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SHRIVENHAM.

DEATH OF MR. T. R. STEPHENS.—A well-known and much-respected tradesman and farmer of this village has passed away in the person of Mr. Thomas Robert Stephens, whose death occurred on Friday. The deceased, who was 73 years of age, had been suffering from asthma and bronchitis for a long time, and, after being somewhat better, had a relapse about three weeks ago, and never recovered. The funeral took place on Wednesday afternoon, the Vicar (the Rev. E. F. Hill) officiating. The coffin was of polished oak, with brass fittings, and bore the following inscription:—

THOMAS ROBERT STEPHENS.
Born March 1st, 1840,
Died April 11th, 1913.

Among those who followed were the employes of

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WEDNESDAY,
One o'clock p.m.

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Offices: 38, High
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OF THE AUCTIONEERS, &c.

ROSE COTTAGE, SHRIVENHAM.

SALE OF ANTIQUE & MODERN FURNITURE.

A. F. HOBBS & CHAMBERS, on instructions from the Executors of the late **Mr. Stephens**, will **SELL BY AUCTION**, on the Premises, on **THURSDAY, June 17th, 1915**, at Two o'clock precisely, the whole of the

HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS.

Including several items of **ANTIQUÉ FURNITURE**, consisting of an inlaid mahogany Sheraton dressing table, with 3 drawers; 2 excellent mahogany toilet tables; Chippendale talboy of 8 drawers, with brass handles, 6ft. by 5ft. wide; octagonal commode, with brass handles; old Chesterfield, with hair cushions; mercurial barometer, in mahogany, by J. Bird (London); inlaid Sheraton secretaire bookcase; part of gate-leg table, 2 old bureaux, small carved chest, writing desk and tea caddy; also bedsteads, bedding, washstands, chest of drawers, chairs, inlaid writing desk, leather-top table, 5ft. mahogany sideboard, 6 dining-room chairs, engravings and other pictures, ornamental china, quantity glass, sundry ware, kitchen and culinary utensils, &c.

toilet glasses, hip-bat
chairs, carpets, hearth
&c., &c.

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COUNTY COURT.—The next sitting of this court is fixed for Saturday, July 17th, at 10 a.m. All summonses should be entered with the Registrar before Monday, the 28th June.

THEFT.—Frank Bowers was brought up for custody at the Police Court on Wednesday, before Mr G. Liddiard, and charged with being absentee from the 3rd Bat. County of London Infantry. He was apprehended at Buckland near G. Gibbs on Tuesday. The Magistrate ordered him to await an escort.

DIFFERENT TALE.—Writing to his wife at the front, Pte. W. Willis (Royal Berks), Faringdon, says:—"I hope you and the children are having a nice time this grand weather. We are having nice weather here, but it is not like being at home. We are at a place where the greatest battle of the war was fought by the French. They and the Germans lost 30,000 men here. It is a small town, about as big as Faringdon; not one house that is standing; all smashed to the ground, and there is a sewing machine in every house; there are women and children's clothes all left; the Germans have broken them all. It makes you think what would happen if the Huns got over to England. It wants some of the men that won't join the Army to have a look at it, then they would tell a different tale. If some of them were to join and come out here it would make it better for us. It is a pity that the Government don't make them all join."

£50 to £500 Complete Equipment for House Furnishing, at GILBERTS, Manufacturers, OLD SWINDON and DRAYCOTT CAMPS. Illustrated Catalogue and Free Delivery to Faringdon District. Large Stock.—Telephone, No. 41 Swindon. Telegrams, Gilbert, Swindon.

of numerous presents, including a silver biscuit barrel from members of the congregation; a silver-plated crust and a honey and jam dish from the teachers and scholars of the Sunday School; and a silver tea-pot from the Women's Liberal Association.

SHRIVENHAM

AUCTION SALES.—The sales in connection with the winding up of the estate of the late Mr. Stephens took place on Thursday last, the auctioneers being Messrs A. F. Hobbs and Chambers, of Faringdon. The sale of live and dead farming stock and produce commenced at 11.30 o'clock, when a number of potential purchasers were in attendance. The agricultural effects included several valuable and useful implements of husbandry, which realised good prices. The sale of furniture and miscellaneous household effects was held in the afternoon, in the presence of a large assembly, who readily and rapidly acquired the best lots. The sale comprised several items of antique furniture, including an inlaid Stearson secretary's bookcase, which was purchased at £12 by Mr. Buckell, of Shrivenham; also a magnificent mahogany table of the Chippendale period, which realised £8 10s 0d, and passed to Mr. Bickel, of Swindon. Lot 29 was an antique commode, octagonal shape, with brass handles. Lot 210 a superior chest of drawers, realised £3. The lots numbered about 300, and without exception changed ownership at good prices. The final sale took place at the Faringdon Arms Hotel, at 6.30 o'clock, when the freehold property, as recently occupied by the late Mr. Stephens, was offered for sale, and after good competition was knocked down to Mr. W. Cousin, of Swindon, at £270. Lot 2, consisting of coach house and stable, near Shrivenham Railway Station, became the property of Mr. Buckell at £30. Messrs. Crowley and Peel, of Faringdon, were the solicitors acting for the vendors.

make the best of themselves. God is love and an unalterable Being, and there is only one way in which they could share His love and that was in trying to become like Him. And so they thought of the eternal fellowship with God and the fellowship with humanity. He supposed they had been thinking a great deal at this time about the dead in particular. They had been thinking about those young men who had given their life for their country, those men who had given their trust and best. For the most part they were not saints. Some of them were bad who had been killed in the war and some had a remarkable religious character. Still he thought that all of them had that which our Lord stood for, they had got the spirit of self-sacrifice without the self-consciousness of talking about it. They had given themselves for their country, and had gone out ready to give their lives. He clung to those words of our Lord "Greater love hath no man than that he should lay down his life for his friend," and all of them had that character, they had the noblest desire, and they kept hold upon that, and whatever else they lacked would be supplied to them in the other world, they would be "like just men made perfect," for they had the spirit of self-sacrifice, and would be received into the Kingdom of God because they had given their all. We, for the most part, are unable to go out, but we, too, are called upon to exercise self-sacrifice each day of our life, not to let our passions gain the upper hand. He sometimes felt that the first was the easier path, the one short act of laying down their life, but that was not for him to say, and we should strive to gain that holy character, that we too might live with Him in the world to come.

Before he left the pulpit the Bishop offered special prayers for the Army and Navy, for the wounded, for our Allies engaged in the war, and for the bereaved.