

January, 1905.

WITHAM-ON-THE-HILL, MANTHORPE, TOFT & LOUND.

A very happy New Year to all our readers.

Christmas Day.—Though the number of communicants was slightly in excess of last year, the services were not quite so well attended, especially the evening service, when there were fewer present than on an ordinary Sunday evening. The decorations were lavish and beautiful, though the number of helpers was small.

The Quarles and Moulton Charities provided respectively 25/- to ten widows, and coats to nine men. These were distributed on Christmas morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Fenwick's Christmas tree and distribution of prizes and presents to the children took place on the Wednesday after Christmas (Holy Innocents' Day). Through their kindness and liberality the little ones—one and all—had a most charming treat. In addition to the presents which all received, prizes were given as follows: champion prize, H. Hamling and Ella Metcalfe and Daisy Hamling (bracketed equal); group 1. Edgar Pick and Lottie Birch; group 2. Leslie Metcalfe and Ethel Birch; group 3. Fred Holmes and Jessie Pinfold; infants, Richard Carr and Olive Hamling.

Mrs. Johnson also kindly gave prizes at Christmas for needlework and drawing. These were won by Eva Knipe and Alfred Pick.

The tenantry and employees on the estate would, we feel sure, wish us to express their hearty thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Fenwick for the Christmas cheer and presents of which they have been the recipients, and to state how greatly they appreciate their kindness and generosity.

Mrs. Fenwick's Dance on the 27th was a great success. The proceeds amount to over £6, so that there will be a nice balance for her to hand over to the nursing association.

Collections. —December 4th	..	£0 15 2		December 18th	..	£1 6 2
" 11th	..	0 5 0		" 25th	..	1 15 5

Baptism—December 26th, Jessie Maud, daughter of Walter and Rose Fanny Warnes.

February, 05.

WITHAM-ON-THE-HILL, MANTHORPE, TOFT & LOUND.

We offer our congratulations to Mr. Inglis on his recent marriage, and beg to extend to Mrs. Inglis, on behalf of the inhabitants of Witham, a hearty welcome on her coming among us. The employees on the Estate have presented Mr. Inglis with a silver tea-pot and cream jug.

The Cricket Club Committee's Dance, on January 23rd, was a capital success, and much enjoyed by all. We understand that the gross takings amounted to about £4, of which only about £1 will be required to cover expenses.

The Ringers have started this year on a new footing, and we hope to hear much more of our beautiful bells than of late. One excellent arrangement has been agreed upon, namely that the bells shall be raised and rung both morning and evening upon the first Sunday in every month. Most of us know the difference between *ringing* and *chiming*, and that there is no comparison between the two.

The Woodwork Class.—On January 25th, Mr. Metcalfe most hospitably entertained the members of this class to supper, and a very enjoyable evening was spent in music and games. The leading feature of the evening was a "whist drive" for which two prizes were offered by the Vicar. These were won by J. Sharp and G. Holmes.

The New Year has brought quite an epidemic of illness among us, mainly that annual visitor particularly known as "the flue". This has shewn itself in the shape of diminished congregations and small school attendance. We are glad, however, to say that most of our invalids are now on the high road to recovery. Perhaps some who have not hitherto done so may now see the benefit of joining the Medical Club and the Nursing Association.

Collections. —January 1st,	£0 13 0	January 15th,	£1 7 10	January 29th,	£1 6 5
" 8th,	0 6 7	" 22nd,	0 17 3		

March, 05.

WITHAM-ON-THE-HILL, MANTHORPE, TOFT, & LOUND.

Lent.—Once again this solemn season is coming round. Some may ask perhaps. "What is this long fast of 40 days every year for?" To these we would say that Lent is one of the wonderful helps which God gives us to enable us to do better and live holier lives. Each year He gives us this golden opportunity for repentance and drawing nearer to Him, and if we neglect to use it, we surely do so at our peril. A wasted Lent will be a terrible thing to answer for in the Day of Judgement. And who knows whether this may not be the last Lent that God will ever give him. Spend it then as if it were.

