



## Re-opening of Monkton Deverill Church

On Tuesday last the church of Monkton Deverill, in this diocese, and in the archdeaconry of Sarum, was re-opened for divine service, after its having been closed for some time.

The church was in a state of extreme, dilapidation, and scarcely could the parishioners meet together in safety, from the dangerous condition of the aisles and roof. The trustees of the Marquis of Bath, to whom the larger part of the parish belongs, using a wise discretion in the administration of their ward's extensive property, contributed 400*l* towards the repairs of the edifice; and the occupiers of the farms of the Noble Marquis cheerfully passed a church-rate of about 118*l*, which nearly covered the remaining expense.

The old building was levelled to the ground with the exception of the tower, and rebuilt from the designs of our diocesan architect, Thomas Wyatt, Esq., his plans being carried into effect by Hale, of Warminster, who might almost be termed the church and school builder for the western part of the archdeaconry.

The church is built in the plain perpendicular Gothic style, the eastern window alone having any peculiar tracery. The roof is of timber, stained to imitate oak. The sittings are open, with square stall heads. The reading stand is peculiarly neat and appropriate; but the pulpit, which is the only point we observed to be defective, is quite unworthy the rest of the edifice. The eastern window is of stained glass, by Millar, and is, we understand, the gift of the rector, the Rev. and Right Hon. Lord Charles Thynne.

The day as far from propitious, but the attendance was more than sufficient to fill the church. About fourteen of the neighbouring clergy were present, and the whole of the parishioners.

The service was read by the Rector, and the sermon, in the absence of the Archdeacon, was preached by the Rev. Arthur Fane, Vicar of Warminster; after which, the offertory sentences were read, and a collection made to complete the levelling of the church-yard. The Holy Communion was then administered to the clergy and some others. Thus was this seemly and becoming edifice once more entrusted to the parishioners, in a state at least equal to its best days.

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