



Non-Conformist News

Minety

Primitive Methodist Chapel Foundation Service

On Tuesday last, the 18th inst., the foundation service of a new Primitive Methodist Chapel took place at Minety. In the afternoon a large number of persons, some from Garsdon, Brinkworth, Grittenham, Wootton Bassett, Lydiard, Shaw, Hook, Purton, Blunsdon, Cricklade, Leigh, Ashton Keynes, and other places, assembled on the spot where the chapel is to be built to witness the ceremony of laying the foundation stone.

The services commenced by singing and prayer, after which the Rev T Powell read suitable portions of scripture, and announced that Mr T Knapp, of Startley, and Mr T Rumming, of Hook, would proceed to lay the foundation stones. The stones being laid, the above gentlemen put their donations on them, and requested the assembly to do the same, many of which freely complied, and that part of the business went on briskly for some time.

When it became dull, it was announced that the Rev T French of Basingstoke, would preach to them a sermon, and a goodly number remained to hear the word of life, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather. The rev gentleman took as his text Mark 12, 30-31 verses, by which he clearly showed that love was the essence of religion, and that where true love existed there would, of necessity, be love to God and all mankind. The sermon was listened to with great attention, and was well received. The Rev J Nevell concluded by prayer.

The assembly then adjourned to a field, where a public tea was provided in a spacious marquee, when upwards of 300 persons partook of the social cup. The tables were set out most beautifully, being decorated with an abundance of choice flowers, which showed great credit to the taste of the Minety friends.

After tea, a public meeting was held, when Mr T Rumming was called upon to preside. The chairman said he was pleased to see so many persons present, and was glad to meet them, and he hoped he should meet them all at last in Heaven. They were met together to carry out a very important and desirable object, and that was to build a house for God. David had it in his heart to do so, but that privilege he was not permitted to enjoy. He hoped that all present would be spared to see the chapel reared and completed. Very spirited and soul-searching addresses were then delivered by the Revs J Nevell, E Alford, T Kench, and T Powell.

The proceeds of the services amounted to about £40. The chapel is estimated to cost about £160, and will be opened in October next. A vote of thanks was given to the gentleman who lent the field, to the chairman, and to all who had rendered assistance. The services were brought to a close by singing the Doxology.

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