Make *resolutions* about your daily prayers, Bible reading, what services in church you will attend, what fault you will specially try to conquer.

There will be special courses of sermons on the Sunday mornings and evenings, and also on Wednesdays, at 7-30 p.m. Try and attend the *whole* of some course from beginning to end, so as not to miss any part of the message which God has for you. Above all else, be present as often as possible at the Holy Sacrifice of the Altar. Sunday by Sunday our Saviour comes to meet us in His Holy Sacrament, let Him find us there too.

The Churchyard.—The work of levelling the southern portion of the churchyard is now in progress. When levelled it will be re-sown with grass and kept closely mown. We hope thus to make "God's Acre" more beautiful and fit for its holy purpose as a resting place for the bodies of our dear ones taken home. As we have stated before, no grave will be touched if a request to that effect is made to the vicar or churchwardens. We may add that it is entirely through Mr. Fenwick's kind liberality that we have been enabled to carry out this much needed improvement.

Collections. —February 5th, £0 8 6	February 19th, £0 5 6
" 12th, 1 4 7	" 26th,

Baptism.—February 12th, Stanley, son of Herbert & Maria Harmston.

Marriage.—February 18th, Thomas Pinfold & Sarah Elizabeth King.

April, 05.

WITHAM-ON-THE-HILL, MANTHORPE, TOFT & LOUND.

Holy Week, the most solemn time of all the year, is approaching. Try and follow our Blessed Saviour step by step through His Sacred Passion. If you *cannot* attend the daily Service, read each day the special Gospel in the Prayer Book, which tells us the "old, old story" in the matchless language of the four Evangelists. On Good FRIDAY there will be Morning Service at 11, and Evening Service at 7-30.

Easter Day is a day when the Church orders all to communicate. "*Every parishioner*," says the Prayer Book, "*shall communicate at Easter*." There will be, as usual, two early celebrations. The Vicar particularly begs that all who can do so will make their communion at one of these, rather than at the late service, which is intended principally for worship. Also by so doing we can the better obey the good and primitive practice of which St. Augustine about the year 400, wrote in the following words:—"The Sacrament is always received by persons who are fasting. For it has seemed good to the Holy Ghost, that in honour of so great a Sacrament, the Body of the Lord should enter the mouth of a Christian before all other food; and it is for this reason that the custom referred to is observed throughout the whole world."

The Easter Vestry Meeting will be held on Easter Monday, April 24th, at 8 p.m. A large attendance will be welcomed. Even if some came to ventilate grievances, (and the Easter Vestry is supposed to be the occasion for doing this!) we should rejoice, for it would at least shew interest taken in church affairs. In the Vicar's old Yorkshire parish an Easter Vestry Meeting of two or three hundred was considered by no means large.

The Churchyard Work as it approaches completion gains everybody's approval. We should like to state that the expense of this is met out of the collections in church, so that all who have given thus may consider themselves as having taken part in the work. Doubtless, others who "forsake the assembling of themselves together," and therefore have contributed nothing, will not wish to be behind hand in helping such a work. Their contributions will be gladly received by the Vicar or Churchwardens, and added to the fund. Any one who would like a permanent and inexpensive memorial for a grave can get a nice iron cross with initials and date cast on in raised letters, costing from about 2/6, a far more sightly and durable memorial than a glass shade. For fixing these there would of course be no fee. The Vicar will be pleased to give all information as to these.

We are indeed grateful to Mrs. Metcalfe, who has recently made a raid upon the choir boys' surplices, and most cleverly repaired and washed 12 very tattered garments, which are now as good as new. Such kindly interest is more gratifying than we can say.

Lady-day, alas, brings its changes once again. Fortunately Mrs. and Mr. Wm. Andrew are not going very far away, so that we shall not quite have to say 'Good-bye' to them. We wish them every happiness in their new home. Then there are *rumours* of wedding bells at Easter, and another loss for us! But we must not anticipate.

