CHURCH SERVICES.

BERE REGIS.—Sundays, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Holy Communion: May 5th, at Morning service; Ascension Day, at Morning Service; Whit-Sunday, at Morning Service; Trinity Sunday, at 8 a.m.

On Ascension Day there will be Service at 11.30 and 7.30.

The Children's Service will be on Whit-Sunday, at 3 p.m.

KINGSTON.—Sundays, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Holy Communion: 6th, Rogation Sunday, at 11; 10th, Ascension Day, at 11; 13th, Sunday after Ascension, at 8; 20th, Whitsun Day, at 8 and 11; 27th, Trinity Sunday, at 11.

There will be Service on Ascension Day at 11 and 7.30, and on Wednesdays and Whit-Monday and Tuesday at 7.30.

OFFERTORY.

The collections on Easter Sunday for the Church Music Fund amounted to £3 6s. 8d.

Thank Offerings: Good Friday, 2s. 6d.; Easter Day, 1s.; and three of 6d.

THE SCHOOLS.

The Examinations of the Bere Schools are to take place on the 15th, 16th, and 17th of May.

The Boys' School on Tuesday, at 9.30.
The Girls' School on Wednesday, at 9.30.
Bere Heath School on Thursday, at 9.15.

The date of the Kingston Examination has not yet been fixed, but we believe it will be towards the end of May.

The measles have found their way to the Heath, and on Monday, the 16th, it was found advisable to close the school, as there were only about a dozen children present. We are glad to say the girls and infants are assembled again in good force, but some of the boys, and those just the ones who are already behindhand owing to irregularity throughout the year, have been kept away lately by "tater setting." The girls and infants have so far escaped this disease.

EASTER VESTRIES.

The annual meetings for the election of churchwardens for the ensuing year, and auditing the accounts for the past year, were held on Thursday, in Easter week. At Kingston the vestry was held at 5.30 p.m., and at Bere at 7.30.

At Kingston, the Vicar asked Mr. E. Bessent to continue to act as his churchwarden, and Mr. Parry was elected on behalf of the parish.

At Bere, also, the outgoing churchwardens were asked to retain the office, Mr. Farrer nominating Mr. Hibbs, and the parish prevailing on Mr. Lys to act again on its behalf. A balance of £8 2s. 4½d. was shown on the accounts of the past year; and a rate of 2d in the £ was agreed to for 1888-9.

THE KINGSTON READING ROOM.

It will no doubt be remembered that at the time of the jubilee last year Mr. Mansel Pleydell expressed his intention of building a reading room for the use of the parish. That intention has been promptly acted upon, and with a rapidity which, as one of the speakers on the occasion happily remarked, resembled that with which the castle was
built in "Aladdin's lamp," a very suitable and well-built room has been erected. On Easter Monday the opening ceremonies took place. The programme opened with a tea in the new room. The charge for the tea was 9d. a head, the profits being devoted to the Reading Room Fund. About 200 men, women, and children were present at the tea, and after the tables were cleared away a platform was erected, and the business of the evening commenced. Mr. Mansel Pleydell expressed the pleasure he felt in seeing the fulfilment of a wish he had long cherished—viz., that of seeing Kingston provided with a reading room. He had in former years given similar rooms to the parishes of Milborne and Whitechurch, and believed that much good of various kinds was traceable to these institutions. He made a few remarks on the present state of the political world, the purport of which was, that the more people read and think, the wiser they will be, and the better fitted for the exercise of the daily increasing responsibilities of the life of a British citizen. A vote of thanks to Mr. Mansel Pleydell, on behalf of the parish, was moved by the Vicar, and seconded by Mr. W. Little, and carried with enthusiasm. Mr. Pleydell then asked Mr. Pope to describe the rules and working of the room at Milborne, which he did in a very lucid manner. Some 20 or 30 names of intending members were then enrolled, and from these a committee was chosen, and the date of the first meeting for business fixed. A vote of thanks was accorded to Messrs. Besent, Little, O. Ricketts, P. Plumly, Wellstead, and the Misses Keynes for their kindness in conveying the materials for the room free of charge, and with a renewed expression of gratitude, which we are sure was sincerely felt by all, to Mr. Mansel Pleydell, the proceedings closed. Two or three committee meetings have been held since, and we have every confidence that the trivial questions of detail such as arise from time to time will be easily settled by the good sense and public spirit of those whose duty it will be to deal with them. Molehills are not mountains.

