

S. Oswald's Parish Magazine.

SEPTEMBER, 1895.

The past month has been one of exciting events. First came the Rushbearing, which passed off satisfactorily, though the clouds threatened and the roads were a little muddy for the procession. There were said to be more children with bearings than in former years, and we were pleased to see the older ones acceding to our request not to hold aloof. About 170 were presented with the "bearers' gingerbread." For the Monday's Tea and Games we had glorious weather, and a very happy afternoon was spent in the School field. Several visitors were attracted to the spot, interested in our peculiar proceedings; and these assisted liberally in giving prizes for various contests.

The Collections for the Schools on Rushbearing Sunday amounted to £12 5s. 3d.—rather less than the average sum.

Then on the 14th our village was favoured by the visit of the Emperor of Germany, who came through on a day's tour of the Lakes from Lowther Castle, along with the Earl and Countess of Lonsdale, and a number of distinguished personages, both English and German. The roads were gay with bunting and floral arches, put up at short notice. The Emperor seems to have been highly pleased both with his tour and his reception. Such visits on the part of foreign sovereigns cannot fail to do much towards promoting that "unity, peace, and concord" which we are always praying God to give to all nations. We think it not out of place to devote this little space to such an event; and some copy of this Magazine may lie on a cottage shelf far into another century, when A.B. will read it, perhaps, and C.D., his uncle or grandfather, will remember that when he was a boy he saw William the Second, then a young man, go past Grasmere Church in a yellow carriage.

Then again on the 22nd came the Athletic Sports, now so celebrated, with the thousands of visitors, and the all-pervading excitement and bustle. The roads and the field seemed more crowded than ever, but all passed off peacefully, and there *seemed* to be less *drunkenness*, though of the usual bad characters there were more than we care to see. One of these took advantage of the open doors of the Church, and broke open the Rectory Fund box, which contained a week's offerings. He was, however, secured at Ambleside, where he had tried to commit a similar crime, and he is now committed for trial for the Ambleside offence, the Grasmere case being passed over for lack of sufficient evidence.

The Flower Show on the 28th was in itself a success, but the weather was wild and wet, and we fear was poorly attended. The Committee seemed concerned about finances, and future shows. We hope results were not so bad as was feared, and that greater interest may yet be revived in these yearly exhibitions.

On the 9th ult. a meeting was held at the school to consider the advisability of our having Technical Instruction classes, under the auspices of the County Council, for the winter evenings. There was a good attendance and much interest awakened. A committee of about 10 was chosen, with Dr. Johnston, the principal mover in the matter, as secretary, and the Rector as president or chairman. It was decided to ask for teachers in Cookery and Sick-nursing, Drawing and Manual Instruction, Hygiene and Veterinary Surgery, provided that classes in these subjects could be got together in sufficient numbers. For the first four subjects a number of names have been sent in, and we trust more will follow.

The Bishop of Barrow-in-Furness and Mrs. Ware arrived at their residence at How Foot on the 17th inst. The Bishop preached on the 18th and 25th at the Morning Services,—on the latter date in aid of the funds of the Diocesan Church Extension

Society, when the offertory resulted in £11 Os. 1d. We understand that this Society's funds are entirely exhausted; and that more annual subscribers are urgently needed as well as Church offertories. Out of the last year's receipts we in Grasmere received £150 towards the New Rectory.

Speaking of the Rectory reminds us that ere long *our* funds will be exhausted. We therefore ask once more, will those who have not contributed, and are willing to do so, kindly come at once to the rescue?

The Bishop of Barrow has been good enough to arrange that the Rector may have a week's holiday, and his Lordship and the Rev. W. A. Spooner have made themselves responsible for the Services on Sunday, the 8th September, and for as many of the week-days as possible. The Bishop will preach on the morning of the 8th, and will ask for help towards the newly-started Mission to the Deaf and Dumb in this Diocese. There will be no Children's Service on the 8th.

By the time this Magazine appears the School will have been opened again after the August holidays. Do let us see an improvement in the matter of regularity of attendance. The Managers feel it urgent.

The Rector regrets that his words about the manner in which the children spend their Sundays at this time in the year have had very little effect. The Sunday School and Children's Service have been thinly attended, and little more than half of the Choir boys have been at the practices and Services. And this at the time when they have been most wanted. We sometimes wonder what the large congregations must think of our attempts to lead them in the services.

HYMNS FOR THE MONTH.

Sept. 1. Morn : 550, 165, 226 ; Even : 218, 272, 24.
,, 8. Morn : 478, 184, 315 ; Even : 540, 189, 19.
,, 15. Morn : 290, 353, 172 ; Even : 228, 352, 31.
,, 22. Morn : 169, 239, 276 ; Even : 215, 229, 32.
,, 29.* Morn : 299, 421, 550 ; Even : 421, 223, 30.

* S. Michael and All Angels.

CELEBRATIONS OF THE HOLY COMMUNION.

On *every* Sunday at 8. On the 8th and 29th *also* at 11-45. On the 21st (S. Matthew's Day) at 8.

Baptisms.

Aug. 18. Norman Atkinson, son of Joseph and Jane Grisdale.
,, James McCallum, son of Thomas Mounsey and Mary Walker Sanderson.

Burials.

Aug. 24. John Wilson, Field Foot, aged 41.
,, Mary Coates, Above Beck Cottages, aged 67.

RAINFALL AT GRASMERE.

Total for July, 7·7 inches. Total for August, 11·24 inches.

T. A. GREEN.