Subscribers to Medical Club in 1904—

The Right Hon. The Earl of Ancaster ..	£2	0	0
W. L. Fenwick, Esq.	1	0	0
G. W. Pochin, Esq.	1	0	0

Subscribers to Clothing Club in 1904—

G. W. Pochin, Esq.	£2	0	0
Lady Pauncefort-Duncombe	1	10	0
The Right Hon. The Earl of Ancaster ..	1	0	0
W. L. Fenwick, Esq.	1	0	0

Baptisms.—March 5th, Reginald Walter, son of Charles and Emily Amelia Armstrong.
March 19th, Beatrice May, daughter of Edward William and Florence Amy Brown.

Burial.—March 17th, Sophia Wells, aged 85 years.

May .05.

WITHAM-ON-THE-HILL, MANTHORPE, TOFT & LOUND.

Easter.—The Church looked exceedingly beautiful in its rich garnishing of spring flowers. Many willing hands helped in the decorations, including Mrs. Harris, (altars), Mrs. Metcalfe, (screen), Miss Lee, (windows), Miss Hilda Watts, (pulpit and lectern), Miss Trowse, and a number of our younger friends, who in addition brought such an abundance of primroses and moss. Our thanks are due to all.

At the Vestry meeting the outgoing churchwardens and sidesmen were re-appointed. The church collections for the year totalled £47/1/3, which, after paying all expenses, left a balance in hand of £3. Our heaviest expense was the improvement of the churchyard, which has cost, so far, £18/16/8. The meeting recorded a unanimous vote of thanks to Mr. Benton, for the able manner in which he has carried out the scheme of the churchyard improvement committee.

A new dossal of red and gold material, kindly given by Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, was placed behind the altar for Easter Day. It forms a handsome and effective back-ground to the altar cross, and the profusion of white flowers in the vases showed this Easter to full advantage, whereas before they have hardly been noticeable.

The marriage of Miss Knipe to Mr. Frank Harris, of Ingthorpe, took place on Easter Tuesday. The solemn ceremony was witnessed by a large and reverent congregation. As the choir entered the church, the hymn "The voice that breathed o'er Eden" was sung, and the service was choral throughout, concluding with the hymn "How welcome was the call." As the bridal party left the church, the organist, Mr. Metcalfe, played the "Wedding March," and a peal was rung by the ringers, who rang also at intervals through the rest of the day. We were surprised to notice how clearly and distinctly the bells could be heard at the bride's house, at Manthorpe. All that Mrs. Harris has done for Witham church the past is a matter about which she would perhaps wish that we did not speak, but it is well known how week by week she has expended time and care in arranging the altar flowers, never failing us, whatever the weather; and we now think of the loss of her help with feelings of dismay, and wonder who will come forward to fill her place. All, we feel sure, will join with us in wishing her and her husband every happiness and blessing.

Has anyone a copy of this magazine for February, 1903, which they do not require? If so, will they kindly re-sell it to the Vicar.

Collections. —April 2nd ..	£0 7 1	April 16th ..	£0 7 2
9th ..	0 4 9	Easter Day ..	2 3 3

Baptism.—April 9th, Frederick Sydney, son of George Morris and Harriet Cooper.

Marriage.—April 25th, Frank William Harris and Lavinia Kate Knipe.

June, 05.

WITHAM-ON-THE-HILL, MANTHORPE, TOFT, & LOUND.

We would remind our readers of the great importance of Whitsuntide—the Birthday of the Church—as a Christian Festival. Celebrations on Whitsun Day at 8 and 11.

The Witham Club Feast will take place on Whitsun Monday, June 12th. A short service will be held in the Church, at 12 noon. Will all come who can, and help to make it hearty.

