CHURCH SERVICES.

Bere Regis.—Sundays, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Holy Communion—August 3rd at Morning Service; the 17th at 8 a.m.
Children’s Service August 31st at 3 p.m.

Kingston.—The Rev. F. W. Carré has undertaken the “duty” at Kingston for three Sundays in August.

G.F.S.

On Friday, July 11, Mrs. Sweet and Mrs. Stacey, the associates of the Girl’s Friendly Society, took the members belonging to the local branch of the Society to spend the day at Lulworth. Mr. Day’s char-a-banc was well filled, and the drive as well as the time spent at the sea was very enjoyable, the day being one of our few fine ones. Mrs. Stacey very kindly provided luncheon for the party.

CHILDREN’S FLOWER SERVICE.

On the last Sunday in June, the Sunday School children mustered in great force for the Children’s Flower Service. All carried pretty bunches or baskets of flowers which had evidently been gathered and arranged with the care which betokens a labour of love. The children, preceded by the choir, walked in procession up the church singing, “Brightly gleams our banner,” and “Onward Christian Soldiers,” and presented their bouquets to the Vicar, who, with the help of T. Boyt and R. Lane, arranged them on tables on either side of the chancel arch. The procession and reception of the flowers occupied some minutes, giving time for the singing of the two rather long hymns named above. Thanks to the presence of some members of the choir the service was quite in harmony with its object—the singing being bright and cheerful, everyone, children and elders alike, entering heartily into the spirit of the service. On Monday morning three hampers of flowers were sent to Miss Baker for distribution in the East End of London. We were glad to hear from her that they “arrived looking very fresh, and gave much pleasure to a great many people.” Miss Baker’s address is 37, Brooke Street, Holborn, E.C.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The Managers of the Sunday School have for some time regretted that they were unable to give prizes, &c., to the children attending the Sunday Classes on the same liberal scale on which this was done in former years. The fact is, that, Mr. Farrer has been obliged to take money from this and other objects which were not immediately pressing in order to endeavour to meet the Day School and Coal Club expenses. At the same time, it seemed hardly fair that the Sunday School should suffer on this account. Mr. and Mrs. Farrer therefore decided to give the Sunday scholars a special treat this year in the form of a day at Swanage, and the day chosen was Friday the 18th of July. Long before the hour fixed for starting, the three wagons which had been most kindly lent by Mr. F. Radclyffe, Mr. Burt and Mr. Tozer were full of passengers all eager for the start. At 9.30 the start was made, Mr. Hibbs bringing up the rear with a carriage load of teachers. Swanage was reached about 12 o’clock, and after a picnic dinner on the beach, bathing, paddling, boating, and a visit to the Globe, Tilly Whim Caves and the Lighthouse, made the time pass only too quickly. By 4.30 rain came on in earnest, and before long all found their way to the Drill Hall which had been engaged for tea, and there games and tea occupied the time very happily till 6.35, when the train left for
Wareham, and by nine o'clock all the 60 boys and girls were safely at home again, and by 9.30 we suspect most of them were “in the arms of Murphy.”

On Saturday the 26th, Mrs. Farrer invited to tea those under eight years old—whom it was not considered wise to take to Swanage. The little ones seemed thoroughly to enjoy being the chief guests, and any disappointment which may have been felt by some of those who were “very nearly eight” was quite forgotten.

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MILBORNE STILEHAM.

There are always two points of view. The Dorset Chronicle says “the hamlet of Milborne Stileham has just been added to the parish of Milborne St. Andrew,” and the paragraph is headed “Extension of the Parish.” We from our point of view say “the hamlet of Milborne Stileham has been separated from the parish of Bere Regis.” As the connection between the two has never been much more than a paper connection, there can scarcely be any regret felt by anyone at the separation. Some months ago the inhabitants of Stileham signed a memorial representing that they unanimously desired that this change should be made. For many years the Vicar of Milborne St. Andrew has always been kind enough to include the Stilehamites among his parishioners for all practical purposes; and thanks to the courtesy of his neighbour, the Vicar of Bere has never felt any responsibility in respect of the 250 dwellers in that hamlet.

