



Sutton Mandeville Reopening of the Church 1862

The church of this parish, which has been recently restored, mainly at the expense of the Rector, the Rev. J. Wyndham, and his friends, was reopened on Saturday last by the Lord Bishop of Salisbury. The date of the old Church is unknown, but it is supposed to have been erected early in the 13th century. It was dedicated to All Saints, and previous to the work of the restoration, was in a very dilapidated condition.

The date 1631, with the initials of the church wardens, were found at the back of the old pulpit, from which it was inferred that some alteration or restoration of the edifice was made at that time. The style of the building is Early English, and the restoration has been carried out according to a plan refurbished by Mr Wyatt, the Diocesan architect. The work has been well executed by Mr Sturgess, of Cholderton, under the superintendence of Mr Miles, of Shaftesbury, at a cost, we believe, of something like £600, one fourth of which was raised by rates

At the opening service, prayers were read by the Rector, the first lesson by the Rev. J. H. Samler, the second by the Rev. T. Carey, the epistle by the Ven. Archdeacon Sanctuary, and the gospel by the Rev. ___ Daubeny. The Bishop then proceeded with the Communion service, and during the reading of the offertory sentences, a collection was made, which amounted to £35 1s. 1d. The sermon was preached by the Lord Bishop.

After service, the Lord Bishop and a number of the clergy, with their families, were entertained at luncheon at the Rectory. – There was a second service at the Church in the afternoon, the sermon being preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Hony. At the conclusion of the service the labourers of the parish, with their wives and families, sat down to an excellent supper provided for them by Mrs Starkey, of Bromham, Mrs Wyndham, of Dinton, and Mr and Mrs H. Marsh. In the course of the evening, the healths of the kind donors of the feast were proposed and received with great enthusiasm. The Rector also addressed his parishioners – drawing their attention to what had been done for them, and inviting them to co-operate with him in the good work so happily commenced. The evening passed off with the utmost good feeling.

Source: Devizes & Wiltshire Gazette, 6 November 1862