Cottage Garden Show.—Through the kindness of Mr. Fenwick, as already advertised, a Show will be held in the grounds of the Hall, on Wednesday, August 2nd, for our own and neighbouring parishes. A printed form of Rules and Schedule of Classes with the Prizes in each, can be had on application from Mr. Benton, at the Hall gardens.

The Parish Magazine should from time give information as to the origin of some of our ancient institutions, more especially as during the last few years so many new families have come to live among us, and naturally they will wish to know about such matters. Here, then, is the origin of the “coat” charity—Edmund Moulton, by will dated May 12th, 1723, gave one close of land in the parish of Barrowby, containing about 6 acres, to certain feoffees therein named, in trust that they should expend the rent and proceeds thereof in buying four coats for poor men of the parish of Witham, “against Christmas, yearly, for ever.” The present gross rent of this land, which is now in the occupation of His Grace the Duke of Rutland, is £9/4/0. A small portion was sold, in 1883, to the G. N. Railway Co., and the proceeds invested in Government Stock, bringing in annually £2/1/0. Total, £11/5/0 per annum, less taxes. So that now, instead of four coats, it is possible to provide each year nine or ten, which, if he could know it, would surely be a satisfaction to the generous founder of this Charity.

(Next month we will give particulars of the “Widows’” Charity, if space permits.)

Cricket Fixtures for June.—June 3rd, Grimsthorpe, away; 10th, Greatford, home; 17th, Holywell, home.

Collections. —May 7th	..	£0 17 0	May 21st	..	1 7 4
„ 14th	..	0 4 11	„ 28th	..	1 8 1

Baptism.—May 21st, James Llewellyn, son of James & Clara Ann Bridge.

July, 05.

WITHAM-ON-THE-HILL, MANTHORPE, TOFT & LOUND.

The Widows' Charity.—As announced last month, we give the particulars of this charity for the benefit of our readers. The charity was founded by Dr. Quarles, Vicar of Witham, about the year 1710, who by his will gave one hundred pounds of South Sea Annuity to the Vicar and Churchwardens and their successors for ever, who should receive the dividends, amounting annually to four pounds, and divide this sum into eight parts, and on the first of February in every year distribute to each poor widow of the parish the sum of ten shillings. And if there should be any over, the remaining parts to go to the poorest families that have the greatest charge of children. The will also goes on to state that whenever the Government shall pay off the principal, then the said £100 shall be laid out in lands for the purpose above mentioned. This was afterwards done, and a close of land containing 10 acres was purchased by the Vicar and Churchwardens, in the parish of Whaplode, which at the present time brings in a gross rental of £15 per annum. So it will be seen that as in the case of the Moulton Charity described last month, this charity has also enormously increased in value, and the payments to the widows of the parish are more than twice as much as the founder of the charity stated in his will. Last year 10 widows received 25/- each. Will the recipients please notice that the payments are not *due* till the 1st February, although the trustees are as a rule able to *advance* the payments, so that they may be received at the festive season of Christmas.

The Altar Vases have been most kindly undertaken by Miss Lee, to whom our grateful thanks are due.

Mrs. Fenwick has presented a light lawn mower to the church, for use in the churchyard. Many have remarked upon the tidy appearance of the churchyard since the grass has been mown: certainly it is a wonderful improvement. We must also mention another kind gift from Mrs. Fenwick, a pair of handsome and massive candlesticks, which are now in use on the Lady Altar.

The Vicarage Lawns are open to all on Sunday afternoons during the summer. Seats and chairs will be provided if required. The only restriction the Vicar makes is that children must be accompanied by their parents.

Collections. —June 4th	£0 5 6	June 18th	£1 8 2
June 11th	0 8 1	June 25th	1 11 2

Cricket Fixtures. —July 1st, v. Bourne, home	15th, v. Ryhall, away	29th, v. Castle Bytham, home
July 8th, v. Holywell, home	22nd, v. Holywell Estate, a.	

Burial.—June 6th, William Holmes, aged 83 years.

August, 05.

