

Wiltshire Friendly Society

Ludgershall



We are pleased to announce that a branch club of the Wilts Friendly Society has been established in this village. A meeting was held in the school-room on Saturday evening last, at which the Rev W H Awdry presided, and opened the proceedings by stating that it had for some years past been his desire to see a branch of the Wilts Friendly Society established in Ludgershall. He had seen much of its usefulness in other parts of the county, and had invited the steward of one of its branches to attend and give some information respecting it.

Mr R Horton, the steward of the Chippenham Branch, then addressed the meeting, describing the principles and working of the Society, point out the various ways in which it is adapted to the requirements of the working classes, and the advantages arising from a large and carefully invested capital, tables and rates of payment, prepared by competent actuaries, and the valuable assistance of the honorable members.

At the close a vote of thanks to Mr Horton for the information he had afforded was proposed by A.J. Keary, esq., Mayor of Chippenham, and seconded by the Rev. chairman, both gentlemen expressing their hearty concurrence in all that had been advanced respecting the usefulness and stability of the Society.

It was resolved that steps be taken for the formation of a branch of the Society, and the names of both honorary and benefit members were announced at the close of the meeting. The Rev W H Awdry, who is greatly esteemed by all classes of his parishioners, has thus given an additional proof of his interest in their welfare, and it is to be hoped that a flourishing branch of the Society may ere long be the result of his kind exertions.

Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette 17 February 1870