SHC: 6832/6/5/26

Memorandum of Ministerial Dialouges *[sic]*
& Visits & Other Matters Connected With the Parish

The information in this document should be read in conjunction with the **introductory webpage**.

June 1843

N.B. The account of the present Vicarage being appended to the Parish of Ewell, there being no house of residence when I was appointed Vicar, is contained in a Book half bound in Red Leather, with account of Curate & other matters first began by Mr. Andrew, upwards of 30 years Church Warden of Ewell, continued by myself.

George L. Glyn

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June 29th
Met J. Waghorn, (J. Wm. Senr.), a farmer, told me he approved of the best way, but loved the worst, could not overcome temptation; endeavoured to shew him that the power of sin in fallen man was a cause of this, & pointed him to the love of God & the suffering of Jesus, that he might be led of the Spirit to hate that abominable thing, for which Jesus died. This man came to the Sacraments Tuesday last, I have seen him drunk in his own home since. He died one day suddenly.

August 4th
Mrs. Cox, a market gardener's wife, told me in reply to a remonstrance on the employment of a Sunday School Boy in driving of birds from the fruit trees, that the birds would eat on a Sunday as well as week days, but she added, she did not know which ate most, the birds or the boy. I replied – no marvel. If a boy's Sunday is so spent where is he to get the principle to resist temptation.

October 21st, 1843
Visited Allen, a miller, told me he was aware of having gone back from God. Once was always twice at Church, never in his life so happy as then. Much quarrelling & swearing among his fellow workmen, so long as he went to Church he never heeded their jeers, & provocations always stirred up in his mind something he had heard read

or preached on the Sabbath, thought upon them at such times, never answered them but left them to the Lord's dealing. He would repay them if He pleased, vengeance was the Lord's. When he left off going to Church because his seat was altered & his Master set him for a few Sundays to mind the grass & the fish he was surprized how soon he got indifferent to his soul. Satan prevailed & he began readily to join in his thoughtless companions in their scoffings, quarrellings & lewd jokes yet he was not happy. If spared would never more neglect his Church.

[A subsequent note, initialled '1854 G.L.G.', *says:* 'This man has since altogether gone back, is employed as a Gamekeeper & is so engaged the greater part of the Sabbath, hardly ever attends Church'.*]*

Decbr. 18
A lad named Simmonds came to my house this morning, ragged & stating he was without bread. I gave him a ticket for two pennyworth of bread. In the course of an hour the Baker came, stating that the boy had refused a quarter of a loaf which he produced, & said if he did not give him an entire twopenny loaf he would have none. I no longer wondered that he was out of work & in rags.

August 6th 1845
Visited Mrs. Noakes aged 78. Wished particularly to see me, but did not expect me as I had been the day before. Had prayed that the Lord would take her, was doubtful whether it was lawful for her so to pray, had taken up the Prayer Book & opened it unintentionally at the XXVII psalm, the last verse immediately struck her eye. 'O, tarry then the Lord's leasure *[sic]*, be strong & he shall comfort thine heart & put then thy trust in the Lord'. Considered it as an answer to her prayer, was perfectly happy & satisfied in the prospect of death & wanted me to tell any I pleased how the Lord had blessed His word of Salvation to her soul.

The following instance of God's granting even the unimportant wishes of his faithful servants & bringing them to pass by singular arrangements of this Providence occurred to me this Spring 1845. I was asked by Mr. Bockett, Vicar of Epsom, to take a funeral for him which was coming from London. I went & at the conclusion of the Service the mourners wished to speak to me, & I was pleased to find the son & daughter of a pious Tradesman who came to Ewell for his health, whom I had attended in his dying hours about four years ago; it was their grandfather I had just buried. As I was leaving for home I met a gentleman of Epsom who said to me 'when I saw you riding up Church Street to take a funeral, a wish of the good old man you have interred flashed across my mind, he had property in this town, the last time I saw him he told me he had directed that he should be buried here, & he added I have a wish at heart to be buried by Sir George Glyn, he was a friend in need to my poor son in law, in his last illness, & ever since, whenever I have been down here I have always gone over to Ewell Church, but I do not feel justified in giving any express directions about a comparatively unimportant matter because possible trouble to him & my relatives, only I have wished, & more, I have prayed, that he might bury me'. The gentleman told me he had never mentioned the circumstance to anyone, the relatives were ignorant of it, consequently no steps whatever were taken to fulfil the wishes of the deceased & yet Mr. Bockett, being obliged to go out on that day he sent for me to bury him, & what is still more remarkable, though I have been a Minister here 14 years, I never took a funeral in Epsom before.