---

CONCERT.

A concert was given on Wednesday, April 4th, by the Musical Society. It consisted of two parts, the first being the sacred cantata "Ruth," and the second a miscellaneous selection. The programme was as follows:

**Part I.**—Overture, "Quoniam" from 12th Mass, violin, violincello, and pianoforte; sacred cantata, "Ruth."—characters: Ruth, Mrs. Sweet; Naomi, Mrs. Jenkins; Orpah, Miss Edwards; Boaz, Mr. H. House. Choruses by the Bere Regis Musical Society.  


The B.R.M.S. has only been in existence one season, and this was the first performance of sacred music which has been attempted. The *Western Gazette* says, "It was thought by some that the B.R.M.S. was too ambitious in aspiring to a performance of sacred music, but the high degree of merit attained proved that the venture was not miscalculated. 'Rome was not built in a day,' and we cannot expect perfection all at once, but it was a satisfaction to have proved that our Musical Society can perform a sacred cantata with feeling and expression, and that the village audience can listen with intelligent
appreciation and evident enjoyment to a higher class of music than that generally attempted at village concerts. The members of the society, and especially Mrs. Johnson, as the manager and conductor, deserves warm congratulations.” In the second part the songs and other music were in suitable tone and character. Our rule is, not to pick out individuals for special praise. We shall not be breaking this rule if we thank those who are not members of the society—viz., Mrs. Sweet, Miss Edwards, Mr. G. Lys, and Mr. T. W. Tozer, for their kind and efficient help.

RAINFALL.

The rainfall for the past three months has been as follows:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Jan.</th>
<th>Feb.</th>
<th>March.</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bere Regis</td>
<td>1.52</td>
<td>1.75</td>
<td>3.63</td>
<td>5.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Binnegar Hall</td>
<td>1.77</td>
<td>1.72</td>
<td>3.79</td>
<td>6.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloxworth Rectory</td>
<td>1.60</td>
<td>1.67</td>
<td>3.71</td>
<td>5.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creech Grange</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>1.81</td>
<td>4.69</td>
<td>7.60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A correspondent informs us that the general average for England for these three months is: January, 2.52; February, 1.51; March, 1.82; total, 5.85. The local average is believed to be higher than the general average.

THE LAMP FUND.

After paying for two lamps, and the carriage, there remained of the Jubilee Surplus £1 11s., as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jubilee Surplus</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Mrs. Scutt</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five Cellery Lamps</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Pillar Lamp</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron Pillar</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil Drum</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carriage of Lamps</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requisites and Glass</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nails, &amp;c.</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>£</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ANONYMOUS LETTERS.

The Editor wishes to thank “A Friend” for his note; but requests that in future all communications may be either by word of mouth, or by letter with the writer’s name to it, as letters without a name are worthless or worse.

BERE REGIS.

BAPTISMS.—April 1, Ethel, daughter of William and Elizabeth Dayment Bullen; Charles James, son of James and Elizabeth Davis. April 2 (privately), Sarah Elizabeth, daughter of John and Elizabeth Moore. April 8, Elizabeth Edith, daughter of William Joseph and Emily Cook. April 15, Mabel Ellen, daughter of Henry and Ann Derrick.

BURIALS.—April 5, Allen Frank Symes, aged 2 years. April 21, William Henry Spear, aged 40 years.

KINGSTON.

BAPTISMS.—April 1 (Easter Day) Catharine and Maud, daughters of Joseph and Eliza Ricketts.

MARRIAGE.—April 2 (Easter Monday), Job Park, of Milborne, to Sarah Ann Ford, of Winterborne Kingston.