

Spring Island Parish and Home

MAY, 1897.

Owing to there being whooping cough on the Island, the children's entertainment, which was to have been given on April 20th, has been put off for the present.

The creamery and cheese factory is to be opened the first week in May; the rate allowed for milk delivered at the factory will be ten cents per gallon. Mr. Cudell will collect and deliver for one and a-half cents per gallon.

Strenuous efforts are being made to secure steamboat connection with Sidney, and it seems quite likely that within a short time a suitable boat will be put on.

The sympathies of the community have been with Mr. and Mrs. Robertson in the loss by death of their oldest little girl, Annie. The other little girls have the whooping cough badly and the youngest was almost attacked with pneumonia, so that the parents have again been in great anxiety.

At the Easter vestry meeting at St. Mark's Church, on the 19th ult., Messrs. Stevens and Bullock were re-elected church-wardens, and it was decided to distribute offertory envelopes to all members of the congregation, also to those attending service at the "Divide" and North End schools. The reduction of the Diocesan Mission grant by \$100 makes some fresh effort necessary. The same plan is being pursued by the church-wardens of St. Mark's Church and Beaver Point, Messrs. H. Ruckle and A. Raines.

The Rev. C. E. Cooper, Rural Dean, has invited the church-wardens and three other lay delegates from the Island to attend a rural-decanal conference, to be held in Wellington in June. The matter was brought before the Easter vestry, but owing to the difficulty and expense of travel, and it being such a busy time of the year it was thought inexpedient to elect delegates.

Weather Report for March—Kuper Island: Mean temperature for the month, 37.3; maximum (on the 25th), 53.0; minimum (on the 12th), 21.7; mean temperature sunshine, 385; maximum (on the 7th), .883; number of days completely clouded, 5; total precipitation (rain and snow), 4.25 inches; rain or snow on nineteen days; whole gales on 27th and 27th.

Home Sunday School, May 16th.—St. John ix-xi. (1) Who said: "He is of age. Ask him." (2) What did Jesus say about a door? (3) Who lived at Bethany? (4) Tell about Jesus raising Lazarus. Text, Ephesians II, 8. May 23rd—Job. (1) What happened to Job's children? (2) What did Job say about it? (3) Who came to comfort Job? (4) What is told of Job in the last chapter? Text, Psalm I, 1. May 30th—Acts iv-vi. (1) Why did the Council marvel at Peter and John? (2) What did they say to the Council? (3) Who lived unto God? (4) Name the seven deacons. Text, Acts I, 11. June 6th—Daniel I, 3. (1) Who was Belshazzar? (2) Who were Daniel's companions? (3) What is told of them when they were boys? (4) What hap-

pened to them when they became men? Text, John xiv 27. June 13th—Jonah. (1) Why did the sailors cast lots? (2) What happened to Jonah? (3) What did the people of Nineveh do? (4) Tell about the gourd and the worm. Text, 2nd Corinthians, XIII, 14.

A serious accident occurred just in front of the Rev. F. F. Wilson's residence on April 13th. Mr. Wilson's two daughters had just alighted from Mr. Harold Scott's waggon, having driven from the Vesuvius wharf. Just ahead of the waggon was Mr. A. Walter driving in his buggy also one or two others on horseback, and one on a bicycle. Just at the brow of the steep hill the tongue of the waggon slipped from the neck-yoke, and, falling, struck the ground and the horses—fresh, powerful creatures—dashed forward and overthrowing the waggon, snapping both tongue and whiffletree, and galloping down the hill at breakneck speed. Mr. A. Walter jumped for his life; his buggy was smashed to pieces, and the horse propelled with such velocity that it was half way up the Divide before it was stopped. Mr. Chaldecott, who was in the waggon, was badly injured in the back, and, after lying up for ten days in Mr. Wilson's house, was sent down to the Jubilee Hospital on the 24th. Mr. Walter had his leg broken in two places, and a doctor was sent for. Mr. Robertshaw was also badly injured about the face and one arm.

Both St. Mark's and St. Mary's Churches were very tastefully decorated for Easter. The festival falling late this year there was an abundance of flowers, those chiefly used being primroses, cowslips, sweet alyssum, wild lilies, daffodils and calla lilies; also Oregon grape in blossom, ferns and mosses.

Mrs. Bird intends putting up a marble monument over the grave of her son who accidentally shot himself last summer.

It would be satisfactory to the editor of the local news columns if the inhabitants of the Islands would send in brief news items before the 24th of each month.

Messrs. Bremer and Harris have been making great improvements in the Cranberry Marsh. It is a little over two years since they went in there with their axes to cut out a home for themselves. They have already upwards of twenty acres cleared and under fence and over 1,000 fruit trees set out. They expect eventually to have an orchard of 2,500 trees.

During the year ending with Easter day, the Rev. F. F. Wilson has held 113 Sunday services, 20 weekly services; 3 persons were confirmed, 7 children baptized, no marriages, four funerals. He travelled to and fro on the Island 2,301 miles, attended 32 cases of sickness and 6 cases of accidents. The offertories for the year were, St. Mark's (with North End and the Divide), \$253.50; St. Mary's (with Beaver Point), \$17.50; gifts in kind, value \$10.