Feb. 18th 1848
Visited Mr. Stowers, who has been nigh unto death, at the request of his Son, the Rev. Stowers. I spoke to him concerning the duty of family prayer, he acknowledged the obligation & said his conscience always smote him when the subject was enforced from the Pulpit, but gave following excuses for having never established it in his family:-

1. He felt so utterly unworthy & ashamed before God that he had not courage to take upon himself the office of conducting it.
2. His wife he assured me would actually ridicule him if he attempted it
3. He knows that one of his sons (I suspect the eldest) would openly scoff at it & would never attend.

Endeavoured as grace enabled me to shew him that these reasons were not good before God.

[A subsequent note, dated 'Oct. 29 1855', *says:* 'He has quite recovered, while his wife has died. I fear he is more to blame than her'.*]*

August 13th 1850
Called on Mr. Gadesden of Ewell Castle to invite his co-operation in putting up the Commandments in the new Church. He approved of the design but declined subscribing on the ground that Sir John Reid & Capt. Lempriere & myself had not treated him well in the matter of the National School; that matter is as follows:-

The late Ths. Calverley Esq., owner of Ewell has left by his Will the National School House Premises in trust to us for the use of the Parish for ever, subject however to the confirmation of his heir, H. Munro Esq. When the Will was finished reading after the funeral Capt. Lempriere & myself being present, Mr. Munro rose & very honourably said that he would at once fulfil Mr. Calverley's wishes. It so happened that the poor man died & I buried him, <u>within a month</u> from that day, it was in 1842. He left to his son, a minor, all the Ewell Property & the Trustees (the conveyance of the School not having taken place) fixed a moderate rent of £13 per Anm. until he should come of age. When this took place in 1848 I wrote to him to know if he would fulfil his late father's purpose & complete the bequest of Mr. Calverley. He would not give a decisive answer but demanded the rent for one year, at the end of which he sold all the property to Mr. Gadesden, the School with it. We then formally as the Trustees named in the Will applied respecting it, strongly representing the moral obligations to fulfil his father's wishes. He now seemed aware of his mistake & anxious to make some amends, so he offered £100. On our representing that was not considered by the Parish as anything like a fair equivalent, he offered £200, which we advised a Vestry before when the matter was laid, by all means to accept, but Mr. Gadesden was at the Vestry; he stated that he had purchased the School at 30 years purchase, which at £13 a year produced £390, & therefore the Vestry decided £200 was not enough & ordered another letter to be written to Mr. Munro, whereupon he declined having anything further to say on the subject. On the receipt of this communication another Vestry was called. Mr. Munro's letter was read & I induced them to leave the matter with the Trustees to settle it in the best way they could. By a little management & soft writing we have obtained the £200 from Mr. Munro & Mr. Gadesden's complaint is this; in making the above offer of £200 Mr. Munro said in a letter addressed to Sir John Reid & marked at the head of it <u>Private</u>, that he considered £200 quite the value

of the School, as in a Schedule of the property sent to him by Mr. Gadesden before the purchase it was set down at £100. Mr. Gadesden demanded of Sir John to see this letter. Sir John told him that he could not shew it as it was marked Private & now Mr. Gadesden tells me that he considers himself slighted & ill used, & will not co-operate in any single thing in which Sir John, Capt. Lempriere & myself have anything to do. I endeavoured to shew him how unreasonable it was to mix me up in a matter which I had not personally acted, & could not avoid. Also that it had nothing whatever to do with the Commandments, but to no purpose. He said using an expression in my sermon of Sunday last that I could not move him more than the nether mill stone, that he had told a Gentleman he was determined not to quarrel with Sir G. Glyn & therefore did not mean to have anything to do in any matter that would bring him into contact with him.
G.L.G.

Oct 2nd 1850
Mr. King, Solicitor to Mr. Munro, called upon me today for the purpose of inspecting some of my Title Deeds, which Mr. Munro is entitled to see concerning a piece of pleasure ground adjoining on Ox Lane on the East side, purchased of my late Brother by the late Mr. Calverley. In the course of conversation he said in reference to the above matter of the School that he had in Mr. Munro's name offered to pay half the value of it if Mr. Gadesden would do something also. Mr. G. refused to give a farthing, & asked £500 for it now, although before the purchase he had told Mr. Munro that it was not worth more than £150. Also Mr. King said that Mr. Gadesden did not buy the Estate at a 30 year purchase on the existing Rental which Mr. Gadesden had stated in public Vestry was the fact, but that a stated sum was agreed upon between Mr. G. & Mr. M. without reference to the number of years purchase. Memo. When I stated in a Vestry that I considered £200 as the value of the School in consideration of the Premises being out of repair & unsubstantial, Mr. G. was very indignant, called me to account for depreciating his property.

