thorpebassett. These 40 days of Lent are meant as a yearly reminder of our state of temptation and sinfulness, during which we ought to be making some efforts to be more sorry for our sins and more inclined to serious thoughts.

## THE ALTERATIONS IN THE CHURCH.

It may be of interest to many to hear about the alterations in our Parish Church, and why they have been done. For the last three years

a Fungus has been growing under the flooring of the South side of the Choir, spreading under the pulpit and along the South wall as far as the door. It originated from damp, and has done a considerable amount of damage, causing the wood to become absolutely rotten. Last June, the pulpit being unsafe, a temporary floor was put. In December Mr Hodgson Fowler, the Architect, came, and it was decided to take up all the wood work, everything proving worse than was expected. A new floor was put in the Choir, the seats and desks being pieced together; the wainscot pulled down, and the pulpit demolished, it being more rotten than was anticipated. It will be noticed that the repairing has been most satisfactorily carried out by Mr Frank Mitchell. A new pulpit is being made of old oak to match the beautiful sounding board. The pulpit is a free gift to the Church. This work has been absolutely necessary, and will save further destruction and future expense. The next alteration is the Stove. The governing body of the Church came to the conclusion that an effort must be made to warm the Church in a more satisfactory way, this winter having proved very trying to the worshippers. The small stove in the Vestry has been put at the base of the upright flue to clear the way for the big stove, which, in its turn, has been raised to dispense its heat into the Church and not under ground. This work has been very well accomplished by Messrs. Owston, and we trust that the warmth of the Church will induce bigger congregations to come and show the warmth of their devotion to Almighty God.

#### CHOIR SUPPER.

The Choir, with the Churchwardens and Sidesmen, were entertained at the Vicarage on Wednesday, January 21st. Supper was at 7-30 p.m., followed by games, in which those of more mature age forgot the advance of years, and enjoyed running about as much as the children. There were four missing who should have been there, but were unable to come for various causes—illness, work, &c. After some singing—in which the glee party took their part—the company began to disperse.

#### SUBSCRIBERS TO MAGAZINE.

We have received a fair number of subscriptions to the Magazine Fund, but shall be glad to put more names on the list of regular subscribers. Anyone who pays 1s. to the Vicar or Mr Race will have the Magazine delivered to them each month in the year. As this does not cover the expense, we welcome any larger sum—1s. 6d., 2s., or 2s. 6d. The Magazine can be bought at Mr. Race's, Mr. John Mitchell's, or Mrs. Freer's the first few days of each month.

#### NEEDLEWORK CLASS.

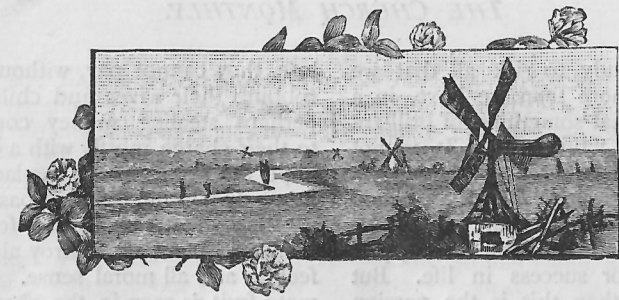
This is held every Monday at Mrs Dawson's, at 5 p.m., for girls from 12 to 16.

#### COAL AND CLOTHING CLUB.

Members can still join this Club. The Rules are:—

1. Deposits—Not less than 3d. or more than 1s.
2. Interest—2s. in the Pound. No interest given for less than 5s.
3. Orders for Goods given out the first week in November.
4. Deposits received on Mondays, from 12 to 1, at the Reading-room.

N.B.—No money will be paid out except in case of Sickness or removal from the Parish.



## WHAT IS THE SIN OF GAMBLING?

BY THE RIGHT REV. BISHOP BARRY, D.D.

**T**HE whole question of Gambling and Betting is one which in these days closely concerns great masses of our people. For—whatever may be the case as to the aggregate sum of money in England wasted, and worse than wasted, upon it now and in days gone by—one thing is but too certainly established by testimony on all sides, that, especially in the form of betting on various kinds of events, it is now far more widely spread than of old among all classes (including both the commercial and the working classes), and so is far more likely to demoralize the whole community, and particularly the younger generation.

Now the essential question which is often asked is this—How is gambling in itself a sin? Can you put it on the same moral level as falsehood, or dishonesty, or blasphemy?

If you take the advice, which is at once the dictate of common-sense, and the teaching of the highest authority, and judge it by its fruits, there can be no doubt as to the answer. We may say of it, as the Lambeth Conference said of Intemperance, that whatever may be the comparative measure of its intrinsic sinfulness, it is certainly among the most disastrous of evils in its visible effects. Its path is strewn with the wrecks of men's fortunes and men's lives, and is haunted by the grossest rascality, dishonesty, and vice. The source must be bad from which these poisonous waters flow.

But let us look at the habit itself, and try to see where lies its essential evil.

Now it is clear that evil sometimes shows itself most distinctly as vice, that is, sin against a man's own nature; sometimes as crime, that is, sin against our fellow-men; sometimes as what we call properly sin, that is, sin against God. All these three aspects of evil are, of course, inseparable; for a man's life belongs not only to himself, but to humanity and to God; and no vice can fail to involve both crime and sin. But yet one or other of these aspects is apt to be especially prominent. Murder, for example, we look at primarily as a crime; blasphemy as properly a sin. But gambling, like drunkenness, comes out to us most clearly as a vice. Its first and most obvious effect is that it degrades and perverts a man's own temper and character.

The real spirit of gambling—here, again, like the spirit of intemperance—is a morbid craving for excitement, subordinating the higher power of reason and conscience, which ought to rule, to the vivid play of passion, which is often a good servant, but always a bad master. It appeals especially to two vehement passions. First, the passion of infatuated reliance on what we call chance, to give us money and all that money will buy without any labour on our own part—a foolish and reckless hopefulness, neither amenable to reason nor capable of learning by experience.