WITHAM-ON-THE-HILL, MANTHORPE, TOFT & LOUND.

An old County Directory of the year 1842 has come into our hands, which affords some interesting particulars of the parish at that date. The chronicler is singularly lacking in his powers of description, and his supply of adjectives is somewhat meagre. Witham Hall is called a "neat mansion with pleasant grounds," the place is said to be "a pleasant village on a bold eminence," and our beautiful church is baldly described as a "neat structure with a tower and spire!" The Vicarage is valued in the King's Books at £6 0s. 11½d. per annum, and then at £107, and is said to be "enjoyed" by the Rev. W. H. Johnson, B.A. The village inn of those days was appropriately called the "Six Bells," a more pleasing name in our opinion than the "Black Dog." The population of Witham was then 235, Manthorpe 103, and Toft-with-Lound 225, the present figures according to the last census being 196, 76, and 107 respectively, showing to how great an extent our numbers have decreased during the last 60 years. The trustees of the Church Estate, which then produced nearly double its present rental, among other matters, spent £150 in the year 1835 "in turning the course of a rivulet." It would be interesting to know which this was, and why it was done. The school of those days is described as being "in the churchyard," which explains the position of the old school now standing, and the deflection of the churchyard wall around it. The "Parish land" of 3 roods, then let for 16/- a year, no longer exists as such. Somebody between then and now must have annexed it! Any reminiscences of this or any other matter dealing with the past history of the parish will be welcomed, and if of general interest, will be published in the Magazine.

The Rutland Archæological Society intend to visit Witham church on August 21st or 22nd, when we shall be told in detail by experts the history of our fine old church. All parishioners interested are welcome to attend the meeting.

The Choir went to Yarmouth on July 20th, for their annual outing. The day was gloriously fine, and the trip much enjoyed by all. We decided not to ask individually for subscriptions this year, but none the less shall be most grateful for any contributions which the members of the congregation are kind enough to make towards our expenses, which came to £2 18s. 4½d. Through the kindness of Mr. Pick, a waggon conveyed the party home from Bourne station on their return.

The First Cottage Garden Show and Fete will be held on Wednesday, August 2nd, as announced, and it is hoped that it will be a success in every way. We are greatly indebted to Mr. Fenwick for inaugurating the scheme, which is likely to prove not only a useful, but also a most enjoyable annual event in our village.

Cricket fixtures.—

August 2nd, v. Tallington, home
" 5th, v. Holywell Estate, home

August 12th, v. Bourne, away
" 19th, v. Swinstead, home
" 26th, v. Grimsthorpe, home

Collections.—July 2nd, .. £0 4 8
" 9th, .. 1 5 6

July 16th .. £1 5 8
" 23rd .. 0 5 4

September. 05.

WITHAM-ON-THE-HILL, MANTHORPE, TOFT & LOUND.

Our first Cottage Garden Show and Fête was pronounced on all hands to have been a great success as far as the event itself was concerned, though the balance sheet showed a large deficit—more than £20, which, however, has been generously defrayed by Mr. Fenwick. Another year, it is to be hoped, it will pay its way, with the experiences of this year as a guide to the Committee in estimating their expenditure, and arranging the programme. Another year, too, let us hope, we shall have more entries of vegetables and flowers from the parishioners, and not allow our more energetic neighbours from other parishes to carry off the best prizes. The illumination of the Hall grounds in the evening was most effective and beautiful, and formed a pleasing conclusion to a day most thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended the fête.

It was a great pleasure to the older parishioners to have the Rev. J. T. Halland among them on the day of the flower-show. Mr. Halland is so seldom able to pay us a visit, that there must have been many who had not seen him since he left Witham more than five years ago. We hope to prevail on him to come for a Sunday in the near future, and see him in his old place in the church, to which he was always so attached, and for which he did so much.

