



News

Baverstock

FETE IN WILTON PARK

Through the kindness of the Earl of Pembroke, these grounds were thrown open to the public on Monday last, for the purpose of holding a fete there in connection with the Wilton Church Choir. Owing to the heavy rain which fell during the morning and afternoon, the attendance was not so great as was expected. At four o'clock only about one thousand persons had paid for admission into the Park, but towards the latter part of the day this number was augmented to 2662. The concerts, which were announced to be given by the band of the 95th Regiment and the Apollo Glee Union were commenced in the Riding School, but the weather having become a little more favourable, the second part took place in the open air. The performance of the band was all that could be desired. Mr Spinney acted as conductor to the Apollo Glee Union, and the applause which greeted these gentlemen at the end of each song and the number of encores afforded sufficient proof that their efforts were highly satisfactory.

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Large numbers of excursionists arrived at Salisbury in the morning *en route* for the Park, but many of them returned home again as soon as possible, whilst others took shelter in Salisbury. A very attractive part in the day's proceedings was an exhibition of flowers, fruit and vegetables by cottagers and amateurs. About one hundred prizes were offered for competition. There was also an exhibition of works of art, of drawings and paintings, open to competitors who had been students of a school of art at any time during the last two years.

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The judges in the art department were Mrs Powell, of Hurdcott; Mrs Hony, Baverstock; and Mr W. F. Tiffin, Salisbury. Mr Chard, Mr Cramond and Mr Challis were the judges of vegetables and of bouquets, being assisted in the latter by the Hon. Sidney Herbert. Several gentlemen kindly sent various productions from their gardens. The exhibition was considered a very successful feature in the day's programme. The bouquets were pronounced to be superior to those shown at the last meeting of the Wilts Horticultural Society..... Mr Motton, of Wilton and Mr Hacker, of Salisbury, provided the refreshments. The band played the "National Anthem" at nine o'clock, and the park was speedily cleared.

(*Salisbury and Winchester Journal* – Saturday 10 August, 1872)