



Church Matters Bishopstone 1880

Churchyard footpaths

THE CHURCHYARD

The vicar and churchwardens of St. Mary's, in this parish, and other inhabitants, are desirous of closing some of the footpaths running through the churchyard, and announce a public meeting for the purpose of taking the opinion of the inhabitants generally thereon. At present. In consequence of the manner in which the churchyard is traversed by public paths, the authorities feel much difficulty in preserving the graves, flowers, shrubs, &c., and making God's acre what it should appear to be in appearance, in consequence of the depredations committed by children and the wanton acts of their elders.

A correspondent, working on the subject, thinks there can be no opposition to the proposal, for at present the graves are trodden down and the whole place presents a most miserable appearance. If permission is given for closing the paths and locking the gates proper attention will be paid to the graves and flowers, and, of course, means of access provided for those who have any interest in visiting the place. If the paths through the churchyard are, however, closed, something will have to be done to put the paths round by the fishponds and back to the Vicarage in proper order, and a hand rail over the bridge and at other points will be necessary for public safety.

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