The visit of the Rutland Archaeological Society to Witham Church took place on Tuesday afternoon, August 22nd, when about 40 members came. Owing to the lateness of trains the proceedings were very brief, but Mr. Traylen, the lecturer, has promised to supply a full account of the fabric to the Vicar, which will in due course be printed. Our well ordered church and tidy church-yard were much admired by many of the visitors, who wished that more churches they visited were like it. Some country churches certainly more resemble a barn for bareness than the House of God.

On Wednesday, August 16th, a delightful school pic-nic was given to all the children, except members of the choir (who have had their outing), by the Misses Creighton, at the Vicarage. The treat was entirely their own, and everything was organised and carried out at their expense. All must appreciate their thoughtful kindness, not the least, their 60 little guests, who thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

During our Organist's absence from home, his place has been most ably and kindly taken by Mr. Armstrong, who is staying at the Hall during the summer holidays.

The old School will be again opened shortly as a reading room, and owing to the building work in progress at the Hall, a number of members may be expected to take advantage of it.

Harvest Thanksgiving Services will (D.V.) be held on Sunday, October 1st.

Collections. —July 29th ..	£1 7 6	August 12th ..	£1 7 8
August 6th ..	6 4	„ 19th ..	1 2 7
August 26th ..	£1 10 6		

Cricket Fixtures.—September 2nd, v Swinstead, (away), September 9th, v Castle Bytham, (home).
September 16th, v Bourne, (home).

October .05.

WITHAM-ON-THE-HILL, MANTHORPE, TOFT & LOUND.

The Reading Room:—We are pleased to announce the entire success of the men's Reading Room since its opening on September 4th. It will remain open for seven months, and the subscription for membership is 2/- for the season, which works out at *less than 1d per week*. The room is better managed than in the past, the aim of the committee being to provide a clean, comfortable, well-warmed and well-lighted room, where members can have a quiet game and read the papers in comfort. A good supply of daily as well as weekly papers is provided. From time to time we shall get up a whist match, and perhaps an occasional smoking concert. Will any others who have not yet joined become members?

An evening School and wood-work class will be started early in October. For particulars, apply to Mr. Metcalfe, who has arranged to conduct both. Miss Sharp hopes to open a carving class, to be held in the afternoon, once a week, from 3 till 5. It is to be hoped that a sufficient number will attend this to make it a success.

We may also manage to provide a course of Ambulance lectures this winter, as a wish for these has been expressed. Due notice will be given if it is found possible to arrange it.

The Parish Feast.—We much regret that old customs should die out, but the Vicar has never been supported as he hoped, in his efforts to keep up the old custom of the *Parish Tea*, and feels that it has had its day, and therefore it is no use trying to continue it. He regrets this as much as anybody, as a united parish gathering, making us feel that, though scattered, we are all one parochial family, is an inspiring event for us all. It does us good to meet together socially from time to time, and it is greatly to be deplored that such gatherings are no longer appreciated. Perhaps even now, if the *ladies* put their heads together and formed a strong working committee, something might be done, but the Vicar feels that he himself can no longer take the initiative.

The Feast Sunday, October 29th, commemorates the dedication of our parish Church. Festival Services will be held.

May we ask certain members of the congregation not to use the kneelers in the church as foot-stools: they are provided for kneeling upon only, and cannot be kept clean for the purpose if used also by the feet, especially in dirty weather. Some of us have yet to learn that kneeling is the proper attitude for prayer, but we need not by our thoughtlessness make it difficult for those who *do* kneel. This matter has been mentioned by request.

Collections. —September 3rd ..	£1 6 7	September 17th ..	£1 9 11
„ 10th ..	1 8 0	„ 24th ..	0 6 9

Burial.—September 8th, Letitia Woolley, aged 85 years.

November 05.

WITHAM-ON-THE-HILL, MANTHORPE, TOFT & LOUND.

The Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held on October 1st. Owing to a rainy morning the Eucharist was not attended as well as might be wished. We should bear in mind that *that* is the *real* act of thanksgiving, as Canon Hicks reminded the people of Bourne, and that to attend an evening service instead is a very unsatisfactory way of rendering our thanksgiving. God has given us the Holy Eucharist as the right way in which to thank and praise Him, and no other way can ever do as well, or be as pleasing to Him. It is almost needless to add that the church was beautifully decorated, thanks to our kind helpers. The sum of £1 18s. 9d. was collected for the Stamford Farmers' Benevolent Society.

The Nelson centenary was duly observed by the ringers on Saturday, October 21st, (Trafalgar Day), and on the following Sunday, Mr. Metcalfe gave us "the Death of Nelson" on the organ, and the subject was dealt with in the Vicar's evening sermon.

We heartily sympathize with Mr. and Mrs. Brudenell in the serious loss they have sustained through the destruction of their stacks on October 5th. Such a disaster is a heartbreaking thing, and even insurance compensation cannot alter the deplorable fact of many hundreds of pounds worth of food material destroyed, and the result of many months of labour and trouble gone. That it should have happened so soon after their coming into our parish makes it additionally regrettable, and that this year of magnificent ingathering for which we have just given thanks should be marked by this destructive fire is sad indeed.

The Clothing Club recommences this month, and new members will have an opportunity of joining at once. Each subscriber of 12/- (1/- per month) has recently received the large bonus of 5/-. Is not that a sufficient inducement to make every thrifty housewife in the parish join this club? The first payment is due on Monday, November 6th.

During November there will be the usual memorial celebrations on All Souls' Day (November 2nd) and on each Monday in the month. The Vicar again asks for the names of all departed friends, that he may remember them individually at the Altar at these services.

Baptism.—October 1st, Charles Richard, son of Harry Herbert and Frances Elizabeth Smith.

Collections. —October 1st	..	£1 18 9	October 15th	..	..	£0 4 11
„ 8th	..	0 9 8	„ 22nd	..	..	1 5 2

December 1905.

WITHAM-ON-THE-HILL, MANTHORPE, TOFT & LOUND.

Christmas Day.—May it be in the truest sense a *happy* Christmas for all our readers. The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at 8 and 11 o'clock, let none fail to come and greet our Saviour on His Birthday morning, and so keep the great Festival in a *Christian* way.

As Christmas falls on Monday, the church will have to be decorated before the previous Sunday. Will all help who can do so.

On Monday, November 13th, a dance was held for the benefit of the Reading Room. Though the weather was unpropitious there was a very fair assembly, and after paying all expenses, a net profit of £1 1s. 1d. was made. There is a probability of another dance soon after Christmas, as Mrs. Fenwick has proposed to get one up for the Nursing Institution.

The New White Altar frontal, which Miss Cooper, of Cottesmore, has long promised us, is, we hear, nearly completed, so that perhaps it may be ready for use by Christmas. Miss Cooper undertook this labour of love some 10 or 12 years ago, as a memorial to the late Mrs. Johnson. It is, we believe, an exceedingly rich and handsome piece of work, and will be a noble addition to the many beautiful gifts which our church possesses. It is intended for use at the great Festivals. The ancient custom of varying the colour of the altar cloth and vestments at the different seasons of the church is a most helpful one, as the colour reminds us at once of the meaning and teaching of the day. Thanks to several kind friends, we have now both altar frontals and vestments of all the four Ecclesiastical colours (white, red, green, and violet), in addition to the hangings of the pulpit and lectern. Briefly, they are used as follows:—*white* at the great Festivals of Our Blessed Lord; *red* at Whitsuntide and days of Martyrs; *violet* in Advent and Lent; *green* on ordinary days which are neither Festivals nor Fasts, (known as "Ferials.")

Collections. —October 29th..	£1 8 5	November 19th		£1 5 10
November 5th	0 7 9	" 26th		1 6 2
" 12th	1 7 3			

Burial.—November 27th, Rebecca Stubbley, aged 94 years.