June 10th 1851
This morning being Whit Tuesday, I baptized in the Service three young females named Adelaide Edds, 21 years of age, Victoria Edds 18, Margaret Edds 16. I had previously had them under instruction & am satisfied that [they] are intelligent, & I hope sincere believers in Jesus; if answers to the paper of questions annexed to the Book prove so much. They are the daughters of a Mr. Edds, a Supervisor, by his Farmer Wife, who was a Baptist & therefore prevented their being Baptized in infancy, he is a Wesleyan but attends our Church regularly.

Novr. 27th 1853
This day being a Baptismal Sunday, i.e. last Sunday in the month, I baptized three children of Mr. & Mrs. Copland, Draper; they have lived here about 3 years, & when they came were rigid conscientious Dissenters, & both opposed to Infant Baptism, but have now joined the Ch. of England on conviction, they are consistent godly people, I hope may be a blessing in the place. Note, the only way to deal with Dissenters is to be kind but straight forward, to make no difference between them & Church people in times of sickness & distress.

August 7th 1854

This morning Capt. Lempriere called on me in my sorrow & wished to see me for a few minutes. He has passed through much personal sickness but has been greatly blessed in his family's health till at length one daughter Mary Lempriere died. I buried her the Monday before my dearest Emily died the Wednesday following. Capt. Lempriere we had both remarked after, was much softened & milder in his manners of late. I had had serious differences with him, he having always opposed Evangelical truth, & did all he could for many years to prevent my having any influence in his family, but how changed this day! Grasping my hand he said, 'my dear fellow we had some difference about religious truth some time ago', but he added in a pause in which his feelings seemed to struggle for utterance 'it is all wasted away now'. Twice he repeated the words. I trust that the love of Christ has indeed entered his soul, & what another proof this is of a Bible assurance 'when a man's ways please the Lord etc.' Prov. XVI.7 May my Son remember this testimony, I have found it in many, many instances truly verified. G.L.G.

[A subsequent note, dated 'Oct 19th '55, *says:* Alas, much of the above has been "washed away" also for in the only opportunity which has since occurred the matter of Mr. Lovely wherein he might have stood my friend, he took the contrary part'.*]*

A Few Practical Hints for my Dear Boy if he Enters the Church

Preaching the Word

Aim singly at the Glory of God, extensive usefulness in saving Souls, let sound matter be uppermost in your mind, let words & manner, though not neglected, be secondary. Never inquire of effect of your Sermons, what is necessary for you to know on this head will come fast enough to your ears without your seeking for it. Once get into a habit of talking about your Sermons with the people your freedom is gone. Never seek the praise of your hearers, when it comes spontaneously take it for what it is worth, measuring its truth by the knowledge, experience & character of the party who gives it. Look singly in all preparations, composition & delivery of a Sermon to the Lord's assurance, II Cor. XII.9, 'αρκεῖ σου ἡ χαρις μου' *['my grace is sufficient for thee']*. Let this be your constant motto. Avoid Essays in the way of Sermons, never hang your subject on a text but let the text always furnish a subject. Ever strive to expound the Word of God, to dissect the verse or verses you select for your subject comparing Scripture with Scripture, in this way you will be as the Scribe, Matt. XIII.52, 'Then said He..' & in this way you will get your hearers to study their Bibles rather than your Sermons; to sink the man, to honor the Word; & then your Heavenly Master will honor you. You will find the benefit of this rule also in never being at a loss for a subject, in your general Ministry, you will insensibly more equally divide the word of truth, bring out every part of it in due season. For your subject will ever be the Bible itself, which contains every possible subject the mind of man can ever conceive. Aim at brevity, never exceed as a rule 35 minutes, then you will neither exhaust yourself nor the patience of your hearers, will be able to preach oftener, undoubtedly more practically & closely. Think much of application in your sermon, avoid mere general remarks, & apply your matter as much as possible to the circumstances & habits of those you address, thus without being personal you can be pointed, & drawing your bow at a venture the arrow of conviction will be sure to hit many Souls. Above all, think much of the Holy Spirit's presence. Remember we are living under the dispensation of the Holy Ghost and the Word of God, which is your