

Salt Spring Island Parish and Home

MAY, 1896.

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Are we or are we not allowed to shoot pheasants found damaging our crops? We hear that our member, Mr. Booth, says yes.

A subscriber on Saturna Island writes: "I shall be glad to see your paper become a medium of news and communication for the Islands."

The Church Committee of St. Mark's Church will meet at the church 7:30 p.m. Thursday, the 7th; the Committee of St. Mary's Church 7:30 p.m. Saturday the 9th.

Miss K. M. Wilson, daughter of the Rev. E. F. Wilson, underwent a severe operation in the Jubilee Hospital on March 21st. She has now left the hospital and is staying with friends in Victoria during her convalescence.

The coal mine is still in progress on the Bitancourt property. The first find, after yielding some two or threetons of the black combustible, gave out; but the workers are now thirty-five or forty feet into a fresh place and have great expectations of shortly making their fortune.

Mr. Cundell has bought over the creamery plant from Messrs. Malcolm and Purvis and will run it this summer. He will want the milk of forty cows, and those who contribute it will receive full market value for the butter made, less five cents a pound, and also will get back their skim milk.

There appear to be some prospects of a gold mine being opened on Mr. Ruckle's farm, at Beaver Point. Messrs. Scovell and Westwood, experts from Nanaimo, have been excavating there for several weeks, and have now shipped a ton of quartz to Tacoma to be crushed and tested as to its value.

The Lord Bishop of Columbia has addressed a circular letter to the clergy of the diocese and their congregations asking for contributions towards the relief of the suffering Christians in Armenia. Will some lady or gentleman take this matter up? It surely concerns us all, without exception, to try and help those who are in distress.

Mr. Few's daughter May, aged nearly thirteen, was taken suddenly and dangerously ill on the 6th ult. and for seven successive days and nights was in high delirium, the symptoms being inflammation of the brain. On the 14th she took a turn for the better and is now, to the great joy of her parents and their many friends, in a fair way towards recovery.

Mrs. Miller, Beaver Point, was confined Sunday, April 12th; Mrs. Few, the Divide, Thursday, April 16th. The first was a girl, the second a boy.

As a result of missionary meetings held on the Island by the Rev. Canon Paddon and Lenten envelopes about \$37 thus far has been promised towards the mission fund.

Kuper Island weather report, Rev. R. S. Roberts, observer: Mean temp. for March 39.4; maximum (on 23rd) 59.0; minimum (on 4th) 19.5. Total precipitation (rain and snow) 2.16 inches. Humming birds first seen March 30th.

Miss Furness, the teacher at the North End School, has, we regret to say, been obliged through illness temporarily to relinquish her school duties. Her sister, Miss Annie Furness, who passed the school teachers' examination last summer, is taking her place while she is away.

It is currently reported that our good friend, Mrs. Staff, meditates fencing in and planting the little rocky strip between the curve of the road and St. Mark's Church. If this be so, the congregation will have to make a slight detour over the rocks in order to get to the church door. Perhaps some will regard this as a good excuse for continuing their irregular attendance at the services.

Easter vestry meetings were held both at St. Mark's and at St. Mary's Churches the first week in April. At St. Mark's Messrs. Stevens and Bullock were appointed church-wardens for the ensuing year, and at St. Mary's Messrs. H. M. Rogers and H. Ruckle. Church committees also were appointed to assist the church-wardens in their work, and to meet four times in the year. St. Mark's financial report showed \$171.35 contributed towards minister's stipend, and \$18.70 to the mission fund. There was also raised, partly by subscription and partly by an entertainment, the sum of \$63.65 as a "general purposes fund." Out of this was paid \$10 for insurance, \$10 Synod assessment, \$10 sexton, and \$25 cost of the new porch. St. Mary's financial report showed minister's stipend \$1, mission fund, \$1; general purposes fund, \$16. This latter was to meet the debt on the church, and also to provide cocoanut matting for the aisle. There is one subscription of \$20 (Mr. George Furness) due on St. Mary's building account. When that is paid there will be a little balance to the good for further improvements. Mr. Wilson reported that during the year he had held 104 Sunday services, 32 week-day services, had paid 584 visits, and travelled (on the Island) 2,292 miles. There had been 9 births, 11 baptisms, 1 marriage, 4 deaths, and 9 persons had been confirmed.

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