Church Services.

Bere Regis.—Sundays, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Holy Communion, August 7th, at Morning Service.
21st, at 8 a.m.
Children’s Service 28th, at 2-30 p.m.

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL.

On Monday, July the 11th, a Thanksgiving Service was held at the Cathedral, to celebrate the completion of the great work of strengthening and restoring the Spire. The work had been one of the greatest anxiety and difficulty, and the whole has been most skilfully and successfully carried out. The Tower has been thoroughly repaired from the very foundations, to enable it to bear up, as it is hoped for generations to come, the grandest Spire in England. The work has cost £14,000, and the Dean and his Committee have earned the hearty thanks and congratulations of all the dwellers in Dorset who take a pleasure and a pride in feeling that Salisbury Cathedral belongs to them. The Service was worthy of the occasion. There was an overflowing Congregation, many being unable to obtain admission. The Sermon was preached by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

THE SCHOOLS.

The ‘reports’ of Her Majesty’s Inspector are given below. The Department always reminds us of the historic Oliver. It is always ‘asking for more.’ The Reports are all satisfactory:—

Boys’ School.—“The written work is taught with care. As a rule writing is round and good. Arithmetic is very fairly neat and accurate, but it is still desirable to give still more practice in exercise books to be kept for inspection. Reading is pretty good. Spelling is still the chief difficulty, especially in the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th Standards. A special time for spelling may with advantage be entered on the Time Table. The 1st Standard is decidedly well taught in the Elementary work. The instruction in Geography is sound, and the boys show some intelligence in this subject. Object Lessons have received care and pains. The boys are quiet and attentive this year. The School requires the improvement of the Class-room by new flooring and better desks; also a further improved supply of objects.”

Girls’ School.—“The Girls are clean and well behaved. The Elementary work is receiving care, and on the whole reaches a good average standard of merit. Reading may generally be further improved by careful instruction in each of the points which are essential to intelligent Reading. Handwriting shows improvement. More actual blackboard instruction in this subject might further improve it. Arithmetic makes good progress. Object Lessons show some progress, and there was a fair knowledge of Geography as far as it had gone in March. Fuller notes of Oral lessons would be a help. Needlework is good.”
Infants' Class.—"The Infants' room requires a further supply of desks for the Second Class. The Elementary Work is very well advanced. Object Lessons are pretty good, but the answering may be more general, and varied occupations are on the whole well carried out. The order is good."

Bere Heath School.

"The unavoidable absence of the Mistress through illness, and epidemic sickness in the School have greatly interfered with the work and progress. The discipline is good, and the attainments are as good as can be expected under the circumstances."

The Government Grant, with the Drawing Grant, amounted to £31 7s. 9d.

It will be noticed that a special word of praise is given to Ernest Marsh, whose Class is said to be "decidedly well taught."

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**GOVERNMENT GRANTS.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principal</th>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Singing</th>
<th>Geo. &amp; Obj.</th>
<th>Nwk.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>12 6</td>
<td>1 6</td>
<td>1 0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>12 6</td>
<td>1 6</td>
<td>1 0</td>
<td>2 0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infants</td>
<td>9 0</td>
<td>6 0</td>
<td>1 0</td>
<td>1 0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heath</td>
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The Infants' have earned the highest grants awarded to Infants' Classes, which is very creditable to Miss Skuse.

The Drawing Grant to the Boys School is this year included in the Government Grant at 1s. 9d. a head, £4 16s. 3d. The Totals for last year and this, are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Infants</th>
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<tr>
<td>1897</td>
<td>£42 18 0</td>
<td>£30 12 0</td>
<td>£32 3 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>1898</td>
<td>£51 11 3</td>
<td>£27 18 0</td>
<td>£33 3 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mr. Mansel Pleydell has lately had the Girls' and Infants' Schools thoroughly cleaned, and whitewash, and paint, and varnish, have made the rooms much brighter than they have been for a long time.

The Williams' Charity has been obliged to put a new floor to the bedroom at the Boys' School House, as the old beam and joists were so much decayed that the floor was quite unsafe.

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**MR. ARTHUR GUEST.**

We are sorry to have to record that Mr. Arthur Guest died in London, on Sunday, the 17th of June. He had been ill since the beginning of the year. At the close of last year he gave an entertainment to the children of the Parish, and it will be remembered that he was prevented by illness from being at Bere Regis at that time. We hoped then that his health might soon be restored, but the reports which reached us from time to time became less and less hopeful, so
that the news of his death scarcely came as a surprise. Mr. Arthur Guest had been a Parishioner for the last five years. Each year latterly he most kindly gave a tea and entertainment—a London conjurer one year, and a magic Lantern also from London another—to all the children in the Parish, numbering over 200. These treats were very much appreciated, as were also his Harvest Dances which gave a great deal of pleasure to a very large number of his friends and neighbours. The Parish Magazine speaks only of Mr. Guest as our fellow-parishioner during the last few years. His work in Parliament, and as a director of the S.W.R., hardly comes within our province. In connection with the S.W.R. however we remember how often the Parish had to thank him for borrowing flags for us from the Railway to decorate the village on the occasion of our Jubilee and other Fêtes. We venture to offer to Miss Alderson the sincere sympathy of many friends in Bere Regis who feel for her in her grief.

THE JUBILEE.

At the time of the Jubilee last year Mr. Mansel Pleydell promised that he would give a Clock to be erected at the Reading Room as a permanent memorial of the year of National Thanksgiving. The Clock has been duly installed in office, and the parishioners have yet another boon for which to thank Mr. Pleydell, and one which will often remind them of his constant kindness.

Three Seats have been placed in the Cemetery, and others will before long be put up in spots where they are likely to be as much used and appreciated as those in the Cemetery already seem to be. These will be paid for out of the Jubilee Surplus.

THE CHOIR EXCURSION.

The Choir Excursion to Bournemouth on Thursday, July 21st, was favoured by a fine and not too hot day. The start was made at 7-30, Dinner was at the Tregonwell Arms at 12, and Tea at the same place at 6-15, and the homeward journey commenced at 7 p.m. All went well, and the day seemed none too long amid the delights of the shops, and the sea, and the sands, and the steamer. Last year the sea was so rough that all idea of going on the steamer was abandoned. This time there was a strong east wind, but being bright and fine 25 members of the party accepted Mr. Hibbs kind offer of a trip to Swanage and back on the steamer, little thinking what a treat was in store for them. The sea played pitch and toss with the steamer with evident enjoyment, and there were not a few on board to whom the game was not quite so enjoyable. The drive home in the cool of the evening was not the least pleasant part of a very successful day's outing. We were very sorry that owing to various causes several of the senior members of the Choir were not able to join the party. There were no absentees among the boys and girls.

BERE REGIS.

BAPTISMS.—June 26, Elsie May, daughter of Arthur and Ellen Gray.
June 26, Eva Mary, daughter of William and Elizabeth.
Ann Legg.