It was felt however, by him as well as by Mr. Smart, the present Vicar of Milborne, that the position was an anomalous one, and ought, if possible, to be rectified. The matter was therefore put into the hands of the Bishop’s Secretary, and a scheme to effect the “separation” or “union” was drawn up. This scheme, having obtained the consent of the Patrons of the two livings, the Bishop of Salisbury, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Law Officers of the Crown, and of the Queen’s Most Excellent Majesty in Council, has now been carried into effect.

As this is a matter of some importance in the history of the parish, it may be well, for the purpose of future reference, to say something more about it.

The London Gazette, dated July 4, 1890, containing the full details, and signifying the Royal consent, is deposited in the Parish Register chest.

In all such matters as this, where several interests have to be considered, and the consent of various parties must be obtained, there are many more difficulties to be overcome than appear on the surface.

If the British are to have a large slice of Africa, Germany must have its quid pro quo; and if the Vicar of Bere Regis is to be freed from a nominal responsibility—which might at any time have become a real one,—it is only fair that he should give up something. In this case, Mr. Farrer, with the consent of the master and scholars of Balliol College—the patrons of the living,—agrees to make over to the Vicar of Milborne the portions of tithe numbered in the tithe map 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 939, and 941, amounting in all, at the present value, to £10 net annually. The compromise, all things considered, seems to be an equitable one, and if a future Vicar should complain that his income was docked by this arrangement we hope some one will remind him that had not the separation been effected, he might at any time have been called upon to keep an extra Curate in order to
minister to the hamlet of Milborne Stileham. As it is, Stileham has ceased to have any ecclesiastical rights or claims in the parish of Bere Regis, and has acquired them instead in that of Milborne St. Andrew.

We think it will be universally agreed that it is a good job done.

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**THE BIBLE SOCIETY.**

The Annual Meeting was held on Tuesday the 22nd of July, at the Shitterton School. In the absence of Mr. Mansel Pleydell, the Rev. W. Farrer took the chair. Since its formation in 1847, the Bere Regis branch of the Society has contributed no less than £588. The sum collected in the past year was £83s., and at the meeting £115s. 2d. was subscribed.

The Rev. F. W. B. Dunne, rector of West Thorney in Sussex, fully maintained the character of the Society's "deputations." We wish some other Societies would take a leaf out of the Bible Society's book in this respect.

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**THE FLOWER SHOW.**

The Flower Show is fixed for Friday, the 29th of August. It will be seen that a few alterations have been made in the rules and also in the prize list. In the latter a few additions have been made. Last year the number of classes was 45; this year it is 55. There are, e.g., four classes of potatoes instead of two—two classes of marrows instead of one. Several alterations have been made too, in the number or quantity to be shown in some classes. Mr. Cambridge's prize we have alluded to in a former number. Prizes for gloves have been added, and the attention of possible exhibitors should be drawn to Nos. 6 and 7 in the "Open Prize" Schedule. No 7 ought to draw a good number of entries.

The alterations in the rules are not many. We would ask all exhibitors to aid the Committee by "bringing their vegetables, &c., as early as possible." The tent will be open for that purpose at 7 30.

Mr. James Davis has kindly lent his field at Town End for the Show.

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**THE RAINFALL.**

The less said about the rain the better. We have had a very sunless and rainy hay season, and we fear there must have been a great deal of bad hay made. The moon and St. Swithin must have shaken the faith of their most ardent believers by their behaviour. However, for the honour of St. Swithin, it should be said that one drop of rain did fall on his day—so that perhaps the inch of rain which fell between the 15th and 20th need not ruin his reputation. But then, what about the dry days we have had since? It is wiser to record than to prophecy about weather.

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**BERE REGIS.**

**BAPTISM.**—July 20, Frank, son of Richard and Jane Barnes.

**BURIAL.**—July 28th, Charlotte Pope, aged 67 years.